

Equality and identity: On the findings of the Bihar caste count

Equitable distribution of resources must not be by **accentuating** caste identity

The **significance** of Bihar conducting a caste survey and publishing a caste-wise count of its population **is** quite **immense**. The **survey**, which had all the **trappings** of a census, complete with a two-stage process of house-listing followed by the **eliciting** of information from the households, **has** shown that 63% of Bihar's 13 crore population belong to castes listed under the Extremely Backward Classes (EBC) and Other Backward Classes (OBC) categories. The **socio-economic profiles** of the people **have** also been recorded, but are yet to be **revealed**. At the national level, it may give a boost to the political demand for a **country-wide** caste census and push the **judicial discourse** towards **reconsidering** the 50% legal **ceiling** on total reservation in education and government services. **In terms of** party politics, it may open a new chapter in the traditional **conflict** between the BJP **seeking** to **consolidate** all sections of Hindus into one **massive** support base and other parties **banking on** different sections of the OBCs. At a time when Hindutva is seen to have **trumped** parties that banked on OBC **assertion**, **influential** social groups may now sense an opportunity to **leverage** their size to get their interests advanced by the political class. On the legal side, the numbers may be utilised to present the sort of 'quantifiable data' that the judiciary has been asking for to justify the levels of reservation obtaining in various States.

Bihar's exercise **marks a precedent on** how a caste count should be conducted. The **methodology** included giving a code to each of the 214 castes in the State's lists of castes. Sub-castes and **sects were** identified in advance and **subsumed** under a broader caste name. This meant that the **enumerators** could **assign** a code to any caste name given by a **respondent**. **A major reason** for the Union government not releasing the caste-related details of its 2011 'Socio-economic and Caste Census' **was** that the data it **yielded** was too confusing and **unwieldy**. As many as 46 lakh castes were named by the people, **presumably** because they gave castes, sub-castes, sects, **clans**, and surnames when asked to name their castes. While there are functional and practical advantages to knowing exact caste numbers, it is not to be forgotten that **the larger goal** of the Constitution **remains** the **attainment** of a casteless society. **Affirmative** action **indeed** helps **address inequities** in society. The state must also **look for** ways to ensure equality of opportunity and equitable distribution of resources without accentuating caste identity. [\[Practice Exercise\]](#)

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

Vocabulary

1. **Findings** (noun) – Results, outcomes, conclusions, determinations, revelations
नतीजे
2. **Equitable** (adjective) – Fair, just, unbiased, balanced, impartial निष्पक्ष
3. **Accentuate** (verb) – Emphasize, highlight, intensify, underline बल देना
4. **Significance** (noun) – Importance, relevance, consequence, meaning महत्व
5. **Immense** (adjective) – Vast, huge, very great, tremendous अत्यधिक
6. **Trappings** (noun) – Symbols, indicators, signs, accoutrements चिह्न
7. **Elicit** (verb) – Obtain, extract, draw out, evoke प्राप्त करना
8. **Socio-economic** (adjective) – Relating to both social and economic factors सामाजिक-आर्थिक
9. **Reveal** (verb) – Disclose, unveil, make known, expose प्रकट करना
10. **Country-wide** (adjective) – Nationwide, across the nation, universal देशव्यापी
11. **Judicial** (adjective) – Legal, judicative, of the courts न्यायिक
12. **Discourse** (noun) – Discussion, conversation, communication, debate चर्चा
13. **Reconsider** (verb) – Re-evaluate, rethink, reassess पुनः विचार करना
14. **Ceiling** (noun) – Upper limit, cap, maximum अधिकतम सीमा
15. **In terms of** (phrase) – With regard to, in relation to, with respect to के अनुसार
16. **Conflict** (noun) – Struggle, dispute, contention संघर्ष
17. **Seek** (verb) – try, attempt, endeavour, strive प्रयास करना
18. **Consolidate** (verb) – Strengthen, enhance, secure, firm up संगठित करना
19. **Massive** (adjective) – Large-scale, enormous, substantial विशाल
20. **Bank on** (phrasal verb) – Rely on, depend on, trust in भरोसा करना
21. **Trump** (verb) – surpass (something) by saying or doing something better. पार करना
22. **Assertion** (noun) – Declaration, proclamation, statement अभिकथन
23. **Influential** (adjective) – Powerful, dominant, important प्रभावशाली
24. **Leverage** (verb) – Utilize, make use of, exploit उपयोग करना

25. **Mark a precedent on** (phrase) – Set an example for, establish a standard for मानक तय करना
26. **Methodology** (noun) – Technique, method, system विधि
27. **Sect** (noun) – Faction, subgroup, denomination, school, cult संप्रदाय
28. **Subsume** (verb) – Include, incorporate, encompass, absorb, assimilate समाहित करना
29. **Enumerator** (noun) – Counter, tallyman, recorder, lister गणनाकार
30. **Assign** (verb) – Allocate, allot, designate, appoint सौंपना
31. **Respondent** (noun) – Answerer, replier, defendant, respondent प्रतिवादी
32. **Yield** (verb) – Produce, give, provide, supply प्रदान करना
33. **Unwieldy** (adjective) – Cumbersome, bulky, clumsy, impractical बोझिल
34. **Presumably** (adverb) – Likely, probably, possibly, assumably संभावित रूप से
35. **Clan** (noun) – Tribe, family, group, lineage जाति
36. **Attainment** (noun) – Achievement, accomplishment, realization, fulfilment प्राप्ति
37. **Affirmative** (adjective) – Positive, confirmatory, approving, assenting सकारात्मक
38. **Indeed** (adverb) – Truly, really, certainly, undoubtedly निश्चित रूप से
39. **Address** (verb) – Deal with, handle, manage, attend to सुलझाना, निपटाना
40. **Inequity** (noun) – Unfairness, injustice, partiality, bias असमानता
41. **Look for** (phrasal verb) – search for, hunt for, seek, look about for, look round for तलाश करना

Summary of the Editorial

1. Bihar conducted a comprehensive caste survey, effectively serving as a caste-wise census of its population.
2. The survey found that 63% of Bihar's 13 crore population fall under the Extremely Backward Classes (EBC) and Other Backward Classes (OBC) categories.
3. The socio-economic profiles of the population have been recorded but are yet to be released.
4. These findings might bolster political calls for a nationwide caste census.
5. It could influence the judicial discourse on the 50% legal cap on total reservations in education and government jobs.
6. Politically, the BJP aims to unite all Hindu sections, whereas other parties focus on different OBC sections.
7. With the rise of Hindutva, major social groups might leverage their numbers to forward their interests through politics.
8. This survey could provide the 'quantifiable data' needed to validate levels of reservation in various states, as requested by the judiciary.
9. The methodology for Bihar's caste count involved coding each of the 214 recognized castes in the state.
10. The system accounted for sub-castes and sects by grouping them under broader caste names.
11. This streamlined approach contrasts with the Union government's 2011 survey, which yielded confusing results due to individuals listing castes, sub-castes, sects, clans, and surnames.
12. While knowing exact caste numbers has benefits, the ultimate constitutional goal is a casteless society.
13. Affirmative action plays a crucial role in addressing societal inequities.
14. The state should aim to ensure equality of opportunity and fair resource distribution.
15. Emphasis should be placed on achieving these goals without overly stressing caste identity.

Practice Exercise: SSC Pattern Based

1. **Based on the passage, which of the following can be inferred about the potential implications of Bihar's caste survey on a national level?** [Editorial page]
 - A. It will reduce the relevance of caste-based reservations in education and government services.
 - B. It may spur discussions about revising the 50% cap on reservations.
 - C. It will cause a reduction in the demands for a country-wide caste census.
 - D. It will prompt other states to conduct similar caste counts using a different methodology.
2. **According to the passage, what was one of the primary reasons the Union government did not release the caste-related details of its 2011 'Socio-economic and Caste Census'?**
 - A. They lost the data.
 - B. The data yielded was too confusing and cumbersome.
 - C. The people were hesitant to disclose their castes.
 - D. There was significant political opposition to releasing the data.
3. **How did Bihar's methodology differ from previous attempts in terms of handling various caste identities?**
 - A. Bihar only counted the main castes and ignored sub-castes and sects.
 - B. Bihar allowed respondents to name multiple caste identities.
 - C. Bihar's methodology did not distinguish between castes and sects.
 - D. Bihar grouped sub-castes and sects under broader caste names and assigned codes.
4. **What tone is the passage primarily written in?**
 - A. Sarcastic
 - B. Informative
 - C. Comical
 - D. Disdainful
5. **What is the main theme of the passage?**
 - A. The various ways to conduct a census.
 - B. The diversity of castes in India.
 - C. The significance and implications of Bihar's caste survey.
 - D. The importance of reservation in government services.
6. **Sentences of a paragraph are given below in jumbled order. Arrange the sentences in the correct order to form a meaningful and coherent paragraph.**
 - A. Their position is that the UNSC's primary responsibility is "maintenance of international peace and security" and climate change-related issues are outside its ambit.
 - B. India's negative vote at the UN Security Council (UNSC) on a draft resolution on climate change is a reflection of its long-held opposition to expanding the UNSC's mandate into areas that are already being dealt with by other multinational fora.

- C. But the supporters of the resolution argue that the climate is creating security risks in the world, which will exacerbate in the future with water shortage, migration and a destruction of livelihoods.
- D. The resolution, piloted by Ireland and Niger and which had the support of a majority of the UNSC members, was voted down by India and Russia — it has veto powers — while China abstained.
- E. Germany had circulated a similar draft last year which was never put to vote in the Security Council as the Trump administration opposed it. Now, with support from the Biden administration, the developed world is pushing to include what they call “climate security” in the agenda of the UNSC.
- A. BDACE
B. DABCE
C. ABCDE
D. EDACB
7. **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. That the wrong remedy could exacerbate an ailment and not cure it is a well understood adage. This holds true for the Union government’s (Department of Personnel & Training – DoPT) proposals to amend Rule 6 related to deputation of cadre officers of the IAS (Cadre Rules 1954).
- A. Reports have shown that the deputation from States to the Union government has been uneven.
B. Some States have not nominated officers for deputation adequately to work with the Union government; in this, West Bengal (11 out of the 280 officers are on central deputation), Rajasthan (13 out of 247) and Telangana (7 out of an authorised strength of 208) stand out.
C. But does this necessitate the rule changes proposed by the DoPT,
D. This has led to vacancies across Union government ministries. Numbers accessed by The Hindu show that actual deputation as a percentage of the mandated reserves fell from 69% (2014) to 30% (2021), suggesting that there is merit in the DoPT’s identification of shortages in deputation being an issue.
2. which include acquiring overriding powers for the Union government that will do away with seeking approval from the States for transferring IAS and IPS officers?
- A. DBAC
B. BDAC
C. ABDC
D. CADB
8. **Sentences of a paragraph are given below in jumbled order. Arrange the sentences in the correct order to form a meaningful and coherent paragraph.**

- A. The criticism by the Opposition that the change may dilute the Lok Ayukta law appears valid, as Section 14 of the Lok Ayukta Act is its most stringent provision.
- B. Even though the Left Democratic Front (LDF) government is citing legal opinion to justify the proposed amendments, it does give an impression that it is in an unseemly hurry to remove the finality attached to a provision that allows the anti-corruption judicial body to direct a public servant to vacate office, if an allegation is substantiated.
- C. Both the Congress-led United Democratic Front and the BJP have appealed to the Governor not to promulgate the ordinance cleared by the Cabinet. Opposition parties have suggested that the proposal may be linked to ongoing inquiries by the Lok Ayukta against members of the Cabinet.
- D. The Kerala government's proposal to amend its Lok Ayukta Act through an ordinance appears questionable and hasty.
- A. BADC
- B. DBAC
- C. ACBD
- D. BDCA
9. **Select the option that can be used as a one-word substitute for the given group of words.**
Enjoying or affording warm secure shelter or cover and opportunity for ease and contentment
- A. Undisturbed
- B. Easeful
- C. Untroubled
- D. Snug
10. **Select the option that can be used as a one-word substitute for the given group of words.**
Kind, generous, and forgiving.
- A. Magnificent
- B. Grandiloquent
- C. Portentous
- D. Magnanimous
11. **The following sentence has been split into four segments. Identify the segment that contains a grammatical error.**
You wash / the dishes / and / I dry the same.
- A. and
- B. You wash
- C. I dry the same
- D. the dishes
12. **Select the grammatically correct sentence.**
- A. As a nation, India is a united country and shall always remain so.
- B. As nation, India is a united country and shall always remain so.
- C. As the nation, India is a united country and shall always remain so.
- D. As a nation, India is an united country and shall always remain so.
- A. A

- B. B
C. D
D. C
13. **Select the most appropriate option to fill in the blank.**
I take my _____ off to our freedom fighters for their service to our country.
A. boots
B. hat
C. gun
D. socks
14. **Select the most appropriate option to fill in the blank.**
_____ droplets settled on top of leaves.
A. Due
B. Doe
C. Do
D. Dew
15. **Select the most appropriate ANTONYM of the underlined word to fill in the blank.**
Instead of becoming joyous to hear the breaking news, she became _____ .
A. melancholic
B. vengeful
C. ecstatic
D. exuberant
16. **Select the most appropriate option that can substitute the underlined segment in the given sentence.**
The young boy displayed an aptitude on scientific research
A. aptitude for
B. aptitude at
C. aptitude by
D. aptitude in
17. **Select the option that expresses the given sentence in passive voice.**
The magazine house was expecting unpublished authors for their forthcoming exclusive issue on new trends.
A. Unpublished authors will be expected by the magazine house for their forthcoming exclusive issue on new trends.
B. Unpublished authors were being expected by the magazine house for their forthcoming exclusive issue on new trends.
C. Unpublished authors was expected by the magazine house for their forthcoming exclusive issue on new trends.
D. Unpublished authors were expected by the magazine house for their forthcoming exclusive issue on new trends.
18. **Select the correct option to substitute the underlined segment in the given sentence.**
He had given me that book in 1999.
A. did given me

- B. was given me
- C. gives me
- D. gave me

19. **Select the most appropriate synonym of the given word.**

Predicament

- A. Ease
- B. Quandary
- C. Blessing
- D. Solution

20. **Select the most appropriate ANTONYM of the underlined word.**

His knowledge is superficial in nature.

- A. Deviant
- B. Profound
- C. Artificial
- D. Opposing

Comprehension:

In the following passage, some words have been deleted. Read the passage carefully and select the most appropriate option to fill in each blank.

The modern world (1) _____ around technology. It has advanced dramatically in the beyond twenty years and presently, we can't envision a world without PCs and cell phones. The last century saw fast progressions in innovation and science which were unfathomable previously. The internet is perhaps the most significant of these. Today, it is no longer a science fiction concept to communicate with people anywhere in the world. While smart phones keep us constantly connected to the virtual world, wireless internet has eliminated the need to use a physical wire to connect with this world. Today, we rely on the internet to pay our bills, book tickets, travel and conduct banking transactions. Li-Fi, a new technology that uses light signals to (2) _____ data and reduces external interference, is currently in development. On the other hand, such rapid progress comes with some (3) _____. Another sort of wrongdoing, known as digital wrongdoing, is the greatest danger to security today. WannaCry was one of the biggest recent cyberattacks. It infected more than 230,000 computers in over 150 countries and threatened to erase valuable data unless ransom payments were made. Personal and (4) _____ data continue to be stolen frequently, and our country's cyber security is still lacking. It's also possible to say that people miss out on important experiences in the real world because they spend so much time in the virtual world. The distinction between the real and online worlds sometimes appears to blur, especially as social media grows in popularity. For instance, the internet was said to have become so addictive in China that programs were established to help people get off of it. However, technology's benefits (5) _____ its drawbacks. It all comes down to what we do with it. One thing to keep in mind is that technology can serve us well but not completely

21. **Select the most appropriate option to fill in blank no. 1.**

- A. rotates
 - B. revolves
 - C. squares
 - D. circles
22. **Select the most appropriate option to fill in blank no. 2.**
- A. lay
 - B. disturb
 - C. transmit
 - D. communicate
23. **Select the most appropriate option to fill in blank no. 3.**
- A. drawbacks
 - B. snag
 - C. hitch
 - D. liabilities
24. **Select the most appropriate option to fill in blank no. 4.**
- A. secret
 - B. confidential
 - C. regular
 - D. common
25. **Select the most appropriate option to fill in blank no. 5.**
- A. balances
 - B. shadows
 - C. outweigh
 - D. insides

Answers

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

Explanation

1. B) The passage states that the survey "may give a boost to the political demand for a country-wide caste census and push the judicial discourse towards reconsidering the 50% legal ceiling on total reservation in education and government services."
2. B) The passage mentions that "A major reason for the Union government not releasing the caste-related details of its 2011 'Socio-economic and Caste Census' was that the data it yielded was too confusing and unwieldy."
3. D) The passage specifies that "The methodology included giving a code to each of the 214 castes in the State's lists of castes. Sub-castes and sects were identified in advance and subsumed under a broader caste name." This shows that Bihar had a system in place to streamline and organize the various caste identities.
4. B) The passage primarily provides details and facts about the caste survey conducted in Bihar, its significance, methodology, and implications at a national level. The author does not mock or disdain the subject, nor does it attempt to make the content humorous. It aims to inform the reader about the topic in detail.
5. C) While the passage touches upon diverse topics such as the methodology of the survey, the implications at a national level, and the legalities surrounding reservation, the overarching theme is the significance and implications of the caste survey that Bihar has conducted.
6. A) **BDACE**
 - B introduces India's vote and the UNSC (United Nations Security Council). The UNSC is the full form, and we might look for an abbreviation or acronym in other sentences.
 - D further details on the resolution and the countries involved. It mentions the resolution piloted by Ireland and Niger and talks about the countries who supported, opposed, or abstained.
 - A expands on India's position on the issue and provides their reasoning. It uses the acronym "UNSC."
 - C brings a counter-argument, stating what the supporters of the resolution believe.
 - E provides a historical perspective on a similar draft and the change in stance based on the change in the US administration.
7. C) **ABDC**
 1. That the wrong remedy could exacerbate an ailment and not cure it is a well-understood adage. This holds true for the Union government's (Department of Personnel & Training – DoPT) proposals to amend Rule 6 related to deputation of cadre officers of the IAS (Cadre) Rules 1954.

A. Reports have shown that the deputation from States to the Union government has been uneven.

- This statement provides a general observation about the uneven deputation from States to the Union government.

B. Some States have not nominated officers for deputation adequately to work with the Union government; in this, West Bengal, Rajasthan, and Telangana stand out.

- This is a continuation of Statement A, giving specific details. It elaborates on which States haven't been nominating officers adequately, thus explaining why the deputation is uneven.

D. This has led to vacancies across Union government ministries. Numbers accessed by The Hindu show that actual deputation as a percentage of the mandated reserves fell from 69% (2014) to 30% (2021), suggesting that there is merit in the DoPT's identification of shortages in deputation being an issue.

- "This" in sentence D refers to the uneven deputation and the fact that some States haven't been nominating officers adequately. It details the consequences of this uneven deputation.

C. But does this necessitate the rule changes proposed by the DoPT?

- "This" in sentence C likely refers to the vacancies and the identified shortages described in sentence D. So it's a logical continuation, questioning whether the proposed changes are warranted based on the information provided.

2. which include acquiring overriding powers for the Union government that will do away with seeking approval from the States for transferring IAS and IPS officers?

8. B) **DBAC**

D. "The Kerala government's proposal to amend its Lok Ayukta Act through an ordinance appears questionable and hasty."

- This sentence introduces the main topic of the paragraph: The Kerala government's proposal to amend the Lok Ayukta Act. This sets the stage for subsequent details about this topic. So it's likely the starting sentence.

B. "Even though the Left Democratic Front (LDF) government is citing legal opinion to justify the proposed amendments, it does give an impression that it is in an unseemly hurry to remove the finality attached to a provision that allows the anti-corruption judicial body to direct a public servant to vacate office, if an allegation is substantiated."

- This sentence delves deeper into the topic introduced in Sentence D. It speaks about the LDF government's rationale and the concerns arising from it. The "proposed amendments" connect back to the amendment proposal mentioned in Sentence D.

A. "The criticism by the Opposition that the change may dilute the Lok Ayukta law appears valid, as Section 14 of the Lok Ayukta Act is its most stringent provision."

- This sentence provides more specific criticism about the amendment proposal. It also introduces "the Opposition," which is subsequently expanded upon in Sentence C, and thus logically follows B.

C. "Both the Congress-led United Democratic Front and the BJP have appealed to the Governor not to promulgate the ordinance cleared by the Cabinet. Opposition parties have suggested that the proposal may be linked to ongoing inquiries by the Lok Ayukta against members of the Cabinet."

- This sentence mentions specific actions taken by the Opposition in response to the proposal. The term "Opposition parties" connects back to the "Opposition" mentioned in Sentence A.

9. D) **Snug** (adjective) – Enjoying or affording warm secure shelter or cover and opportunity for ease and contentment. आरामदायक

- **Undisturbed** (adjective) – Not interrupted or bothered; peaceful. शांत
- **Easeful** (adjective) – Full of ease; comfortable; calm. सुखमय
- **Untroubled** (adjective) – Not concerned or affected; free from disturbances. बेफिकर

10. D) **Magnanimous** (adjective) – Kind, generous, and forgiving. उदार

- **Magnificent** (adjective) – Extremely beautiful, elaborate, or impressive. शानदार
- **Grandiloquent** (adjective) – Using high-flown or bombastic language. आडंबरी
- **Portentous** (adjective) – Done in a pompously or overly solemn manner so as to impress. अभिशाप-जैसा

11. C) 'the same' के बदले 'them' का प्रयोग होगा, क्योंकि 'the same' का यह प्रयोग noun के रूप में होता है, जो यहाँ पर अनुचित है; जैसे— You wash the dishes, and I dry them.

- 'them' will be used instead of 'the same,' because 'the same' is used as a noun, which is inappropriate here; Like— You wash the dishes, and I dry them.

12. A) 'a' का प्रयोग 'nation' के पहले होगा क्योंकि 'nation' एक common noun है, अतः उसके पहले 'a' का प्रयोग होगा; जैसे— As a nation, India is a united country and shall always remain so.

- The word united begins with a consonant sound (you), so it takes the article "a". It's a united. Use "a" before words that begin with a consonant sound, even if the first letter is a vowel. The word united begins with a consonant sound ("you"), so it takes the indefinite article "a".
- 'a' will be used before 'nation' because 'nation' is a common noun, so before it 'a' will be used; Like— As a nation, India is a united country and shall always remain so.

13. B) 'hat' का प्रयोग होगा क्योंकि पूरे संदर्भ में, sentence देश के स्वतंत्रता संग्राम सेनानियों के प्रति सम्मान और आदर की भावना को व्यक्त कर रहा है। यहाँ "I take my (blank) off" का तात्पर्य है सम्मान दिखाना, और इस भाषा का प्रयोग टोपी उतार कर सम्मान व्यक्त करने के लिए होता है। इसलिए, "hat" सबसे उपयुक्त विकल्प होगा।

- **'hat'** should be used because in the entire context, the sentence is expressing respect and admiration for the country's freedom fighters. The phrase "I take my (blank) off" signifies showing respect, and this language is traditionally used to denote taking off one's hat in honor. Thus, "hat" would be the most appropriate choice.
14. D) **'Dew'** का प्रयोग होगा क्योंकि पूरे संदर्भ में, sentence पौधों की पत्तियों पर संकिर्ण बूंदों की चर्चा कर रहा है। यहाँ "_____ droplets settled on top of leaves" के माध्यम से वह प्राकृतिक प्रक्रिया को दर्शाया जा रहा है, जिसमें पत्तियों पर 'ओस' की बूंदें जमती हैं। इसलिए, "Dew" सबसे उपयुक्त विकल्प होगा।
- **'Dew'** should be used because in the entire context, the sentence is discussing the small droplets that settle on the leaves of plants. Here, through "_____ droplets settled on top of leaves", it portrays that natural process where droplets of 'dew' condense on leaves. Thus, "Dew" would be the most appropriate choice.
15. A) **Joyous** (adjective) – Full of happiness and joy, cheerful, delighted, jubilant. खुश
- Antonym: **Melancholic** (adjective) – Feeling or expressing pensive sadness, sorrowful, unhappy, mournful. उदास
- **Vengeful** (adjective) – Seeking to harm someone in return for a perceived injury, vindictive, retaliatory, revengeful. प्रतिशोधी
 - **Ecstatic** (adjective) – Feeling overwhelming happiness or joyful excitement, elated, euphoric. बेहद खुश
 - **Exuberant** (adjective) – Filled with or characterized by a lively energy and excitement, ebullient, buoyant, cheerful. उत्साही
16. A) **'aptitude for'** का प्रयोग 'aptitude on' के स्थान पर होगा, क्योंकि किसी विशेष क्षेत्र में रुचि या साक्षरता दर्शाने के लिए "aptitude for" का प्रयोग होता है; जैसे— He has an aptitude for music.
- **'aptitude for'** will be used instead of 'aptitude on' because "aptitude for" is used to show interest or proficiency in a particular area; Like— He has an aptitude for music.
17. B) Unpublished authors were being expected by the magazine house for their forthcoming exclusive issue on new trends.
18. D) **'had given me'** के बदले 'gave me' का प्रयोग होगा क्योंकि 'that' Clause में verb 'in 1999' Past Tense में है अतः Relative Clause में भी Verb Past Tense में होगा; जैसे— It was Ram, Laxman and Sita who went to the forest.
- 'gave me' will be used instead of 'had given me' because in 'that' clause the verb 'in 1999' indicates Past Tense, so in Relative Clause also Verb will be in Past Tense; Like— It was Ram, Laxman and Sita who went to the forest.

19. B) **Predicament** (noun) – A difficult, unpleasant, or embarrassing situation. दुर्दशा

Synonym: **Quandary** (noun) – A state of perplexity or uncertainty, especially as to what to do; dilemma. संकट

- **Ease** (noun) – Comfort, simplicity, effortless. सुख
- **Blessing** (noun) – Divine favor, approval, something beneficial. आशीर्वाद
- **Solution** (noun) – Answer, resolution, way to solve a problem. समाधान

20. B) **Superficial** (adjective) – Shallow, lacking depth, not thorough or comprehensive. पृष्ठभूत

Antonym: **Profound** (adjective) – Deep, thorough, thoughtful, insightful. गहरा

- **Deviant** (adjective) – Departing from usual or accepted standards, different, divergent. विचलित
- **Artificial** (adjective) – Made or produced by humans, not natural, synthetic. कृत्रिम
- **Opposing** (adjective) – Contrary, conflicting, in opposition to. विरोधी

21. B) वाक्य रिक्त स्थान (1) के लिए सही विकल्प 'B. revolves' होगा क्योंकि "revolves" का अर्थ होता है किसी चीज के चारों ओर घूमना या केंद्रित होना। जबकि 'rotates' का अर्थ है घूमना, 'squares' का अर्थ है मेल करना, और 'circles' का अर्थ है घेरा डालना, जो इस संदर्भ में सही नहीं है।

- 'Revolves' should be used because it means to focus or center around something. Whereas, 'Rotates' means to turn, 'Squares' means to match or align, and 'Circles' means to enclose or surround, which don't fit in this context.

22. C) **'Transmit'** का प्रयोग होगा क्योंकि "transmit" का अर्थ होता है डेटा को भेजना या प्रसारित करना। यहाँ पासेज में चरित्र के विकास के संदर्भ में है, जोकि लाइट सिग्नल्स का प्रयोग करके डेटा को भेजने की जानकारी दी जा रही है। 'Lay' का अर्थ होता है रखना, 'Disturb' का अर्थ होता है बाधित करना, और 'Communicate' का अर्थ होता है संवाद करना, जो इस संदर्भ में सही नहीं है।

- **'Transmit'** should be used because it means to send or propagate data. Here, in the passage, information is being given about transmitting data using light signals for the development of technology.

23. A) **'Drawbacks'** का प्रयोग होगा क्योंकि "drawbacks" का अर्थ होता है किसी चीज़ के गुणों के खिलाफ किए गए दोष या कमियाँ। इस संदर्भ में, इस वाक्य में व्यक्त किए गए गतिविधियों या प्रगतियों के साथ कुछ दिक्कतों की चर्चा हो रही है, जिसका 'drawbacks' से संबंधित है। 'Snag' एक बड़ी समस्या या रुकावट को सूचित करने के लिए प्रयुक्त होता है, 'Hitch' एक अचानक

रुकावट को संकेतित करने के लिए प्रयुक्त होता है, और 'Liabilities' उत्तरदायित्वों को सूचित करने के लिए प्रयुक्त होता है, जो इस संदर्भ में सही नहीं है।

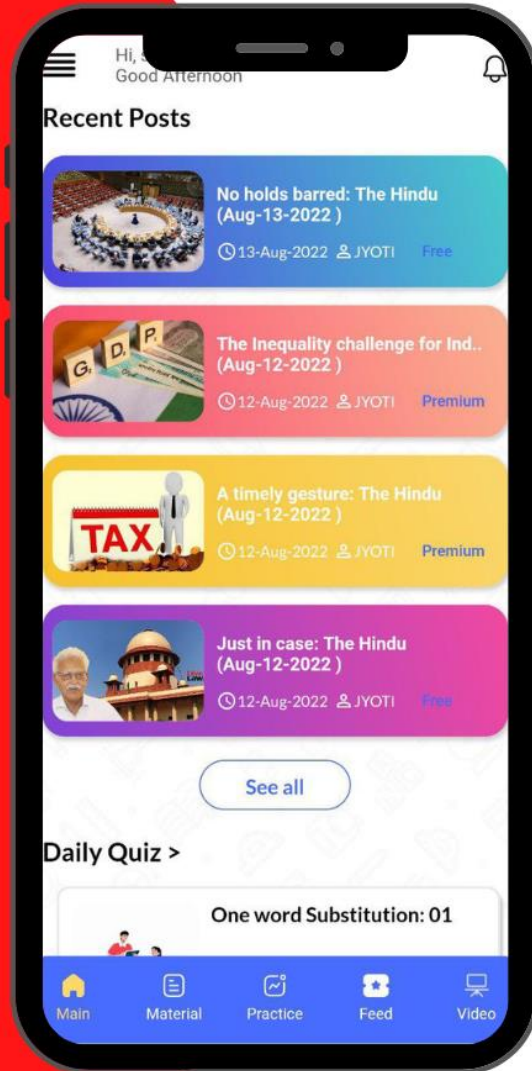
- **Drawbacks'** should be used because it means shortcomings or faults against the merits of something. In this context, the sentence is discussing difficulties or issues associated with certain activities or advancements, which is related to 'drawbacks'. 'Snag' is used to indicate a major problem or obstacle, 'Hitch' signifies a sudden interruption, and 'Liabilities' refers to responsibilities, which are not suitable in this context.

24. B) **'Confidential'** का प्रयोग होगा क्योंकि "confidential" का अर्थ होता है गुप्त या व्यक्तिगत, जो डेटा के संदर्भ में चोरी हो सकते हैं। जबकि 'Secret' का अर्थ है गुप्त, 'Regular' का अर्थ है सामान्य, और 'Common' का अर्थ है साधारण, जो इस संदर्भ में सही नहीं हैं।

- **'Confidential'** should be used because it means private or secretive, which can be stolen in the context of data. Whereas, 'Secret' means hidden, 'Regular' means ordinary, and 'Common' means usual, which don't fit in this context.

25. C) **'Outweigh'** का प्रयोग होगा क्योंकि "outweigh" का अर्थ होता है किसी एक बात का दूसरे पर अधिक होना या उससे ज्यादा महत्वपूर्ण होना। इस संदर्भ में, प्रौद्योगिकी के लाभ उसकी हानियों से अधिक होते हैं, इसलिए यह शब्द सही है। जबकि 'Balances' का अर्थ होता है संतुलित करना, 'Shadows' का अर्थ होता है छाया डालना, और 'Insides' का अर्थ होता है अंदर का हिस्सा, जो इस संदर्भ में सही नहीं है।

- **'Outweigh'** should be used because it means to exceed in value or importance. In this context, the benefits of technology exceed its drawbacks, so this word is the correct choice. Whereas, 'Balances' means to stabilize, 'Shadows' means to cast a shadow, and 'Insides' refers to the inner part, which don't fit in this context.



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