Express View: Bharat Ratna Karpoori Thakur

The Bharat Ratna to Karpoori Thakur is richly deserved and **apparently** politically timed. The **award** to the socialist **stalwart**, described by Prime Minister Narendra Modi as the "**champion** for the **marginalised**" and "**beacon** of social justice", **comes** 35 years after his death and less than three months before the next Lok Sabha election. In a storied career that began with the Quit India movement and saw him become chief minister of Bihar twice, Karpoori Thakur's achievements were several and **influential**, and they have **endured** — especially his contribution in shaping the public conversation on caste in the country. For the BJP, having just fulfilled its Mandir promise with the **consecration** of the Ram temple in Ayodhya, the **honouring** of Thakur could be read as a significant **foray** into Mandal territory that **lies ostensibly on the other side of** the political **fence** — ostensibly, because the BJP is no stranger to caste politics, having successfully **appropriated** pieces of the Mandal vocabulary. **In the run-up to** the parliamentary election, with the Congress-led Opposition making the demand for a nation-wide caste census a primary **plank**, the Bharat Ratna to Thakur confirms the BJP government's inventive use of the award to make a political point — past recipients have included Atal Bihari Vajpayee and Nanaji Deshmukh, Madan Mohan Malviya and Pranab Mukherjee — and to **lay claim to** the Karpoori **legacy**.

Karpoori Thakur **laid the ground for** the architecture of the **affirmative** action regime established after the Centre implemented the Mandal Commission Report in 1990. In 1978 in Bihar, the Karpoori government had accepted the Mungeri Lal Commission's recommendations and **instituted** a **layered** quota framework that recognised the **cleavage** within the backward castes and also **acknowledged** the need to **address** the disadvantages faced by women — of the 26 per cent quota, 12 per cent was given to the extremely backward castes or EBCs, 8 per cent to OBCs, 3 per cent to women and 3 per cent to the economically backward upper castes. Over the last several elections in Bihar and elsewhere in the country's north, the EBCs, for long **relegated** to the margins by the Backward versus Forward cleavage, have emerged as a critical constituency — the BJP has focused on the **mobilisation** of these castes as part of its strategy to **court** non-Jatav Dalits and non-Yadav OBCs. In Bihar, the Nitish Kumar government **carried out** a caste survey in October last year and an important finding was that the EBCs are the largest social **bloc**, **accounting for** 36.1 per cent of the state's population. To keep the issue alive ahead of Lok Sabha polls, JD(U) workers and leaders have been **fanning out** to conduct "Karpoori charchas" across the state's constituencies.

The BJP government's decision **seeks** to **paper over** the **fissures** between the politics of the Sangh Parivar and that of the stream Karpoori Thakur belonged to. Even as anti-Congressism brought them together — first in the Samyukta Vidhayak Dal and then the Janata Party government in Bihar — it was not enough to keep them together. Now, as a new election **draws closer**, however, a **contest** has begun that may **draw upon** history but will not be bound by it. In this moment, **the Bharat Ratna** by the BJP-led government to a socialist icon **sends** a signal that is bound to be **decoded** politically.

Vocabulary

1. **Apparently** (adverb) – Seemingly, Evidently, Ostensibly, Superficially, Manifestly प्रत्यक्ष रूप से

2. **Stalwart** (noun) – Strong, Robust, Sturdy, Resolute, Valiant बहादुर; निष्ठावान

3. **Champion** (noun) – Defender, Advocate, Supporter, Proponent, Backer समर्थक

4. **The marginalized** (noun) – The disadvantaged, oppressed, underprivileged, neglected, sidelined वंचित

5. **Beacon** (noun) – Signal, Guiding light, Lighthouse, Indicator, Symbol प्रकाश स्तंभ

6. **Influential** (adjective) – Powerful, Dominant, Effective, Significant, Persuasive प्रभावशाली

7. **Endure** (verb) – Withstand, Suffer, Bear, Tolerate, Persist बने रहना

8. **Consecration** (noun) – Dedication, Sanctification, Blessing, Ordination, Hallowing अभिषेक

9. **The Honouring** (noun) – Tribute, Homage, Recognition, Acknowledgment, Commemoration सम्मान

10. **Foray** (noun) – Raid, Incursion, Invasion, Inroad, Assault धावा

11. **Lie** (verb) – Be situated, Exist, Reside, Be located, Be placed स्थित होना

12. **Ostensibly** (adverb) – Apparently, Seemingly, Supposedly, Allegedly, On the surface प्रकट रूप से

13. **On the other side of the fence** (phrase) – In a different position, situation, or viewpoint विपरीत पक्ष में

14. **Appropriate** (verb) – Allocate, Assign, Allot, Designate, Set apart आवंटित करना

15. **In the run-up to** (phrase) – In the period before, Preceding, Leading up to, Prior to, Before इससे पहले कि

16. **Plank** (noun) – Policy, Principle, Platform, Stance, Doctrine सिद्धांत

17. **Lay claim to** (phrase) – Assert ownership, Declare, Claim, State, Affirm दावा करना

18. **Legacy** (noun) – Heritage, Inheritance, Bequest, Tradition, Birthright विरासत

19. **Lay the ground for** (phrase) – Prepare, Set up, Establish, Pave the way for, Found नींव रखना

20. **Affirmative** (adjective) – Positive, Confirmative, Assertive, Agreeing, Approving सकारात्मक

21. **Institute** (verb) – Establish, Set up, Start, Found, Initiate स्थापित करना

22. **Layered** (adjective) – Stratified, Tiered, Laminated, Multilevel, Structured स्तरित

23. **Cleavage** (noun) – Division, Separation, Split, Rift, Schism विभाजन

24. **Acknowledge** (verb) – Recognize, admit, accept, concede, note स्वीकार करना

25. **Address** (verb) – Deal with, Attend to, Tackle, Handle, Approach सुलझाना, निपटाना

26. **Relegate** (verb) – Demote, Downgrade, Depose, Displace, Banish निर्वासित करना/ हटा देना

27. **Mobilisation** (noun) – Assembly, Rallying, Gathering, Activation, Utilization जुटाव/ जमावड़ा

28. **Court** (verb) – Woo, Pursue, Seek, Attract, Invite आकर्षित करना

29. **Carry out** (phrasal verb) – Execute, Perform, Conduct, Implement, Fulfill पूरा करना

30. **Bloc** (noun) – Coalition, Alliance, Group, Faction, League गुट

31. **Account for** (phrasal verb) – Constitute, represent, comprise, make up, form के लिये उत्तरदयी होना

32. **Fan out** (phrasal verb) – Spread out, Disperse, Scatter, Distribute, Disseminate फैलना

33. **Seek** (verb) – try, attempt, endeavour, strive प्रयास करना

34. **Paper over** (phrasal verb) – Conceal, Cover up, Hide, Disguise, Mask छिपाना

35. **Fissure** (noun) – Crack, Cleft, Crevice, Gap, Opening दरार

36. **Draw closer** (phrase) – nearer, it is approaching नजदीक

37. **Contest** (noun) – Competition, Challenge, Match, Tournament, Duel प्रतियोगिता

38. **Draw upon** (phrasal verb) – Utilize, Use, Employ, Harness, Exploit उपयोग करना

39. **Decode** (verb) – Interpret, Decipher, Unravel, Elucidate, Make sense of व्याख्या करना

Summary of the Editorial

1. The awarding of the Bharat Ratna to Karpoori Thakur, 35 years after his death and shortly before the Lok Sabha election, is seen as both meritorious and politically motivated.

2. Karpoori Thakur, recognized by PM Modi as a "champion for the marginalized" and "beacon of social justice," had a remarkable career, beginning with the Quit India movement and becoming Bihar's Chief Minister twice.

3. His lasting legacy includes significant contributions to the public discourse on caste in India.

4. The BJP's recognition of Thakur may indicate a strategic move into Mandal politics, which is traditionally not BJP's domain, despite the party's familiarity with caste politics.

5. The award aligns with the BJP's pattern of using the Bharat Ratna strategically, as seen with previous recipients like Atal Bihari Vajpayee and Nanaji Deshmukh, to make political statements and claim legacies.

6. Karpoori Thakur was instrumental in laying the foundation for the affirmative action regime in India, notably through the implementation of a nuanced quota system in Bihar during his tenure.

7. The 1978 quota framework under Thakur's leadership acknowledged intra-caste disparities and aimed to address gender and economic inequities within the caste system.

8. The BJP has been strategically focusing on mobilizing Extremely Backward Castes (EBCs) and other marginalized groups, recognizing their growing political significance.

9. The recent caste survey in Bihar, showing EBCs as a major social bloc, highlights the importance of these groups in upcoming elections, with JD(U) actively engaging in "Karpoori charchas" to maintain political momentum.

10. The BJP's decision to award the Bharat Ratna to Karpoori Thakur aims to bridge the ideological divide between the Sangh Parivar's politics and that of Thakur's socialist legacy.

11. Despite past alliances against the Congress, there have been persistent ideological differences between the Sangh Parivar and the political stream Thakur represented.

12. As the election nears, a complex political contest is unfolding, leveraging historical narratives while not being confined by them.

13. The award signifies the BJP-led government's attempt to send a potent political message by honoring a socialist icon.

14. This move reflects the BJP's broader strategy of co-opting diverse political legacies and narratives to expand its appeal and consolidate its voter base.

15. The timing and choice of the award recipient highlight the intertwined nature of political symbolism and electoral strategy in contemporary Indian politics.

Practice Exercise: SSC Pattern Based

1. **What is the tone of the passage?** **[Editorial page]**
   A. Critical
   B. Appreciative
   C. Neutral
   D. Skeptical

2. **What is the main theme of the passage?**
   A. The historical impact of Karpoori Thakur's policies and actions.
   B. The detailed analysis of the caste-based political strategies in Bihar.
   C. The political utilization of awards and recognition to serve electoral agendas.
   D. The evolution of affirmative action policies in India's political landscape

3. **What is the main reason behind the timing of awarding Bharat Ratna to Karpoori Thakur, as inferred from the passage?**
   A. To make a political statement ahead of the next Lok Sabha election.
   B. To honor Karpoori Thakur's contributions to the public conversation on caste in the country.
   C. To acknowledge the enduring achievements of Karpoori Thakur throughout his storied career.
   D. To celebrate Karpoori Thakur's role in the Quit India movement and his tenure as the Chief Minister of Bihar.

4. **According to the passage, how does the BJP's action of awarding Bharat Ratna to Karpoori Thakur relate to its political strategy?**
   A. It signifies the BJP's commitment to recognizing leaders from the Quit India movement.
   B. It represents a continuation of the BJP's focus on fulfilling religious promises, similar to the Ram temple in Ayodhya.
   C. It indicates an attempt by the BJP to engage with and lay claim to the legacy of Mandal politics.
   D. It is an isolated event with no apparent connection to the BJP's broader political strategies or objectives.

5. **Based on the passage, which of the following statements is true regarding the use of the Bharat Ratna award by the BJP government?**
   A. The BJP government has used the Bharat Ratna award exclusively to recognize contributions in the field of science and technology, ignoring political figures.
   B. The Bharat Ratna to Thakur is seen as part of the BJP government's strategy to align with the politics of the Sangh Parivar and distance itself from socialist icons.
   C. The awarding of the Bharat Ratna to figures like Thakur, Vajpayee, and Mukherjee indicates the BJP government's use of the award to make a political point and claim a legacy.
   D. The Bharat Ratna has been used by the BJP government to solely acknowledge the contributions of individuals in the field of education, without any political implications.

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

Despite being his competitor, John was **generous and forgiving** in defeat and congratulated his opponent on his well-deserved victory.
   A. altruistic
   B. magnanimous
   C. fainthearted
   D. Venomous

7. **Select the option that can be used as a one-word substitute for the given group of words/ phrase.**
   A person who has features of extrovert and introvert
   A. Stoic
   B. Ambivert
   C. Ambiguous
   D. Dual

8. Which of the following is a synonym for the word "**adroit**"?
   A. Maladroit
   B. Inept
   C. Skilled
   D. Incompetent

9. **Parts of a sentence are given below in jumbled order. Arrange the parts in the correct order to form a meaningful sentence.**
   The investigation by a Supreme Court-appointed committee into /that the Central Government did not cooperate with/ the Pegasus spyware cases does not/ come as a surprise
   A. That the Central Government did not cooperate with the Pegasus spyware cases does not come as a surprise the investigation by a Supreme Court-appointed committee into.
   B. That the Central Government did not cooperate with the investigation by a Supreme Court-appointed committee into the Pegasus spyware cases does not come as a surprise.
   C. The Pegasus spyware cases does not come as a surprise the investigation by a Supreme Court-appointed committee into that the Central Government did not cooperate with.
   D. The investigation by a Supreme Court-appointed committee into the Pegasus spyware cases does not that the Central Government did not cooperate with come as a surprise.

10. **Select the most appropriate meaning of the given idiom**
    We were *in limbo* for weeks while the jury tried to make a decision in the case
    A. To cause other people to react with surprise or mild disapproval
    B. To have formal or official discussions about an issue or a situation.
    C. In a situation where you do not know what will happen or when something will happen
    D. To fail to include something or someone

11. **The following sentence may or may not contain an error in one of its parts. Identify the part containing the error. If the sentence is correct, select 'No error (D)' as your answers**
    At least 140 Palestinians (A)/ have been killed this year,(B)/ including 26 children, which is a seven-year record. (C)/ No Error (D)/

A. (A)
B. (B)
C. (C)
D. (D)

12. **Arrange the following sentences to form a coherent paragraph.**
    P. India was ranked 102 among 117 countries on the Global Hunger Index 2019, but it has slipped five positions, to 107 out of 121 countries, in the latest report, released last week.
    Q. But the numbers don't quite square up — how could India fall five rungs on the hunger index if 14.4 crore of its people were lifted out of poverty in the same time frame?
    R. This was followed by good tidings offered by the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), which revealed that since its last report of 2019, 14.4 crore Indians had been lifted out of poverty.
    S. The hunger index methodology was criticised by India but the UNDP Multidimensional Poverty Index (MPI) report — which shows that overall, India lifted 41.5 crore people out of poverty between 2005-06 and 2019-21 — comes as welcome news.
    A. PSQR   B.PSRQ   C.SQPR   D.PRQS

13. **Arrange the following sentences to form a coherent paragraph.**
    P. They have also challenged the district administration's valuation report of their flats and sought a stay on the.
    Q. Deputy Commissioner's order to the builder to complete negotiations with Tower-D homeowners — within just 60 days — regarding issues such as compensation and reconstruction of units.
    R. The Supreme Court has issued a notice to Chintels India Private Limited, a real estate developer, on a petition filed by residents of Gurugram's Chintels Paradiso Society, whose Tower-D's partial collapse had claimed the lives of two women in February.
    S. The petitioners are seeking adequate compensation for themselves and strict action against the developer for making them reside in an unsafe building.
    A. RPQS   B.RSPQ   C.SRQP   D.SPRQ

14. **Arrange the following sentences to form a coherent paragraph.**
    P. The two-week-long COP27, held in the Egyptian resort of Sharm el-Sheikh, ended with what is being touted as a 'big breakthrough'.
    Q. Rich nations have agreed to set up a fund to provide payouts to developing countries that suffer 'loss and damage' from climate-induced storms, floods, droughts, wildfires and other extreme weather events.
    R. However, what tempers the euphoria is the lack of clarity over the nitty-gritty in terms of eligibility of recipients and donors and the rules for disbursing and using the money.
    S. What's worse, it might take a few years to thrash out the details of the fund, even though the alarming pace of global warming warrants immediate action.
    A. QSPR   B.PQRS   C.QSRP   D.PQSR

15. **Select the most appropriate option to fill in the blank**
    The committee was tasked with _____ a suitable candidate for the prestigious award.
    A. promulgating

B. adjudicating

C. exculpating

D. vitiating

16. **Select the most appropriate option to replace the underlined word in the given sentence**

The politician's speech was filled with **<u>obfuscation</u>**, making it difficult for the audience to understand the true meaning of his words.

A. clarity

B. ambiguity

C. simplicity

D. transparency

Comprehension

The Manipur High Court, on Tuesday, granted limited Internet access in _____1_____places in the State after a petition seeking the restoration of net access. Shutdowns began following the violent conflagration on May 3 and there were extensions of restrictions since then, the last one being an extension order on Wednesday, till June 25. The request made is legitimate as shutdowns have a crippling effect on many an economic activity and livelihoods. Citizens have been unable to access _____2_____ services such as e-commerce-related activities, except for those who can get exemptions from the shutdowns with government permission. Violent incidents have occurred in the State since May 3 and relations between Meiteis and Kukis remain tense. But the orders seeking to extend the shutdown cite threats to "law and order" and the role of "anti-social elements" — a euphemism for extremists _____3_____ in violent acts or the posting of violence-promoting material — rather than explicitly seeking to retain these bans because of a public emergency or in the interests of public safety, as required by Section 5(2) of the Telegraph Act, 1885 and Telegraph Rules. The Manipur government also told the High Court that the shutdowns were needed to block websites where _____4_____material could be published, but such a sledgehammer approach is clearly problematic.

Fill in the blanks with the most appropriate combinations of words

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

A. Elongated

B. Warranted

C. Designated

D. Elevated

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

A. Banal

B. Casual

C. Vital

D. Eternal

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

A. Indulging

B. Wandering

C. Alarming

D. Distressing

20. **Select the most appropriate option to fill in blank 4**.
    A. Discriminatory
    B. Inflammatory
    C. Transitory
    D. Commentary

21. **Select the most appropriate option that can substitute the underlined words in the given sentence.**
    No sooner **did we arrived** at the airport than we got onto our flight to Atlanta.
    A. did we arrive at
    B. can we arrive by
    C. have we arrived at
    D. had we arrive at

22. **Select the most appropriate option to replace the underlined word in the given sentence**
    The little girl was so **frightened** by the thunder that she hid under her bed
    A. elated
    B. captivated
    C. amused
    D. terrified

23. **Select the option that expresses the given sentence in direct speech**
    He said that something might be missing in there.
    A. He said, "Something may be missing in here."
    B. He said, "Something had to be missing in there."
    C. He said, "Something is been missing in here."
    D. He said, "Something could be missing in here."

24. **Select the option that can be used as a one-word substitute for the given group of words**.
    A government by the people or their elected representatives
    A. Monarchy
    B. Oligarchy
    C. Democracy
    D. Autocracy

25. Select the most appropriate **synonym** of the bracketed word in the following sentence to fill in the blank.
    The security cameras can automatically _____ (rotate) to monitor the entire hallway.
    A. evolve
    B. resolve
    C. revolve
    D. Devolve

Answers

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

Explanations

1. **D) Skeptical**

   The passage presents a view that, while acknowledging the deservedness of the Bharat Ratna award to Karpoori Thakur, also points out the timing and potential political motives behind it. The reference to the BJP government's "inventive use of the award to make a political point" and the suggestion that the award is part of a broader political strategy indicate a tone of skepticism. The writer seems to question the underlying intentions and the timing of the award, indicating a doubtful or questioning attitude.

2. **C) The political utilization of awards and recognition to serve electoral agendas.**

   The passage primarily discusses how the awarding of the Bharat Ratna to Karpoori Thakur by the BJP government appears to be politically motivated, especially considering the timing just before the Lok Sabha election. It talks about how this move might be seen as an attempt to appropriate Karpoori Thakur's legacy and appeal to certain voter bases, thus emphasizing the theme of political utilization of awards and recognition to serve electoral agendas. While the passage does touch upon the historical impact of Thakur's policies and the evolution of affirmative action policies, these are not the main focus. The central theme revolves around the strategic use of awards in politics, especially in the context of upcoming elections.

3. **A) To make a political statement ahead of the next Lok Sabha election.**

   The passage mentions that the award was given "less than three months before the next Lok Sabha election," which suggests a strategic timing. Moreover, it points out that the Bharat Ratna to Thakur "confirms the BJP government's inventive use of the award to make a political point." This implies that the awarding of Bharat Ratna to Karpoori Thakur is seen as a move with political implications, primarily to influence or make a statement before the upcoming elections, rather than solely acknowledging his historical contributions.

4. **C) It indicates an attempt by the BJP to engage with and lay claim to the legacy of Mandal politics.**

   The passage explicitly states that "the honouring of Thakur could be read as a significant foray into Mandal territory," which is a reference to the Mandal Commission and its impact on Indian politics, particularly concerning caste-based reservations. This move is portrayed as part of the BJP's strategy to incorporate elements of Mandal politics into its fold, as evidenced by the statement, "the BJP is no stranger to caste politics, having successfully appropriated pieces of the Mandal vocabulary." Therefore, the awarding of Bharat Ratna to Karpoori Thakur is depicted as a calculated political move to connect with and utilize the Mandal legacy to the BJP's advantage.

5. **C) The awarding of the Bharat Ratna to figures like Thakur, Vajpayee, and Mukherjee indicates the BJP government's use of the award to make a political point and claim a legacy.**

The passage suggests that the BJP government has used the Bharat Ratna award as an inventive political tool, awarding it to individuals like Thakur, Vajpayee, Deshmukh, Malviya, and Mukherjee. This is seen as a way to make a political point and to lay claim to various legacies, rather than solely recognizing contributions in specific fields like science, technology, or education. Therefore, option C is correct as it encapsulates the government's approach to using the Bharat Ratna for political messaging and aligning with certain legacies, contrasting with the other options that suggest more limited or different motivations behind the awarding of the Bharat Ratna.

6. B) **Magnanimous** (adjective) – Showing or suggesting a lofty and courageous spirit; generous in forgiving an insult or injury. उदार

   - **Altruistic** (adjective) – Showing a disinterested and selfless concern for the well-being of others; unselfish. परोपकारी
   - **Fainthearted** (adjective) – Lacking courage or resolution; timid. कायर
   - **Venomous** (adjective) – Full of malice or spite. विषैला

7. B) **Ambivert** (noun) – A person whose personality has a balance of extrovert and introvert features. **उभयवर्ती**

   - **Stoic** (noun) – A person who can endure pain or hardship without showing their feelings or complaining. उदासीन, साहसी, अडिग
   - **Ambiguous** (adjective) – Open to more than one interpretation; not having one obvious meaning. अस्पष्ट
   - **Dual** (adjective) – Consisting of two parts, elements, or aspects. **दोहरा**

8. C) **Skilled**

   Adroit (adjective) – Skillful, adept, dexterous, deft निपुण

9. B) That the Central Government did not cooperate with the investigation by a Supreme Court-appointed committee into the Pegasus spyware cases does not come as a surprise.

10. C) **In limbo** (Phrase) – in a situation where you do not know what will happen or when something will happen अधर में लटके हुए हैं।

11. D) **No Error**

12. D) **PRQS**

    P: This sentence establishes the situation - the Global Hunger Index in 2019 and the latest report showing India has slipped five positions. It's a good starting point as it sets up the problem

    R: This sentence mentions the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) report from 2019 and its revelation that 14.4 crore Indians were lifted out of poverty since that report. This sentence continues the narrative from sentence P by contrasting it with another data source and should follow P.

    Q: This sentence questions the inconsistency between the rise in India's hunger index and the

large number of people being lifted out of poverty, which logically follows after sentence R's assertion of people being lifted out of poverty.

S: This sentence discusses both the hunger index (criticised by India) and the UNDP's Multidimensional Poverty Index (MPI) report, the latter supporting the good news from sentence R. It resolves the question raised in sentence Q by providing a possible explanation (different methodologies), and wraps up the narrative by contrasting the two reports.

13. **B) RSPQ**

    R: The sentence R establishes the context and starts the narrative by introducing the problem and the characters involved - the Supreme Court, Chintels India Private Limited, and residents of Gurugram's Chintels Paradiso Society.

    S: sentence S elaborates on what the petitioners are seeking: compensation and action against the developer. This follows the establishment of the problem in sentence R.

    P: P describes another action taken by the residents – challenging the district administration's valuation report and seeking a stay.

    Q: Sentence Q gives us a subsequent development related to the actions of the Deputy Commissioner, which is logically connected to the residents' grievances and their actions mentioned in sentences S and P.

14. **B) PQRS**

    P: This sentence provides the setting, introducing the event (COP27) and its conclusion being touted as a 'big breakthrough.' It is logical to start the narrative with this statement as it establishes the context.

    Q: This sentence builds on the 'big breakthrough' mentioned in sentence P. It explains what this breakthrough was – the agreement by rich nations to set up a fund to help developing countries dealing with the impact of climate change. This flows logically from the first sentence.

    R: Sentence R introduces a contrast to the previously established optimism. It points out that despite the breakthrough, there's uncertainty over the specifics of the fund: who will be eligible, who will contribute, and how the fund will be managed. This sentence logically follows Q, which introduced the fund.

    S: This sentence continues the concern introduced in R, adding that figuring out the details of the fund might take years. It also emphasizes the urgency of the matter due to the rapid pace of global warming. It is a logical conclusion to the narrative started in sentence R.

15. B) **Adjudicating**

    - **promulgate** (verb) – announce, proclaim, publicize, disseminate, spread घोषणा करना

    - **adjudicate** (verb) – judge, decide, arbitrate, determine, resolve फैसला सुनाना

    - **exculpate** (verb) – absolve, exonerate, clear, acquit, vindicate दोषमुक्त करना

    - **vitiate** (verb) – spoil, impair, mar, corrupt, debase दूषित करना

16. B) **ambiguity** (noun) – Uncertainty, Vagueness अस्पष्टता
    ➢ **Obfuscation** (noun) – confusion, obscurity, ambiguity, complication, bewilderment अस्पष्टता

17. C) **Designated** (adjective) – chosen, selected, specific निर्धारित

    In the context of the passage, we are discussing the areas in the state where the internet access has been granted by the court. The term "designated" fits well here as it means "specified or identified for a particular purpose", in this case, for internet access.
    ➢ passage के context में, हम राज्य के उन क्षेत्रों पर discuss कर रहे हैं जहां court द्वारा internet की सुविधा प्रदान की गई है। term "designated" यहां अच्छी तरह से फिट बैठता है क्योंकि इसका अर्थ है 'किसी particular purpose के लिए निर्दिष्ट या पहचाना गया', इस मामले में, internet access के लिए।

    A) 'Elongated' typically describes something long or stretched out, which is not appropriate in this context.
    B) 'Warranted' means justifiable or necessary, which doesn't fit here because the places are not justifying or necessitating anything.
    D) 'Elevated' would refer to a physical attribute of height, which is not relevant here.

18. C) **Vital** (adjective) – Essential, crucial, critical, necessary आवश्यक

    The services being referred to in this context are essential, like e-commerce, which are key for economic activity and livelihoods. Thus, 'vital', which means absolutely necessary or important, fits best
    ➢ इस context में जिन सेवाओं का उल्लेख किया जा रहा है, वे आवश्यक हैं, जैसे e-commerce, जो economic activity और livelihoods के लिए महत्वपूर्ण हैं। इस प्रकार, 'vital', जिसका अर्थ बिल्कुल आवश्यक या महत्वपूर्ण है, सबसे उपयुक्त है।

    A) 'Banal' means commonplace or boring, which is not suitable for this context.
    B) 'Casual' means relaxed and unconcerned, which does not apply to essential services.
    D) 'Eternal' implies unending time, which is not relevant to this context.

19. A) **Indulge** (verb) – Engage in, participate in, become involved in, give in to लिप्त होना

    Here, we are referring to the activities of extremists or anti-social elements. 'Indulging', which means becoming involved in (an activity, typically one that is undesirable or disapproved of), fits in this context.
    ➢ यहां हम extremists या anti-social elements का जिक्र कर रहे हैं. Indulging, जिसका अर्थ है (एक गतिविधि, आमतौर पर वह जो undesirable or disapproved है) में शामिल होना, इस संदर्भ में फिट बैठता है।

    B) 'Wandering' suggests moving about aimlessly, which is not appropriate here as the actions of extremists are typically deliberate.

C) 'Alarming' and D) 'Distressing' are adjectives used to describe a situation or condition, not activities of individuals, so they are not suitable here

20. B) **Inflammatory** (adjective) – Provocative, incendiary, seditious, instigating भड़काऊ

In the context, it is about content that can incite violence or unrest. 'Inflammatory' is the best choice as it means causing or increasing anger, violence, or strong emotions.

context में, यह ऐसा content के बारे में है जो हिंसा या अशांति भड़का सकती है। 'Inflammatory' सबसे best choice है क्योंकि इसका मतलब anger, violence या strong emotions को पैदा करना या बढ़ाना है।

A) 'Discriminatory' would be more about prejudiced or unfair content, which doesn't necessarily have to incite violence.

C) 'Transitory' means temporary or short-lived, which doesn't describe the nature of the content.

D) 'Commentary' generally refers to an explanation or interpretation, which is not relevant here.

21. A) 'did we arrived' के बदले 'did we arrive' का प्रयोग होगा क्योंकि 'did' के साथ verb का base form (V1) प्रयोग होता है।

• 'did we arrive' will be used instead of 'did we arrived' because with 'did', the base form of the verb is used.

22. D) **terrified**

In the given sentence, the context suggests that the little girl is experiencing fear due to the thunder. The word "frightened" conveys this emotion. Among the given options, only "terrified" carries a similar meaning, as it also refers to feeling extreme fear.

23. A) He said, "Something may be missing in here."

24. C. **Democracy**

- **Democracy** – it is a system of government in which power is vested in the people, who rule either directly or through freely elected representatives. प्रजातंत्र

- **Monarchy** – It is a form of government in which a single person, usually a king or queen, holds supreme power. राजतंत्र

- **Oligarchy** – It is a form of government in which a small group of people have control अल्पतांत्रिक-अधिकारी

- **Autocracy** – It is a system of government in which a single person holds all the power. निरंकुशता

25. C) **Rotate** (verb) – Turn or cause to turn in a circle, especially around a fixed point. घूमना

Synonym: **Revolve** (verb) – Move in a circle on a central axis. घूमना

- **Evolve** (verb) – Develop gradually, especially from a simple to a more complex form. **विकसित होना**

- **Resolve** (verb) – Settle or find a solution to a problem or contentious matter**. समाधान करना**

- **Devolve** (verb) – Transfer or delegate (power) to a lower level, especially from central government to local or regional administration. अधिकृत करना