

## Poll posture: On the 2024 Interim Budget

Slowing growth and rising inequality must both be tackled **head-on**

Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman's sixth **consecutive** Budget speech was an election-eve, self-congratulatory report card on the economic achievements **engendered** by Prime Minister Narendra Modi and the two governments he has led since 2014. **Echoing** the Finance Ministry's review of the economy's performance, and **stating** that Mr. Modi had **inherited** a situation **replete** with 'enormous challenges' when he assumed office, Ms. Sitharaman **asserted** that those were **surmounted** through 'structural reforms, **pro**-people programmes and the creation of opportunities for employment and entrepreneurship'. A **reinvigorated** economy had helped ensure that the fruits of development started reaching the people **at scale**, **imbuing** them with a sense of purpose and hope, and translated into a bigger **mandate** five years ago, she **averred**. In a clear sign that the Bharatiya Janata Party-led **regime** is far more confident of returning to power this time around, Ms. Sitharaman **eschewed** any announcements that could be seen as targeting a particular constituency of voters. Instead, the focus was on talking up the **commitment** to 'an inclusive and **sustainable** policy approach that had **led to** the **attainment** of a more **comprehensive** GDP of governance, development and performance'. A **nonchalant observation** that the government would detail a road map for **attaining** a 'Viksit Bharat' by 2047 in its full Budget in July, **was premised on** the **certainty** of winning a '**resounding**' electoral mandate.

The Budget numbers **posit** a continuing journey on the path of **fiscal consolidation**, with the Revised Estimates (RE) **pegging** the current year's fiscal deficit at 5.8% of the GDP, a 10 **basis points** improvement from last February's Budget Estimate (BE) of 5.9%. This, the Minister has achieved by **pruning** effective **capital expenditure** by ₹1 lakh crore in the RE, a **moderation** in nominal growth estimates **notwithstanding**. For 2024-25, she has **projected** a sharper consolidation and pegged the deficit at 5.1% by **factoring in** a 14% jump in revenue receipts on a BE basis, that is expected to help **offset** an 11% increase in estimated capital expenditure to ₹11.11 lakh crore. **Ms. Sitharaman**, who **emphasised** a tripling in the **capital spending outlays** over the past four years that had had 'a **multiplier impact** on growth and employment creation', however, **glossed over** the fact that the budgeted **increase** in capital spending next year **is** set to be sharply lower than the 28% jump in the RE versus last **fiscal's** actuals. At a time when official estimates for private consumption spending show growth **at its lowest ebb** since the pandemic, the Budget's **stress** on **fiscal prudence** **does** carry the risk of **undermining** economic **momentum**. The bigger challenge is the more worrying possibility of rising inequality.

[Practice Exercise]

- **Imbue** (verb) – Instil, fill, permeate, infuse, saturate, impregnate से भर देना
- Red/blue coloring of words in the sentence indicates subject verb relationship; where 'red' denotes 'subject' and 'blue' denotes 'verb'.

## Vocabulary

1. **Head-on** (adverb) – with direct confrontation  
सीधे तौर पर
2. **Consecutive** (adjective) – Successive, sequential, continuous, subsequent, following  
लगातार
3. **Engender** (verb) – Cause, produce, generate, create, induce  
पैदा करना
4. **Echo** (verb) – Resound, reflect, repeat, reverberate, mirror  
गूँजना
5. **State** (verb) – Declare, assert, proclaim, announce, articulate  
कहना
6. **Inherit** (verb) – Receive, obtain, acquire, come into, succeed  
विरासत में प्राप्त करना
7. **Replete** (with) (adjective) – Full, filled, loaded, brimming, abundant  
भरा हुआ
8. **Enormous** (adjective) – Huge, immense, vast, extensive, massive  
विशाल
9. **Assert** (verb) – Declare, state, affirm, claim, maintain  
दावा करना
10. **Surmount** (verb) – Overcome, conquer, beat, master, triumph over  
पार करना
11. **Pro-** (prefix) – In favor of, supportive of, advocating, endorsing  
समर्थन में
12. **Reinvigorated** (adjective) – Revived, renewed, refreshed, rejuvenated, revitalized  
पुनर्जीवित
13. **At scale** (phrase) – To a large extent or level of intensity  
विशाल पैमाने पर
14. **Mandate** (noun) – the authority to carry out a policy, regarded as given by the electorate to a party or candidate that wins an election.  
जनादेश
15. **Aver** (verb) – Affirm, assert, declare, state, proclaim  
दृढ़ता से कहना
16. **Regime** (noun) – Government, rule, administration, authority, control  
शासन
17. **Eschew** (verb) – Avoid, abstain from, shun, steer clear of, forgo  
त्यागना
18. **Commitment** (noun) – Dedication, loyalty, devotion, allegiance, obligation  
प्रतिबद्धता
19. **Sustainable** (adjective) – Maintainable, supportable, defensible, viable, feasible  
टिकाऊ
20. **Lead** (to) (verb) – Result in, cause, bring about, produce, provoke  
वजह बनना
21. **Attainment** (noun) – Achievement, accomplishment, realization, fulfilment, acquisition  
प्राप्ति
22. **Comprehensive** (adjective) – Inclusive, extensive, all-encompassing, thorough, broad  
समग्र

23. **Nonchalant** (adjective) – Indifferent, untroubled, unconcerned, uninterested, casual उदासीन
24. **Attain** (verb) – Achieve, accomplish, reach, obtain, acquire प्राप्त करना
25. **Premise** (on) (verb) – Base on, found on, hinge on, rest on, build on आधारित करना
26. **Certainty** (noun) – Sureness, assurance, confidence, conviction, definiteness निश्चितता
27. **Resounding** (adjective) – Emphatic, unequivocal, unmistakable, clear, definite शानदार
28. **Posit** (verb) – Assume, postulate, suggest, hypothesize, propose प्रस्तुत करना
29. **Fiscal consolidation** (noun) – The process of reducing government deficits and debt accumulation राजकोषीय समेकन
30. **Peg** (verb) – Fix, set, secure, establish, determine निर्धारित करना
31. **Basis point** (noun) – 100 Basis point = 1%
32. **Prune** (verb) – Trim, reduce, cut back, decrease, diminish कम करना
33. **Capital expenditure** (noun) – Money spent by a business or organization on acquiring or maintaining fixed assets, such as land, buildings, and equipment. पूंजीगत व्यय
34. **Moderation** (noun) – Restraint, control, temperance, regulation, balance संयम
35. **Notwithstanding** (preposition) – Despite, in spite of, regardless of, notwithstanding के बावजूद
36. **Project** (verb) – Plan, forecast, predict, estimate, calculate अनुमान लगाना
37. **Factor in** (phrasal verb) – Include, consider, take into account, incorporate, integrate में शामिल करना
38. **Offset** (verb) – Counteract, balance, neutralize, cancel out, compensate भरपाई करना
39. **Emphasise** (verb) – Stress, highlight, accentuate, underline, underscore जोर देना
40. **Capital spending** (noun) – the money spent by the government on the development of machinery, equipment, building, health facilities, education, etc
41. **Outlay** (noun) – Expenditure, spending, disbursement, outgo, costs व्यय
42. **Multiplier impact** (noun) – It refers to the effect on national income and product of an exogenous increase in demand. For example, suppose that investment demand increases by one. Firms then produce to meet this demand. That the national product has increased means that the national income has increased.

43. **Gloss over** (phrasal verb) – Conceal, hide, disguise, mask, camouflage छुपाना
44. **Fiscal** (noun) – Financial year (it start with 1 April to 31 Dec)
45. **At a low ebb** (phrase) – At a low point, in decline, at its worst, in a bad state निम्न स्तर पर
46. **Stress** (on) (noun) – Emphasis, significance, importance, weight जोर
47. **Fiscal prudence** (noun) – the ability of a government to sustain smooth monetary operation and long-standing fiscal condition.
48. **Undermine** (verb) – Weaken, diminish, reduce, impair, erode कमजोर करना
49. **Momentum** (noun) – Force, power, strength, impetus, energy गति

## Summary of the Editorial

1. Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman presented her sixth consecutive Budget speech, emphasizing the economic progress under Prime Minister Narendra Modi's leadership since 2014.
2. Sitharaman highlighted that Modi inherited significant challenges but overcame them through structural reforms, pro-people programs, and fostering employment and entrepreneurship opportunities.
3. The reforms led to widespread development, enhancing people's sense of purpose and hope, which translated into a stronger mandate for the government five years ago.
4. Sitharaman focused on the government's commitment to inclusive and sustainable policies, leading to comprehensive governance, development, and performance (GDP).
5. The government plans to present a detailed road map for achieving a developed India ('Viksit Bharat') by 2047 in the full Budget in July, indicating confidence in winning the next election.
6. The Budget aims for fiscal consolidation, with the current year's fiscal deficit projected at 5.8% of the GDP, slightly better than the previous estimate.
7. The improvement in fiscal deficit was achieved by reducing capital expenditure by ₹1 lakh crore and moderating growth estimates.
8. For 2024-25, the deficit is expected to narrow further to 5.1%, with a projected 14% increase in revenue receipts and an 11% increase in capital expenditure.
9. Sitharaman emphasized the tripling of capital spending outlays over four years, which boosted growth and employment.
10. However, the Budget's increase in capital spending for the next year is notably lower than the previous year's actual increase, raising concerns about sustaining growth.
11. The Budget emphasizes fiscal prudence but risks slowing economic momentum, especially with private consumption spending at its lowest since the pandemic.
12. The interim Budget avoids targeting specific voter constituencies, reflecting the government's confidence in its current policies and electoral prospects.
13. The Budget's focus is on continuing the path of fiscal consolidation while maintaining a commitment to inclusive and sustainable development.
14. Rising inequality poses a significant challenge, overshadowing the achievements in fiscal management and capital expenditure growth.
15. Overall, the Budget presents a self-congratulatory view of the government's economic management, projecting confidence in its approach and future electoral success, while acknowledging challenges like slowing growth and rising inequality.

### Practice Exercise: SSC Pattern Based

1. **According to the passage, what is the primary focus of Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman's approach in the 2024 Interim Budget?** [Editorial Page]
  - A. Announcing targeted benefits for specific voter constituencies to ensure electoral success.
  - B. Emphasizing the government's success in overcoming the challenges inherited from previous administrations.
  - C. Highlighting the commitment to an inclusive and sustainable policy approach for comprehensive governance, development, and performance.
  - D. Concentrating solely on the enhancement of private consumption spending to boost economic growth.
2. **What is the implication of the budgetary strategy for the fiscal year 2024-25 as described in the passage?**
  - A. It indicates a significant increase in capital spending, aligning with the previous year's growth momentum.
  - B. It suggests a cautious approach to fiscal management, aiming for a lower fiscal deficit while managing the dynamics of revenue and capital expenditure.
  - C. It implies a neglect of the pressing issue of rising inequality and focuses solely on fiscal consolidation.
  - D. It represents a shift towards prioritizing private consumption spending to spur economic growth.
3. **Which one of the following statements best summarizes the author's position on the 2024 Interim Budget's approach to fiscal consolidation and economic growth?**
  - A. The author appreciates the government's efforts in achieving fiscal consolidation through a reduction in the fiscal deficit from 5.9% to 5.8% and believes it will positively impact economic growth.
  - B. The author is critical of the budget's approach to fiscal consolidation, emphasizing that the reduction in capital expenditure and the risk of undermining economic momentum may not favor long-term growth.
  - C. The author is neutral about the budget, recognizing both the positive steps towards fiscal consolidation and the risks associated with lower private consumption spending.
  - D. The author highlights the substantial increase in capital spending and revenue receipts as a sign of robust economic policy, disregarding the potential risks of slowing growth and rising inequality.
4. **According to the passage, all of the following are true about the 2024 Interim Budget EXCEPT that:**
  - A. The Revised Estimates peg the current year's fiscal deficit at 5.8% of the GDP, a slight improvement from the previous estimate.
  - B. For the fiscal year 2024-25, the budget projects a fiscal deficit of 5.1% by assuming a 14% increase in revenue receipts and an 11% increase in capital expenditure.
  - C. The budget has been praised by the author for its substantial increase in capital spending and its direct positive impact on employment and economic growth.

- D. The budget focuses on fiscal prudence at a time when private consumption spending is showing its lowest growth since the pandemic, which carries the risk of slowing down the economy.
5. **What is the tone of the passage in discussing the 2024 Interim Budget and the government's fiscal policies?**
- A. Optimistic and supportive
  - B. Critical and skeptical
  - C. Indifferent and uninvolved
  - D. Pessimistic and disapproving
6. **Select the most appropriate option to substitute the underlined segment in the given sentence. If there is no need to substitute it, select 'No substitution required.'**
- A tigress has given birth to a cub in the Ranthambore Tiger Reserve, taking the big cat population to 78
- A. is given births
  - B. was birthed
  - C. has give birth
  - D. no substitution required
7. **Select the most appropriate meaning of the given idiom.**
- Be hard up
- A. Unable to calculate
  - B. Have very little money
  - C. Have difficulty in climbing stairs
  - D. Find it very difficult to wake up early
8. **The following sentence has been split into four segments. Identify the segment that contains a grammatical error.**
- Every / curious child / want to / rip open a toy.
- A. curious child
  - B. rip open a toy
  - C. Every
  - D. want to
9. **The following sentence has been divided into parts. One of them may contain an error. Select the part that contains the error from the given options. If you don't find any error, mark 'No error' as your answer.**
- It was / the very well-directed film / and we enjoyed it.
- A. the very well-directed film
  - B. No error
  - C. and we enjoyed it
  - D. It was
10. **Select the INCORRECTLY spelt word**
- A. Tution
  - B. Circuit
  - C. Genuine

D. Manners

11. **Select the option that expresses the given sentence in direct speech.**

He asked me when I had booked the flight tickets.

- A. He said to me, "When do you book the flight tickets?"
- B. He said to me, "When did you book the flight tickets?"
- C. He said to me, "When are you booking the flight tickets?"
- D. He said to me, "When you had book the flight tickets?"

12. **The following sentence has been divided into parts. One of them may contain a grammatical error. Select the part that contains the error from the given options. If you don't find any error, mark 'No error' as your answer.**

If the economy fails / this year it reflect badly / on the government.

- A. this year it reflect badly
- B. No error
- C. on the government
- D. If the economy fails

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

The increasing concerns about climate change point to the need for enhanced efforts towards \_\_\_\_\_ sustained growth.

- A. achieving
- B. to achieve
- C. achieved
- D. Achieve

14. **Select the option that can be used as a one-word substitute for the given group of words.**

To walk aimlessly

- A. Amble
- B. Crawl
- C. Sprint
- D. Slither

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

Ostentatious

- A. showy
- B. tasteful
- C. sudden
- D. Quick

16. **Select the most appropriate meaning of the given idiom.**

In the same breath

- A. Try and hold your breath
- B. Say two contradictory things at the same time
- C. Able to get a foul smell
- D. Practice breathing exercises

17. **Select the most appropriate ANTONYM of the given word.**

Raze



- A. Build  
B. Ease  
C. Comfort  
D. Ruin
18. Select the most appropriate **synonym** of the given word.  
Retaliate  
A. Clap  
B. react  
C. Facilitate  
D. Rotate
19. Select the most appropriate **synonym** of the given word.  
Avert  
A. Permit  
B. Confront  
C. Face  
D. Prevent
20. **The following sentence has been split into segments. One of them may contain an error. Identify the segment that contains a grammatical error. If you don't find any error, mark 'No error' as your answer.**  
No one were / present when I / entered the hall.  
A. No one were  
B. present when I  
C. No error  
D. entered the hall
- 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 rise in the Irrawaddy dolphin (1) \_\_\_\_\_ in Chilika can be attributed to the eviction of (2) \_\_\_\_\_ fish enclosures. After thousands of hectares of Chilika lake were made (3) \_\_\_\_\_ free, Irrawaddy dolphins found unobstructed area for movement. (4) \_\_\_\_\_, due to the COVID-19 lockdown last year, there were comparatively fewer tourist boats on Chilika lake, which made it (5) \_\_\_\_\_ for dolphins to move from one part of the lake to another
21. **Select the most appropriate option to fill in blank no.1.**  
A. population  
B. clan  
C. natives  
D. Inhabitants
22. **Select the most appropriate option to fill in blank no.2.**  
A. unwarranted  
B. illegal  
C. illegitimate

D. Unconstitutional

23. **Select the most appropriate option to fill in blank no.3.**

A. trespass

B. confiscation

C. intervention

D. Encroachment

24. **Select the most appropriate option to fill in blank no.4.**

A. Whereas

B. Moreover

C. Nevertheless

D. However

25. **Select the most appropriate option to fill in blank no.5.**

A. conducive

B. hurtful

C. detrimental

D. disturbing

## Answers

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

[Practice Exercise]

## Explanations

1. **C) Highlighting the commitment to an inclusive and sustainable policy approach for comprehensive governance, development, and performance.**

The passage indicates that Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman chose not to focus on making announcements targeting specific voter constituencies. Instead, her focus was on discussing the government's commitment to 'an inclusive and sustainable policy approach that had led to the attainment of a more comprehensive GDP of governance, development, and performance'. This points directly to option C, as it reflects the approach of comprehensive and inclusive policy mentioned in the budget speech.

2. **B) It suggests a cautious approach to fiscal management, aiming for a lower fiscal deficit while managing the dynamics of revenue and capital expenditure.**

The passage describes the budgetary strategy for 2024-25, noting a 'sharper consolidation' with the fiscal deficit pegged at 5.1%, achieved through a projected increase in revenue receipts and an increase in estimated capital expenditure. This suggests a strategy of prudent fiscal management aimed at reducing the deficit while balancing between revenue and expenditure, as stated in option B. Option A is incorrect because the passage mentions the budgeted increase in capital spending is set to be lower than the previous year's jump. Option D is incorrect as the passage explicitly mentions the risk of undermining economic momentum due to fiscal prudence, not a shift towards prioritizing private consumption.

3. **B) The author is critical of the budget's approach to fiscal consolidation, emphasizing that the reduction in capital expenditure and the risk of undermining economic momentum may not favor long-term growth.**

The author is critical of the budget's approach to fiscal consolidation. This is evident from the passage's discussion on the reduction of the fiscal deficit from 5.9% to 5.8% through a cut in effective capital expenditure and the acknowledgment of the risks this poses to economic momentum, especially given the lowest growth in private consumption spending since the pandemic. The author emphasizes the risk of undermining economic momentum and the challenge of rising inequality, indicating a critical stance towards the budget's approach.

4. **C) The passage does not praise the budget for its increase in capital spending or its impact on employment and economic growth. Instead, it mentions that while Ms. Sitharaman emphasized the tripling in capital spending outlays over the past four years and its impact on growth and employment, she glossed over the fact that the budgeted increase in capital spending for the next year is lower than the previous year's. Additionally, the author**

expresses concerns about the budget's focus on fiscal prudence, potentially undermining economic momentum and the rising inequality, which contradicts the idea of the budget being praised for its economic impact.

5. **B) Critical and skeptical**

The passage carries a tone of skepticism and mild criticism, especially evident in how it discusses the government's economic policies and the fiscal decisions in the Budget. Phrases like "election-eve, self-congratulatory report card," "eschewed any announcements that could be seen as targeting a particular constituency," and "glossed over the fact" suggest a tone that is not fully convinced or supportive of the government's narrative or actions. The author acknowledges the achievements and projections made by the Finance Minister but also points out the potential risks and downplays the impact, indicating a critical and skeptical viewpoint.

6. D) No substitution required

7. B) **Be hard up** (idiom) – Have very little money **धन की कमी होना**

8. D) **'want to'** के स्थान पर **'wants to'** होगा क्योंकि noun **'Every curious child'** Singular है, अतः Verb भी Singular होना चाहिए; जैसे— Every curious child wants to know the answer.

- **'wants to'** will replace **'want to'** because the subject **'Every curious child'** is Singular, hence the Verb should also be in the Singular form; Like— Every curious child wants to know the answer.

9. A) **the very well-directed film'** के बदले **'a very well-directed film'** का प्रयोग होगा क्योंकि यहां **'the'** का प्रयोग inappropriate है। यह वाक्य general comment कर रहा है, इसलिए **'a'** का प्रयोग सही होता है।

- **'a very well-directed film'** will be used instead of **'the very well-directed film'** because the use of **'the'** is inappropriate here. The sentence is making a general comment, so **'a'** would be the correct usage.

10. A) The correct spelling of **'Tution'** is **'Tuition'** शिक्षा, प्रशिक्षण।

11. B) He said to me, "When did you book the flight tickets?"

12. A) **'this year it reflect badly'** के बदले **'this year it will reflect badly'** का प्रयोग होगा क्योंकि वाक्य भविष्य की संभावित स्थिति को व्यक्त कर रहा है। यहां **'will'** का प्रयोग future tense के लिए किया जाना चाहिए, जिससे वाक्य में सही grammatical formation बनेगी। **'reflect'** को **'will reflect'** में बदलने से वाक्य का अर्थ स्पष्ट हो जाएगा कि अगर अर्थव्यवस्था विफल होती है, तो यह सरकार पर बुरा प्रभाव डालेगी। जैसे— If the economy fails this year, it will reflect badly on the government.

If + subject + present tense verb, subject + will + base form of the verb.

**For example:**

If it rains (present tense), we will cancel (future tense) the picnic.

If she finishes (present tense) her work early, she will go (future tense) to the cinema.

- 'this year it will reflect badly' will be used instead of 'this year it reflect badly' because the sentence is indicating a future possible condition. 'will' should be used here to denote the future tense, which will make the sentence grammatically correct. Changing 'reflect' to 'will reflect' clarifies that if the economy fails, it will reflect badly on the government. Like— If the economy fails this year, it will reflect badly on the government.

13. 'A) **Achieving**' का use होगा क्योंकि "achieving" यहाँ sustained growth को पाने के प्रयास की बारे में बताता है। Sentence में mention किया गया है कि climate change की चिंताओं की वजह से हमें अधिक प्रयास करने की जरूरत है, इसलिए 'achieving' यहाँ सही है। जबकि 'to achieve' और 'Achieve' गलत verb form use करते हैं, और 'achieved' भूतकाल की रूप में आता है, जो इस context में सही नहीं है।

- **Achieving**' should be used because it indicates the act of striving for sustained growth. The sentence highlights that due to the concerns of climate change, there's a need for more efforts, making 'achieving' appropriate here. Whereas, 'to achieve' and 'Achieve' use the incorrect verb form, and 'achieved' is in the past tense, which doesn't fit this context.

14. A) **Amble** (verb) – to walk slowly and in a relaxed manner without hurry or effort **आराम से चलना**

- **Crawl** (verb) – to move slowly on the hands and knees or by dragging the body close to the ground. **रेंगते हुए चलना**
- **Sprint** (verb) – to run at full speed over a short distance. **तेज़ी से दौड़ना**
- **Slither** (verb) – to move smoothly and quietly, like a snake. **सर्प की तरह फिसलकर चलना.**

15. A) **Ostentatious** (adjective) – Characterized by vulgar or pretentious display; designed to impress or attract notice. **दिखावटी**

Synonym: **Showy** (adjective) – Flashy, garish, gaudy, flamboyant, conspicuous. **भव्य**

- **Tasteful** (adjective) – Having or showing good taste, stylish, elegant, refined. **स्वादिष्ट**
- **Sudden** (adjective) – Occurring or done quickly and unexpectedly or without warning. **अचानक**

- **Quick** (adjective) – Moving fast or doing something in a short time. तेज
16. B) **In the same breath** (idiom) – Say two contradictory things at the same time एक ही समय में विरोधाभासी बातें कहना
17. A) **Raze** (verb) – To completely destroy, demolish, level to the ground. ध्वस्त करना  
**Antonym: Build** (verb) – To construct, create, assemble, put together. बनाना
- **Ease** (verb) – To make something less serious or severe, alleviate, relieve. सुविधा
  - **Comfort** (noun) – A state of physical ease and freedom from pain or constraint, solace, consolation. सांत्वना
  - **Ruin** (verb/noun) – The act or state of destroying or being destroyed, downfall, destruction. विनाश
18. B) **Retaliate** (verb) – To take revenge for a perceived wrong or to return like for like, especially to return an injury or wrong. प्रतिशोध लेना  
**Synonym: React** (verb) – To act in response to something, to respond in a particular way. प्रतिक्रिया करना
- **Clap** (verb) – To applaud or show approval by clapping hands together. ताली बजाना
  - **Facilitate** (verb) – To make something possible or easier, to assist or aid. सहायक होना
  - **Rotate** (verb) – To turn around a central point or axis, to revolve. घुमाना
19. D) **Avert** (verb) – To turn away, prevent, or ward off an unwanted occurrence. टालना  
**Synonym: Prevent** (verb) – Stop something from happening or arising. रोकना
- **Permit** (verb) – Allow, let, authorize, give permission. अनुमति देना
  - **Confront** (verb) – Come face to face with, challenge, stand up to. सामना करना
  - **Face** (verb) – Confront and deal with or accept. सामना करना
20. A) **'were'** के बदले **'was'** का प्रयोग होगा क्योंकि **'No one'** Singular Subject है अतः Verb भी Singular Form में होगा; जैसे— No one was present when I entered the hall.
- **was'** will be used instead of **'were'** because **'No one'** is a Singular Subject, so the Verb will also be in Singular Form; Like— No one was present when I entered the hall.
21. A) **'Population'** का use होगा क्योंकि जब हम जानवरों की संख्या की चर्चा करते हैं, हम उनकी **'population'** की बात करते हैं। "Irrawaddy dolphin" के वृद्धि के context में **'population'** सही

शब्द होगा। 'Clan' का अर्थ होता है परिवार या गोत्र, 'Natives' और 'Inhabitants' का अर्थ होता है निवासी, जो इस context में सही नहीं है।

- **'Population'** should be used because when we discuss the number of animals, we refer to their 'population'. In the context of the increase in the "Irrawaddy dolphin," the word 'population' is appropriate. Whereas, 'Clan' means a family or tribe, 'Natives' and 'Inhabitants' mean residents, which aren't fitting in this context.

22. B) **'Illegal'** का use होगा क्योंकि "illegal" का अर्थ होता है कानून के खिलाफ। जब बात चिलिका झील के अधिकृत न होने वाले मछली पक्षी आवासों की होती है, तो "illegal" सबसे सही शब्द होता है।

'Unwarranted' का अर्थ होता है अनधिकृत या अनावश्यक, 'Illegitimate' का अर्थ होता है अवैध या अधिकृत नहीं, और 'Unconstitutional' का अर्थ है संविधान के खिलाफ, जो इस context में सही नहीं है।

- **'Illegal'** should be used because it means against the law. When referring to unauthorized fish enclosures in Chilika lake, "illegal" is the most appropriate term. 'Unwarranted' implies something that is not justified or not needed, 'Illegitimate' means not authorized or not valid, and 'Unconstitutional' means against the constitution, which don't fit in this context.

23. D) **'Encroachment'** का use होगा क्योंकि "encroachment" का अर्थ होता है अनधिकृत रूप से किसी ज़मीन या क्षेत्र में प्रवेश करना। Passage में बताया गया है कि हेक्टेयरों की ज़मीन को फ्री किया गया ताकि Irrawaddy dolphins को movement के लिए अवरोधित क्षेत्र मिले, इसलिए 'Encroachment' यहाँ सही है। 'Trespass' का अर्थ है अनधिकृत तरीके से किसी जगह में प्रवेश करना, 'Confiscation' का अर्थ है जब्त करना, और 'Intervention' का अर्थ है हस्तक्षेप, जो इस context में सही नहीं है।

- **Encroachment'** should be used because it refers to the unauthorized entry into or occupation of a land or area. The passage describes that a vast expanse of land was cleared to provide unobstructed movement for the Irrawaddy dolphins, making 'encroachment' the appropriate term here. Whereas, 'Trespass' means to enter unlawfully, 'Confiscation' means to seize, and 'Intervention' implies interference, which don't fit in this context.

24. B) **Moreover'** का use होगा क्योंकि "moreover" का अर्थ होता है 'इसके अलावा' या 'और भी'।

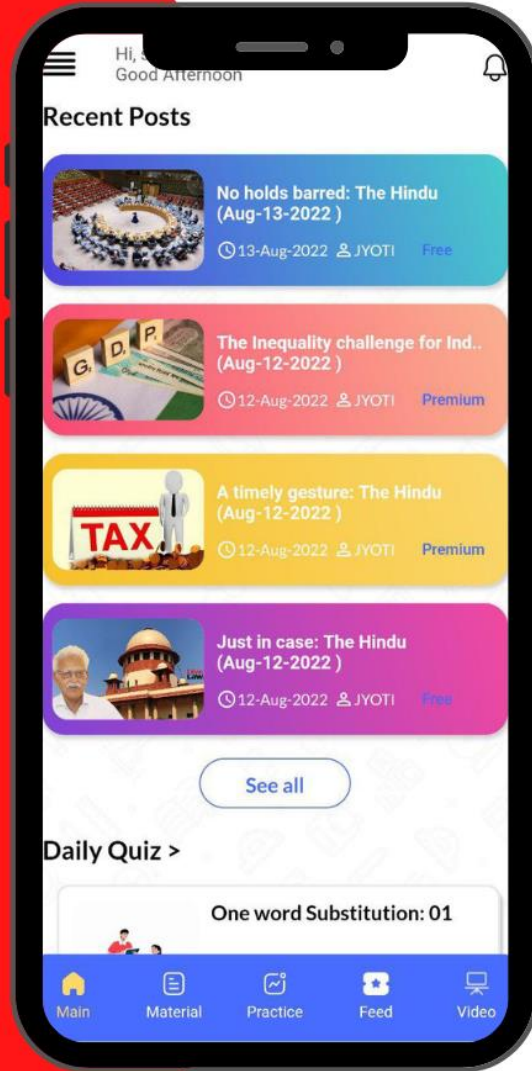
Sentence में इसके पहले जो जानकारी दी गई है, वह और भी जानकारी देने के लिए एक आधार है, इसलिए 'moreover' यहाँ सही है। 'Whereas' का अर्थ होता है 'जबकि', 'Nevertheless' का अर्थ होता है 'फिर भी', और 'However' का अर्थ है 'हालांकि', जो इस context में सही नहीं है।

- **Moreover**' should be used because it means 'in addition to' or 'furthermore'. The information provided before this in the sentence serves as a basis for adding more information, making 'moreover' fitting here. Whereas, 'Whereas' means 'while', 'Nevertheless' means 'nonetheless', and 'However' indicates a contrast, which don't fit in this context.

25. A) **Conducive**' का use होगा क्योंकि "conducive" का अर्थ होता है किसी चीज के लिए अनुकूल या सहायक होना। Sentence में mention किया गया है कि COVID-19 lockdown के कारण चिलिका झील पर पर्यटक नावें कम थीं, जिससे dolphins को झील के एक हिस्से से दूसरे हिस्से में जाने में आसानी हो गई। इसलिए 'conducive' यहाँ सही है। जबकि 'Hurtful', 'Detrimental' और 'Disturbing' के अर्थ हैं क्षतिकारक या परेशान करने वाला, जो इस context में सही नहीं है।

- **'Conducive'** should be used because it means being suitable or favorable for something. The sentence mentions that due to the COVID-19 lockdown last year, there were fewer tourist boats on Chilika lake, which made it easier for the dolphins to move from one part of the lake to another, making 'conducive' fitting here. Whereas, 'Hurtful', 'Detrimental', and 'Disturbing' imply harmful or troubling effects, which don't fit in this context





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