Decoding consumption: On the Household Consumption Expenditure Survey

The 2022-23 household spending survey **signals** shifts in people's priorities

In an **uncharacteristic** late Saturday release, the Statistics Ministry **unveiled** the broad **findings** of the Household Consumption Expenditure Survey done between August 2022 and July 2023. This is significant as it is the first major survey-based data released since 2011-12 that captures ground realities at the household level — especially with the once-a-**decade** Census, **due** since 2021, **nowhere in sight**. Conducted every five years by the National Sample Survey Office (NSSO), the **results** of the last such consumption survey in 2017-18, along with a similar employment survey, **were** junked with the government **citing** "quality issues" with the data — viewed as a **euphemism** for the unhappy **tidings** it may have showed. If the 2017-18 Survey was **abandoned** because it captured the **deleterious after-effects** of the **demonetisation** of high-value currency notes in late 2016 on India's largely **informal economy**, and the **subsequent onset** of the Goods and Services Tax, the 2022-23 survey also needs to be **interpreted** with a **dash of salt**. For, it may likely **magnify** the **exuberance** seen in consumption after two years of **pandemic-induced curbs** and income losses — what economists call the release of **pent-up demand**.

To be clear, the Survey suggests some interesting **transitions** in consumption patterns and the complete findings **must** be published **swiftly** to enable deeper analysis. Households' average monthly **per capita** consumer expenditure (MPCE) rose 33.5% since 2011-12 in cities to reach ₹3,510, and 40.4% in rural India to ₹2,008. The government has **sought** to **paint** this as a signal of rising incomes, **narrowing** inequality, and a sharp **slippage** in poverty levels. But this only **implies** a 3.5% **compounded annual growth** in rural spends over 11 years, with a 3% growth for urban households — **well below** the **inflation** and GDP growth rates in this period. **Puzzlingly**, even after adding the **imputed values** of free goods received through a **myriad** of welfare schemes such as the PM Garib Kalyan Anna Yojana, the average MPCE only rose to ₹2,054 for rural households and ₹3,544 for urban peers. **That** the proportion of monthly spends on food has slipped below 50% in rural homes (to 46.4%), and under 40% in urban homes, with cereals seeing the sharpest drop, **is** remarkable, and **may** ease inflation trends if used to **rejig** Consumer Price Index weightages. However, it is **pertinent** to **recall** that food inflation began spiking last June just ahead of the Survey's completion, and has remained **elevated** since. So, proportional spends have likely changed. **A clearer picture**, **devoid of** pent-up demand and inflation **flip-flop effects**, **is** expected from the fresh Survey that **concludes** this July. So, any **recalibration** of poverty, inflation or GDP calculations **must** wait till those results are **compiled**, and released as well. **[Practice Exercise]**

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

Vocabulary

1. **Decode** (verb) – Interpret, decipher, translate, unravel, explain समझाना

2. **Signal** (verb) – Indicate, gesture, motion, beckon, signify संकेत देना

3. **Uncharacteristic** (adjective) – Atypical, unusual, uncommon, abnormal, irregular असामान्य

4. **Unveil** (verb) – Reveal, disclose, expose, uncover, present प्रकट करना

5. **Findings** (noun) – Results, conclusions, outcomes, discoveries, revelations निष्कर्ष

6. **Decade** (noun) – period of ten years दशक

7. **Due** (adjective) – expected, scheduled अपेक्षित

8. **Nowhere in sight** (phrase) – Not visible, not apparent, not in view, undetectable, not to be seen कहीं नजर नहीं आ रहा है

9. **Junk with** (phrasal verb) – Discard, throw away, dispose of, get rid of, scrap त्यागना

10. **Cite** (verb) – Refer to, mention, quote, allude to, point out हवाला देना

11. **Euphemism** (noun) – Polite term, mild expression, indirect term, softening expression, underplaying expression विनम्र अभिव्यक्ति

12. **Tidings** (noun) – News, information, report, announcement, update समाचार/ सूचना

13. **Abandon** (verb) – Forsake, leave, desert, discard, give up त्याग देना

14. **Deleterious** (adjective) – Harmful, damaging, detrimental, injurious, adverse हानिकारक

15. **After-effects** (noun) – Consequences, aftermath, repercussions, results, outcomes परिणाम

16. **Demonetisation** (noun) – The act of stripping a currency unit of its status as legal tender विमुद्रीकरण

17. **Informal economy** (noun) – The part of an economy that is neither taxed nor monitored by any form of government अनौपचारिक अर्थव्यवस्था

18. **Subsequent** (adjective) – Following, ensuing, succeeding, later, consequent आगामी

19. **Onset** (noun) – Beginning, start, commencement, outset, initiation आरंभ

20. **Interpret** (verb) – Explain, elucidate, expound, clarify, translate व्याख्या करना

21. **Dash of salt** (phrase) – A small amount of skepticism or caution added to a situation थोड़ी सावधानी

22. **Magnify** (verb) – Enlarge, amplify, increase, enhance, intensify बढ़ाना

23. **Exuberance** (noun) – Enthusiasm, excitement, energy, liveliness, vitality उत्साह

24. **Pandemic-induced** (adjective) – Caused or brought about by a widespread outbreak of disease महामारी-प्रेरित

25. **Curb** (noun) – Restraint, check, control, limitation, restriction रोक

26. **Pent-up demand** (noun) – A situation in which there is a strong demand for goods or services that has not been satisfied अवरुद्ध मांग

27. **Transition** (noun) – Change, transformation, shift, passage, move परिवर्तन

28. **Swiftly** (adverb) – Quickly, rapidly, speedily, promptly, fast तेजी से

29. **Per capita** (adjective) – Per person, for each person, per individual प्रति व्यक्ति

30. **Seek** (verb) – try, effort, endeavour, attempt प्रयास करना

31. **Paint** (verb) – Depict, portray, represent, describe, illustrate चित्रित करना

32. **Narrowing** (adjective) – Becoming narrower, reducing, constricting, contracting, shrinking संकीर्ण होते हुए

33. **Slippage** (noun) – Decline, decrease, reduction, drop, fall गिरावट

34. **Imply** (verb) – Suggest, indicate, hint, insinuate, signify संकेत देना

35. **Compounded annual growth** (noun) – The year-over-year growth rate of an investment over a specified period of time चक्रवृद्धि वार्षिक वृद्धि

36. **Well below** (phrase) – Significantly lower than, far below, much less than काफी कम

37. **Inflation** (noun) – Rise in prices, increase in costs, price increase, cost increase मुद्रास्फीति

38. **Puzzlingly** (adverb) – In a manner that causes confusion or perplexity, mysteriously, bewilderingly अजीब तरह से

39. **Imputed value** (noun) – An estimated value assigned to goods or services when the actual value is not readily available आरोपित मूल्य

40. **Myriad** (adjective) – Countless, innumerable, numerous, many, multiple अनेक

41. **Remarkable** (adjective) – Extraordinary, outstanding, exceptional, amazing, astonishing असाधारण

42. **Ease** (verb) – Reduce, alleviate, lessen, relieve, diminish कम करना

43. **Rejig** (verb) – Rearrange, reorganize, adjust, alter, modify पुनर्व्यवस्थित करना

44. **Pertinent** (adjective) – Relevant, applicable, germane, appropriate, fitting प्रासंगिक

45. **Recall** (verb) – Remember, recollect, bring to mind, reminisce, think of याद करना

46. **Elevated** (adjective) – Raised, heightened, increased, uplifted, enhanced बढ़ा हुआ

47. **Devoid** (of) (adjective) – Lacking, without, free from, empty of, bereft of से रहित

48. **Flip-flop effect** (noun) – A situation where there is a reversal or back-and-forth movement or change उलट-फेर प्रभाव

49. **Conclude** (verb) – Finish, end, terminate, close, complete समाप्त करना

50. **Recalibration** (noun) – The process of adjusting or resetting something in response to changes or new information पुनः समायोजन

51. **Compile** (verb) – Assemble, gather, collect, put together, accumulate संकलन करना

Summary of the Editorial

1. The 2022-23 Household Consumption Expenditure Survey provides significant data on household spending patterns, the first since 2011-12.

2. Conducted by the National Sample Survey Office (NSSO) every five years, the last survey in 2017-18 was discarded due to "quality issues."

3. The 2022-23 survey may reflect the impact of pent-up demand following pandemic-induced restrictions and income losses.

4. The survey suggests shifts in consumption patterns, with average monthly per capita consumer expenditure (MPCE) rising 33.5% in urban areas and 40.4% in rural areas since 2011-12.

5. The government interprets this as a sign of rising incomes, narrowing inequality, and reduced poverty levels.

6. However, the growth rates in MPCE are below the inflation and GDP growth rates for the same period.

7. Even with the inclusion of free goods from welfare schemes, the average MPCE only slightly increased.

8. The proportion of monthly spending on food has decreased below 50% in rural areas and 40% in urban areas.

9. Cereals have seen the sharpest drop in consumption, which may influence inflation trends if used to adjust Consumer Price Index weightages.

10. Food inflation began spiking just before the survey's completion and has remained high since.

11. The survey's results should be interpreted cautiously, considering the potential impact of pent-up demand and fluctuating inflation.

12. A clearer picture of consumption patterns is expected from the next survey concluding in July 2024.

13. Any recalibration of poverty, inflation, or GDP calculations should wait until the results of the next survey are compiled and released.

14. The complete findings of the 2022-23 survey should be published swiftly for deeper analysis.

15. The survey signals important transitions in consumption patterns that need to be understood in the context of broader economic trends.

Practice Exercise: SSC Pattern Based

1. **Why is the 2022-23 Household Consumption Expenditure Survey significant**? **[Editorial Page]**
   A. It is the first survey conducted after the demonetization of high-value currency notes.
   B. It is the first major survey-based data released since 2011-12 that captures ground realities at the household level.
   C. It shows a decrease in household spending compared to previous years.
   D. It was conducted by the Statistics Ministry instead of the NSSO.

2. **Which of the following best describes the change in households' average monthly per capita consumer expenditure (MPCE) according to the survey**?
   A. MPCE decreased in both urban and rural areas.
   B. MPCE increased by over 50% in both urban and rural areas.
   C. MPCE increased by 33.5% in cities and 40.4% in rural areas since 2011-12.
   D. MPCE remained the same as the previous survey

3. **What is a notable trend in consumption patterns suggested by the survey**?
   A. An increase in spending on luxury goods.
   B. A decrease in the proportion of monthly spends on food.
   C. A rise in spending on education and healthcare.
   D. An increase in expenditure on entertainment.

4. **What can be inferred about the impact of the pandemic on household consumption according to the survey**?
   A. It led to a permanent decrease in household consumption.
   B. It resulted in a temporary increase in consumption due to the release of pent-up demand.
   C. It had no significant impact on household consumption patterns.
   D. It caused a shift towards more spending on healthcare and less on food.

5. **Based on the survey, what can be inferred about the government's interpretation of the data**?
   A. The government believes that the increase in MPCE indicates a reduction in poverty levels.
   B. The government is concerned about the rising inequality reflected in the survey.
   C. The government considers the survey results to be inaccurate due to quality issues.
   D. The government is planning to revise the Consumer Price Index weightages immediately.

6. Select the most appropriate meaning of the given **idiom**.
   Hit a brick wall
   A. Demolish a brick wall
   B. Not able to make any progress
   C. Use physical force
   D. Fight a powerful foe

7. Select the most appropriate meaning of the given **idiom**.
   To sit on the fence
   A. Occupy a bench next to a boundary

B. Avoid taking sides

C. Take a high seat

D. Place something on a barrier

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

A person who collects or studies stamps

A. Numismatist

B. Hoarder

C. Collector

D. Philatelist

9. **Select the option that expresses the given sentence in active voice.**

Rishabh was declared fit to play the next match.

A. Rishabh declared them fit to play the next match.

B. They will declare Rishabh fit to play the next match.

C. They declared Rishabh fit to play the next match.

D. They had declared Rishabh fit to play the next match

10. **Select the most appropriate option that can substitute the underlined segment in the given sentence. If there is no need to substitute it, select 'No substitution required'.**

Whom was the person that you wanted me to contact there?

A. No substitution required

B. Who is the person

C. Whom is the person

D. Whom were the persons

11. **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 British were exploiting the indigo farmers in the area.

B. He lived in the district until the exploitation of the farmers was successfully stopped.

C. Gandhiji's Satyagraha for India's Independence began with the famous 'Champaran movement' in Bihar.

D. So, Gandhiji visited Motihari, the district headquarters of Champaran, in 1917 to protest against the British.

A. ADBC

B. CABD

C. ACBD

D. CADB

12. **The following sentence has been split into four segments. Identify the segment that contains a grammatical error.**

Paul was / bited by a dog / when he / was a child.

A. when he

B. bited by a dog

C. Paul was

D. was a child

13. **The following sentence has been divided into parts. One of them contains an error.**

Select the part that contains the error from the given options.

You and I / have submitted / your work / on time.

A. on time

B. your work

C. have submitted

D. You and I

14. **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.**

They ordered the whole area / to be disinfected / on the earliest.

A. to be disinfected

B. They ordered the whole area

C. on the earliest

D. No error

15. Select the **INCORRECTLY** spelt word

A. Voluntary

B. Disparity

C. Continuanse

D. Convincing

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

Honest

A. Secretive

B. Sincere

C. Daring

D. Strange

17. **The following sentence has been split into four segments. Identify the segment that contains a grammatical error.**

I did not / buy neither / of the / two dresses

A. two dresses

B. of the

C. I did not

D. buy neither

18. **Select the option that expresses the given sentence in passive voice.**

She baked a large blueberry cake.

A. A large blueberry cake was being baked by her.

B. A large blueberry cake has been baked by her.

C. A large blueberry cake was baked by her.

D. A large blueberry cake is baked by her.

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

GRACEFUL

A. Awkward

B. Dignified

C. Refined

D. Polite

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

Imbue

A. Remove

B. Clear

C. Instil

D. Deprive

Comprehension:

In the following passage, some words have been deleted. Select the most appropriate option to fill in each blank.

(1) _____ changes in science and technology lead to modernisation of technology as well as upgradation of knowledge. In order to upgrade or modernise technology, management must (2) _____ employees to accept new technology. (3) _____ training of staff becomes necessary to update their knowledge and to (4) _____ their skills. This is possible only (5) _____ effective communication between the management and the employees

21. **Select the most appropriate option for blank 1.**

A. No

B. Slow

C. Ultimate

D. Rapid

22. **Select the most appropriate option for blank 2.**

A. dissuade

B. discourage

C. persuade

D. Deactivate

23. **Select the most appropriate option for blank 3.**

A. Intermittent

B. Irregular

C. Regular

D. Improper

24. **Select the most appropriate option for blank 4.**

A. hamper

B. enhance

C. imitate

D. Decrease

25. **Select the most appropriate option for blank 5**

A. by

B. through

C. throughout

D. with

Answers

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

Explanation

1. B) The passage mentions that this survey is significant as it is the first major survey-based data released since 2011-12 that captures the ground realities at the household level, especially with the once-a-decade Census, due since 2021, nowhere in sight.

2. C) The passage states that households' average monthly per capita consumer expenditure (MPCE) rose 33.5% since 2011-12 in cities to reach ₹3,510, and 40.4% in rural India to ₹2,008.

3. B) The passage highlights that it is remarkable that the proportion of monthly spends on food has slipped below 50% in rural homes (to 46.4%), and under 40% in urban homes, with cereals seeing the sharpest drop.

4. B) The passage suggests that the 2022-23 survey may likely magnify the exuberance seen in consumption after two years of pandemic-induced curbs and income losses, which is referred to as the release of pent-up demand. This implies that there was a temporary increase in consumption due to the pandemic.

5. A) The passage mentions that the government has sought to paint the increase in households' average monthly per capita consumer expenditure (MPCE) as a signal of rising incomes, narrowing inequality, and a sharp slippage in poverty levels. This indicates that the government interprets the data as a positive sign of reduced poverty levels.

6. B) **Hit a brick wall** (idiom) – Not able to make any progress **आगे बढ़ने में असमर्थ**

7. B) **To sit on the fence (**idiom) – Avoid taking sides **पक्ष न लेना**

8. D) **Philatelist** (noun) – A person who collects or studies stamps. **डाक टिकट संग्राहक**

   - **Numismatist** (noun) – a person who collects or studies coins, paper currency, and medals. **सिक्का संग्रहक**

   - **Hoarder** (noun) – a person who accumulates things and hides them away for future use. **संग्रहकर्ता**

   - **Collector** (noun) – a person who collects things of a specified type, professionally or as a hobby. **संग्राहक**

9. C) They declared Rishabh fit to play the next match.

10. B) 'Whom was the person that' के बदले 'Who is the person' का प्रयोग होगा क्योंकि यहाँ interrogative Relative Pronoun 'who' Subject के रूप में प्रयोग हो रहा है, इसलिए 'whom' जो कि Object के लिए प्रयुक्त होता है, का प्रयोग गलत है; जैसे– Who is the person you wanted me to contact there?

- 'Who is the person' will be used instead of 'Whom was the person that' because here the interrogative Relative Pronoun 'who' is used as a subject, thus the use of 'whom', which is used for an object, is incorrect; Like— Who is the person you wanted me to contact there?

11. D) **CADB**

Gandhiji's Satyagraha for India's Independence began with the famous 'Champaran movement' in Bihar The British were exploiting the indigo farmers in the area. So, Gandhiji visited Motihari, the district headquarters of Champaran, in 1917 to protest against the British. He lived in the district until the exploitation of the farmers was successfully stopped.

12. B) **bited by a dog'** के बदले 'bitten by a dog' का प्रयोग होगा क्योंकि 'bite' का Past Participle 'bitten' होता है और Passive Voice के Sentence में Verb का Third form प्रयोग होता है; जैसे— He was bitten by a dog.

- 'bitten by a dog' will be used instead of 'bited by a dog' because the Past Participle of 'bite' is 'bitten', and in a Passive Voice sentence, the Third form of the Verb is used; Like— He was bitten by a dog.

13. B) **'your work'** के बदले 'our work' का प्रयोग होगा क्योंकि वाक्य के Subject 'You and I' हैं, जो कि Plural हैं जिसके लिए 'our' का प्रयोग होता है; जैसे— You and I have submitted our work on time.

- our work' will be used instead of 'your work' because the subject of the sentence 'You and I' is plural and in the first person, for which 'our' is used; Like— You and I have submitted our work on time.

14. C) **'on the earliest'** के बदले 'at the earliest' का प्रयोग होगा क्योंकि 'at the earliest' का अर्थ है 'जितना जल्दी हो सके' और यह एक निश्चित Phrase है. इसलिए, 'on the earliest' का प्रयोग गलत है.

- 'at the earliest' will be used instead of 'on the earliest' because 'at the earliest' means 'as soon as possible' and is a set phrase. Therefore, the use of 'on the earliest' is incorrect.

15. C) The incorrect spelling in the options given is 'Continuanse'. The correct spelling is **'Continuance' 'जारी रखें'**

16. B) **Honest** (adjective) – Free of deceit and untruthfulness; sincere, morally correct or virtuous, upright, trustworthy. **ईमानदार**

Synonym: **Sincere** (adjective) – Saying what they genuinely feel or believe; not lying or pretending. **सच्चा**

- **Secretive** (adjective) – Inclined to conceal feelings and intentions or not to disclose information. **गुप्त**

- **Daring** (adjective) – Adventurous or audaciously bold. **साहसी**

- **Strange** (adjective) – Unusual or surprising; difficult to understand or explain. **अजीब**

17. D) **'buy neither'** के बदले 'buy either' का प्रयोग होगा क्योंकि जब हम 'neither' का प्रयोग करते हैं तो वह दो नकारात्मक विकल्पों के बीच में होता है और 'not' के साथ प्रयोग नहीं होता। 'Neither' का प्रयोग करते समय sentence में अन्य कोई नकारात्मक शब्द नहीं होना चाहिए। जैसे– I bought neither of the two dresses. अगर हम 'not' का प्रयोग कर रहे हैं तो हमें 'either' का प्रयोग करना चाहिए; जैसे– I did not buy either of the two dresses.

- 'buy either' will be used instead of 'buy neither' because when 'neither' is used, it refers to not one or the other of two negative options and is not used with 'not'. When using 'neither', there should be no other negative word in the sentence. For example— I bought neither of the two dresses. If 'not' is being used, then 'either' should be used instead; Like— I did not buy either of the two dresses.

18. C) A large blueberry cake was baked by her.

19. A) **Graceful** (adjective) – Characterized by elegance or beauty of form, manner, movement, or speech; elegant. **सुंदर**

Antonym: **Awkward** (adjective) – Lacking grace or ease in movement or manner; clumsy. **अनाड़ी**

- **Dignified** (adjective) – Having or showing a composed or serious manner that is worthy of respect. **गरिमामय**

- **Refined** (adjective) – With impurities or unwanted elements having been removed by processing. **परिष्कृत**

- **Polite** (adjective) – Having or showing behavior that is respectful and considerate of other people. **विनम्र**

20. C) **Imbue** (verb) – Inspire or permeate with a feeling or quality, infuse, saturate. **प्रभावित करना**

Antonym: **Instil** (verb) – Gradually but firmly establish an idea or attitude into a person's mind. **धारणा या विचार बोना**

- **Remove** (verb) – Take away, eliminate or get rid of something. **हटाना**

- **Clear** (verb) – Easy to perceive, understand, or interpret. **स्पष्ट**

- **Deprive** (verb) – Deny the possession or use of something. **वंचित करना**

21. D) **'Rapid'** का use होगा क्योंकि "rapid" का अर्थ होता है तेजी से होने वाला। sentence में यह दर्शाया गया है कि विज्ञान और तकनीकी में तेजी से हो रहे परिवर्तन तकनीकी और ज्ञान के आधुनिकीकरण की ओर ले जाते हैं, इसलिए 'Rapid' यहाँ सही है। वहीं, 'No' का अर्थ होता है कोई नहीं, 'Slow' का मतलब होता है धीमा, और 'Ultimate' का मतलब होता है अंतिम या सर्वोच्च, जो इस context में फिट नहीं बैठते।

   - **Rapid'** should be used because it implies occurring quickly. The sentence indicates that swift changes in science and technology lead to the modernisation and upgrading of technology and knowledge, making 'rapid' the correct choice here. Whereas 'No' means none, 'Slow' implies lacking speed, and 'Ultimate' means last or final, which do not fit in this context.

22. C) **Persuade'** का use होगा क्योंकि "persuade" का अर्थ होता है किसी को राज़ी करना या मनाना। Sentence में mention किया गया है कि management को employees को नई technology स्वीकार करने के लिए मनाना चाहिए, इसलिए 'persuade' यहाँ सही है। 'Dissuade' का अर्थ होता है किसी को किसी काम से रोकना, 'Discourage' का अर्थ होता है हतोत्साहित करना, और 'Deactivate' का अर्थ होता है किसी चीज़ को अक्रिय करना, जो इस context में सही नहीं है।

   - **'Persuade'** should be used because it means to convince someone to do something. The sentence states that management must convince employees to accept new technology, making 'persuade' the correct choice. 'Dissuade' means to convince someone not to do something, 'Discourage' means to make someone feel less confident or enthusiastic, and 'Deactivate' means to make something inactive, which don't fit in this context.

23. C) **Regular'** का use होगा क्योंकि "regular" का अर्थ होता है कुछ नियमित अंतराल पर होना। Sentence में कहा गया है कि staff की training जरूरी है ताकि उनके ज्ञान को अपडेट किया जा सके और उनके कौशल को बढ़ाया जा सके। नियमित ट्रेनिंग से यह संभव हो पाता है। दूसरी ओर, 'Intermittent' का मतलब होता है अनियमित अंतराल पर होना, 'Irregular' का मतलब होता है अनियमित या बिना किसी तय पैटर्न के होना, और 'Improper' का मतलब होता है अनुचित, जो इस संदर्भ में उपयुक्त नहीं हैं।

   - **'Regular'** should be used because it means occurring at fixed intervals. The sentence implies that training of staff is necessary to update their knowledge and enhance their skills. Regular training would facilitate this. On the other hand, 'Intermittent' means
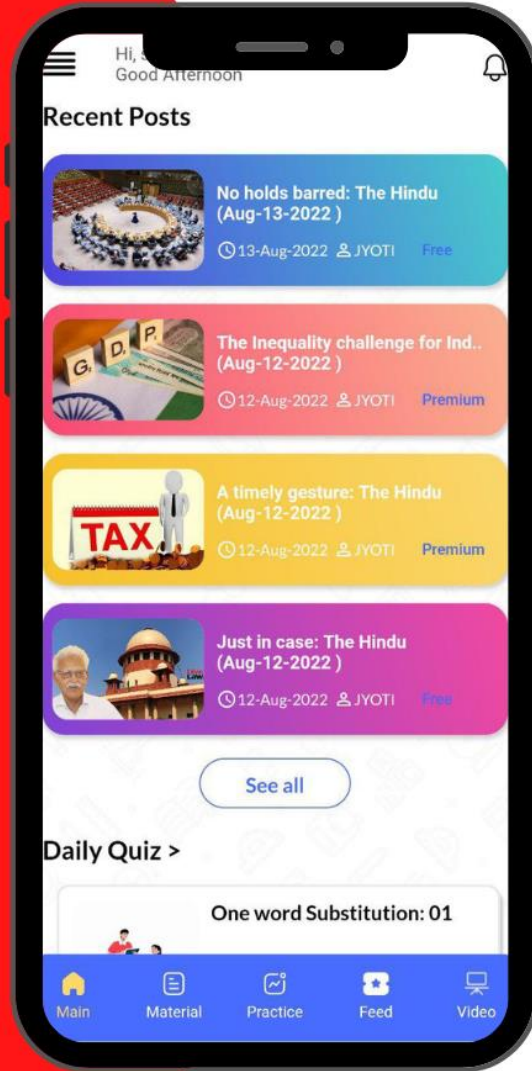
occurring at irregular intervals, 'Irregular' means not regular or lacking consistency, and 'Improper' means not suitable, all of which do not fit in this context.

24. B) **enhance'** का चयन होगा क्योंकि "enhance" का अर्थ होता है किसी चीज की गुणवत्ता या मूल्य में वृद्धि करना। Sentence में बताया गया है कि स्टाफ की training की जरूरत है ताकि उनके knowledge को update किया जा सके और उनके skills को _____ किया जा सके। 'Enhance' इस खाली जगह के लिए सही शब्द है क्योंकि यहाँ उद्देश्य skills को बेहतर बनाने का है। 'Hamper' का मतलब होता है बाधा डालना, 'Imitate' का मतलब होता है नकल करना, और 'Decrease' का मतलब होता है घटाना, जो कि इस context में उचित नहीं हैं।

- **enhance'** should be selected because "enhance" means to increase the quality or value of something. The sentence explains that training of staff is necessary to update their knowledge and to _____ their skills. 'Enhance' is the correct word for this blank as the intention here is to improve skills. 'Hamper' means to obstruct, 'Imitate' means to copy, and 'Decrease' means to reduce, which are not suitable in this context.

25. B) **'through'** का use होगा क्योंकि "through" का अर्थ होता है किसी process या सीधे माध्यम से कुछ करना। Sentence में यह दिखाया गया है कि प्रभावी संवाद से ही कर्मचारी और प्रबंधन के बीच समझ विकसित होगी, इसलिए 'through' यहाँ सही है। वहीं 'by' का प्रयोग करने पर भी अर्थ सही लग सकता है, लेकिन यहाँ 'through' ज्यादा सही बैठता है क्योंकि यह direct involvement और continuous process को दर्शाता है। 'Throughout' का मतलब होता है पूरी अवधि में और 'with' साथ में का इस्तेमाल होता है, जो कि इस संदर्भ में सही नहीं बैठते।

- **'Through'** should be used because it denotes a process or a means by which something is achieved. The sentence implies that understanding between management and employees can only develop through effective communication, making 'through' the correct choice. 'By' could also seem correct, but 'through' is more appropriate here as it suggests direct involvement and a continuous process. 'Throughout' means during an entire period, and 'with' implies accompaniment, which do not fit the context here.