

New capabilities: India and the Agni-V with MIRV

The **choice** of MIRV on Agni-V **gives** it range and ability to defeat defences

On March 11, Prime Minister Narendra Modi used social media to announce India's entry into a small club of countries capable of delivering multiple nuclear **warheads** on a single missile. This was **accomplished** with the **maiden** flight test of Agni-V, India's longest range ballistic missile with a range of over 5,000 kilometres, with multiple independently targetable re-entry vehicle (MIRV) technology under 'Mission Divyastra' by the Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO). Since its first test in April 2012, Agni-V has **undergone** several tests and developments including **canisterisation** to improve its ease of handling and operation. The MIRV system's **indigenous avionics systems** and high accuracy sensor packages ensure that the re-entry vehicles reach the target points accurately. The DRDO said the mission accomplished the designed **parameters**. The test also comes five years after India's maiden anti-satellite (ASAT) test under Mission Shakti. On March 27, 2019, **a live satellite** in the low earth **orbit** of around 300 km **was shot down** using a modified **interceptor** of the Ballistic Missile Defence system.

This is a significant technological **breakthrough** that **further**s India's nuclear weapons programme and **strengthens** second strike capability. This is particularly important **given** India's nuclear doctrine based on a no-first-use policy, **credible** minimum **deterrence** and massive **retaliation** in case of a first strike, which was **espoused** in 2003, after the nuclear tests of 1998. The **choice** of the MIRV on Agni-V, a three-stage solid fuelled engine, **is** significant as it is focused towards China given its range and multiple warheads give it the ability to defeat missile defences. India completed the **nuclear triad** when Mr. Modi declared in November 2018 that the country's first nuclear powered ballistic missile **submarine** INS Arihant had finished its first deterrence patrol. The MIRV is the next technological **threshold** in this direction and it is now only logical and a matter of time before the MIRV is **deployed** on submarine-launched ballistic missiles. **China**, which is fast expanding its nuclear **arsenal**, **has** already deployed MIRV technology — first deployed by the U.S. in 1970. Pakistan **claims** to have tested it as well. **In this regard**, the other side of this development is the factor of **escalation dynamics** that is going to **accelerate** in the region with China and Pakistan. This **spiral race** of **one-upmanship** is only going to deepen, get more **technology-intensive** and **turn out to be** an expensive **endeavour** as well.

[Audio Explanation]

[Practice Exercise]

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

Vocabulary

1. **Warhead** (noun) – the front part of a bomb or missile that contains explosives
2. **Accomplish** (verb) – Achieve, complete, fulfill, realize, execute पूरा करना
3. **Maiden** (adjective) – First, initial, inaugural, debut, introductory पहला
4. **Undergo** (verb) – Experience, endure, go through, suffer, undergo से गुजरना
5. **Canisterisation** (noun) – The process of enclosing or packaging something, especially a missile or a warhead, in a canister for transportation, storage, and launch.
6. **Indigenous** (adjective) – Native, local, original, domestic, homegrown स्वदेशी
7. **Avionics system** (noun) – The electronic systems used in aviation, including navigation, communication, and flight-control systems.
8. **Parameter** (noun) – Limit, boundary, criterion, factor, variable पैरामीटर
9. **Orbit** (noun) – the curved path through which objects in space move around a planet or star कक्षा
10. **Shoot down** (phrasal verb) – Destroy, down, bring down, blast, demolish मार गिराना
11. **Interceptor** (noun) – a fast aircraft that attacks enemy aircraft
12. **Breakthrough** (noun) – Discovery, innovation, advance, development, progress सफलता
13. **Further** (verb) – Promote, advance, forward, develop, encourage आगे बढ़ाना
14. **Strengthen** (verb) – Fortify, reinforce, bolster, enhance, consolidate मजबूत करना
15. **Given** (preposition) – Considering, taking into account, in view of, on account of देखते हुए
16. **Credible** (adjective) – Believable, plausible, reliable, trustworthy, convincing विश्वसनीय
17. **Deterrence** (noun) – Prevention, discouragement, inhibition, restraint, determent निवारण
18. **Retaliation** (noun) – Revenge, reprisal, retribution, counterattack, backlash प्रतिशोध
19. **Espouse** (verb) – Support, advocate, embrace, adopt, promote समर्थन करना
20. **Nuclear triad** (noun) – The three components of a nuclear defense strategy, typically comprising land-based missiles, submarine-launched missiles, and strategic bombers.
21. **Submarine** (noun) – Underwater vessel पनडुब्बी

22. **Threshold** (noun) – Limit, boundary, brink, verge, edge सीमा
23. **Deploy** (verb) – Position, station, place, locate, arrange तैनात करना
24. **Arsenal** (noun) – Armory, stockpile, cache, storehouse, repository शस्त्रागार
25. **Claim** (noun) – Assertion, declaration, statement, allegation, contention दावा
26. **In this regard** (phrase) – Concerning this, in this respect, on this matter, in relation to this इस संबंध में
27. **Escalation** (noun) – Increase, intensification, rise, surge, upsurge वृद्धि
28. **Dynamics** (noun) – Forces, motion, energy, mechanics, movement गतिशीलता
29. **Accelerate** (verb) – Speed up, hasten, quicken, expedite, fast-track तेज करना
30. **Spiral race** (noun) – Competitive situation in which parties continually strive to outdo each other in a cycle of escalation.
31. **One-upmanship** (noun) – Rivalry, competition, contest, striving, jockeying प्रतिद्वंद्विता
32. **Technology-intensive** (adjective) – Requiring a high level of technology, knowledge, and investment in technological resources.
33. **Turn out to be** (phrase) – Prove to be, end up being, emerge as, become, result in होना
34. **Endeavour** (noun) – Effort, attempt, try, enterprise, venture, प्रयत्न

Summary of the Editorial

1. Prime Minister Narendra Modi announced India's entry into a small club of countries capable of delivering multiple nuclear warheads on a single missile.
2. The maiden flight test of Agni-V, India's longest-range ballistic missile with a range of over 5,000 kilometers, was conducted with multiple independently targetable re-entry vehicle (MIRV) technology under 'Mission Divyastra' by the Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO).
3. Agni-V has undergone several tests and developments since its first test in April 2012, including canisterisation to improve its ease of handling and operation.
4. The MIRV system's indigenous avionics systems and high accuracy sensor packages ensure that the re-entry vehicles reach the target points accurately.
5. The test comes five years after India's maiden anti-satellite (ASAT) test under Mission Shakti, where a live satellite in low earth orbit was shot down using a modified interceptor of the Ballistic Missile Defence system.
6. This technological breakthrough furthers India's nuclear weapons programme and strengthens its second strike capability.
7. India's nuclear doctrine is based on a no-first-use policy, credible minimum deterrence, and massive retaliation in case of a first strike.
8. The choice of the MIRV on Agni-V is significant as it is focused towards China, given its range and multiple warheads' ability to defeat missile defenses.
9. India completed the nuclear triad when Mr. Modi declared in November 2018 that the country's first nuclear-powered ballistic missile submarine INS Arihant had finished its first deterrence patrol.
10. The MIRV is the next technological threshold in this direction, and it is a matter of time before the MIRV is deployed on submarine-launched ballistic missiles.
11. China has already deployed MIRV technology, first deployed by the U.S. in 1970, and is fast expanding its nuclear arsenal.
12. Pakistan claims to have tested MIRV technology as well.
13. The deployment of MIRV technology is expected to escalate dynamics in the region with China and Pakistan.
14. This spiral race of one-upmanship is likely to deepen, become more technology-intensive, and turn out to be an expensive endeavor.
15. The MIRV technology on Agni-V gives India enhanced range and the ability to defeat missile defenses, strengthening its strategic position.

Practice Exercise: SSC Pattern Based

1. **What technological advancement did Prime Minister Narendra Modi announce on March 11 regarding India's defense capabilities?** [Editorial Page]
 - A. Launch of India's first unmanned space mission.
 - B. Introduction of a new lightweight combat aircraft.
 - C. India's entry into the club of countries capable of delivering multiple nuclear warheads on a single missile.
 - D. Deployment of the first artificial intelligence-driven surveillance drone.
2. **Why is the MIRV technology on Agni-V considered significant for India's strategic defense against China?**
 - A. Because its multiple warheads can defeat missile defenses, focusing on the threat from China.
 - B. Because it enables the missile to travel faster than sound.
 - C. Because it allows for the launch of satellites into space.
 - D. Because it enhances the aesthetic appeal of the missile system.
3. **What principle underlies India's nuclear doctrine, which is reinforced by the development of MIRV technology?**
 - A. Aggressive preemptive strikes.
 - B. Credible minimum deterrence with a no-first-use policy.
 - C. Total disarmament and non-proliferation.
 - D. Unilateral military expansion.
4. **Based on the passage, what can be inferred about the potential impact of India's advancement in missile technology on regional security dynamics?**
 - A. It will likely lead to a reduction in military expenditures in the region.
 - B. It may intensify the arms race and technological competition among regional powers.
 - C. It will prompt immediate disarmament negotiations among neighboring countries.
 - D. It will have no significant impact on the existing security dynamics.
5. **What can be inferred about the role of technological thresholds like MIRV in India's defense strategy?**
 - A. They are primarily aimed at enhancing India's space exploration capabilities.
 - B. They are focused on developing non-lethal weapons for peacekeeping missions.
 - C. They are intended to replace conventional weapons in India's arsenal.
 - D. They are considered crucial for achieving a credible second-strike capability.
6. **Which word from the passage is a synonym for "threshold" in the context of technological development?**
 - A. Club
 - B. Doctrine
 - C. Milestone

- D. Patrol
7. **Arrange the following sentences to form a coherent paragraph.**
- P. The alarm bells had rung when NASA images showed farm fires in the state, but the authorities were then of the view that
- Q. With the wheat-sowing season approaching, incidents of stubble burning have registered a five-fold rise in
- R. Punjab than those reported in the corresponding period in the past two years, pointing to the inability or reluctance of the authorities to check the menace
- S. the magnitude of the problem was not that serious and because of the agitation over the farm laws, it would not be appropriate to take strict action against the offenders
- A. SPQR B.QRPS C.SQPR D.PRQS
8. **Arrange the following sentences to form a coherent paragraph.**
- P. The Supreme Court's verdict on Shaheen Bagh protests has to be understood in the context of Pulitzer Prize winner Walter Lippmann's above statement, quoted by the court to drive home the larger point about the right to peaceful protest in a democracy
- Q. they are subject to reasonable restrictions, including those in the interests of the sovereignty and integrity of India and public order
- R. The legal position on right to free speech and right to assemble peacefully under Article 19(1)(a) and Article 19(1)(b) of the Constitution, respectively, has been very clear, i.e.,
- S. IN a democracy, the Opposition is not only tolerated as constitutional, but must be maintained because it is indispensable'
- A. RSQP B.QPSR C.RSPQ D.SPRQ
9. **Select the most appropriate option to fill in the blank.**
- The tone of his voice seemed to _____ that he knew more than he was letting on.
- A. incise
- B. intent
- C. inculcate
- D. imply
10. **Select the most appropriate ANTONYM of the given word.**
- Enormous
- A. Tiny
- B. Inapposite
- C. Irrelevant
- D. Gigantic
11. There is a spelling error in the given sentence. Select the option that contains the **INCORRECTLY** spelt word.
- The questionnaire appeared to be misrably designed.
- A. designed
- B. questionnaire
- C. misrably
- D. appeared

12. Select the most appropriate option to fill in the blank.

COVID-19 _____ structural weaknesses in health systems worldwide and negatively impacted individuals, societies, and economies.

- A. concealed
- B. laid
- C. hit
- D. revealed

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

She will handling the baby as tenderly as possible.

- A. wills handle
- B. shall handles
- C. will handle
- D. will handled

14. Parts of the following sentence have been given as options. Select the option that contains an error.

A old woman suddenly laughed, sounding just like an amused hen.

- A. like an amused hen
- B. sounding just
- C. A old woman
- D. suddenly laughed

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

Annoy

- A. Gratify
- B. Vex
- C. Irritate
- D. Thrill

16. Four words of the following sentence have been underlined and given as options. Select the option that contains a spelling error.

All life depends on a healthy planet, but the interwoven systems of atmosphere, oceans, watercourses, land, ice cover and biosphere, which form the natural environment, are threatned by human activities.

- A. interwoven
- B. threatned
- C. biosphere
- D. watercourses

17. Select the most appropriate meaning of the given idiom.

A storm in a teacup

- A. Much excitement over something trivial
- B. A signal for upcoming storm
- C. Easy money

D. Suffering in silence

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

Varun has to _____ his studies for the sake of his ill father.

- A. sacrifice
- B. imitate
- C. reverse
- D. applaud

19. **Parts of the following sentence have been given as options. Select the option that contains an error.**

Shobek is very stronger than I am.

- A. very stronger
- B. I am
- C. Shobek is
- D. Than

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

You are always try with jump over the wall.

- A. trying in jumping
- B. try to jump
- C. trying to jump
- D. tried with jump

Comprehension:

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

The Reserve Bank of India's Monetary Policy Committee (MPC) has unanimously and wisely decided to apply a temporary pause to its inflation-battling monetary tightening by keeping the repo rate unchanged. RBI Governor Shaktikanta Das was _____1_____ in stressing that the decision to pause was "for this meeting only", underlining the commitment to ensuring that retail inflation is _____2_____ aligned to the mandated target of 4%. Clearly, developments in the global financial system, particularly the banking sector _____3_____ and the volatility and uncertainty they have triggered, have weighed heavily _____4_____ policymakers' decision to wait and watch. Notwithstanding his assertions that India's 'banking and non-banking financial service sectors remain healthy and economic activity remains resilient', it is the _____5_____ of rising credit costs posing risks to both consumption demand and private investment that was a key factor in the World Bank's calculus earlier this week, when it cut India's 2023-24 growth forecast to 6.3%.

Fill in the blanks with the most appropriate combinations of words

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

- A. Pragmatic
- B. Untenable

- C. Emphatic
 - D. Divisive
22. **Select the most appropriate option to fill in blank 2**
- A. Progressively
 - B. Reportedly
 - C. Periodically
 - D. Potentially
23. **Select the most appropriate option to fill in blank 3**
- A. Turmoil
 - B. Vigil
 - C. Marginal
 - D. Threshold
24. **Select the most appropriate option to fill in blank 4**
- A. Of
 - B. By
 - C. Into
 - D. On
25. **Select the most appropriate option to fill in blank 5**
- A. Fairness
 - B. Incentive
 - C. Spectre
 - D. Concern

Answers

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

[Practice Exercise]

Explanation

1. C) Prime Minister Narendra Modi announced via social media that India has joined a select group of countries capable of delivering multiple nuclear warheads on a single missile. This capability was demonstrated through the maiden flight test of Agni-V, marking a significant advancement in India's missile technology and strategic defense capabilities.
2. A) The significance of the MIRV (Multiple Independently Targetable Re-entry Vehicle) technology on Agni-V lies in its ability to deliver multiple nuclear warheads with high accuracy, making it a strategic asset against missile defenses. This capability is particularly important in the context of India's strategic posture towards China, as it enhances India's deterrent capability and addresses the challenges posed by missile defenses.
3. B) India's nuclear doctrine is based on the principle of credible minimum deterrence with a no-first-use policy. This doctrine emphasizes that India will not be the first to use nuclear weapons but maintains the capability for a significant retaliatory strike if a nuclear attack is launched against it. The development and deployment of MIRV technology on missiles like Agni-V reinforce this doctrine by enhancing India's second-strike capability, ensuring that it has a credible and effective deterrent against potential nuclear aggression.
4. B) The passage suggests that India's advancement in missile technology, particularly the development of MIRV technology, is likely to have a significant impact on regional security dynamics. The mention of the "spiral race of one-upmanship" and the "escalation dynamics" in the region indicates that such technological advancements may lead to an intensification of the arms race and technological competition among regional powers, including China and Pakistan. This could further complicate the security environment in the region.
5. D) The passage indicates that technological thresholds like MIRV (Multiple Independently Targetable Re-entry Vehicle) technology are considered crucial for India's defense strategy, particularly for achieving a credible second-strike capability. This is underscored by the mention of India's nuclear doctrine, which is based on a no-first-use policy and credible minimum deterrence, necessitating a strong retaliatory capability. The development and deployment of MIRV technology on missiles like Agni-V enhance India's ability to respond effectively in case of a first strike, thus reinforcing its second-strike capability.
6. C) The word "milestone" is a synonym for "threshold" in this context, as it also refers to an important marker of progress or achievement in a particular field or endeavor.
7. B) **QRPS**
Q: Sentence Q starts by setting the context that stubble burning incidents have increased with the wheat-sowing season approaching

R: Sentence R further builds upon this by specifying the location, Punjab, and suggests the failure of authorities to control the situation.

P: Then, Sentence P provides a backstory: NASA's warning through images of farm fires in the state. It establishes what the authorities thought at the time they received the warning, forming a bridge to Sentence S

S: Finally, Sentence S concludes by explaining the authorities' reasoning behind their inaction: they believed the problem was not serious and that strict action would be inappropriate due to the agitation over farm laws

8. D) **SPRQ**

S: The sentence 'S' sets the tone of the paragraph, discussing the necessity of opposition in a democracy.

P: Following this, sentence 'P' introduces the specific issue of the Supreme Court's verdict on Shaheen Bagh protests, relating it to the general idea of peaceful protests in a democracy presented in the quote in sentence 'S'.

R: Sentence 'R' then elaborates on the specific legal position that relates to this right in the Indian constitution.

Q: Finally, sentence 'Q' provides additional information on 'R', detailing the limitations placed on these rights, thus concluding the paragraph

9. D) **Imply'** का use होगा क्योंकि "imply" का अर्थ होता है संकेत करना या इशारा करना के किसी ने कुछ अधिक जानकारी है जिसे वह स्पष्ट रूप से नहीं बता रहा है। Sentence में mention किया गया है कि उसकी आवाज़ का स्वर ऐसा लग रहा था जैसे वह ज्यादा जानता था जिसे वह बता रहा था, इसलिए 'imply' यहाँ सही है। जबकि 'Incise' का अर्थ है काटना, 'Intent' का अर्थ है उद्देश्य या प्रयोजन, और 'Inculcate' का अर्थ है सिखाना या घुसाना, जो इस context में सही नहीं है।

- **'Imply'** should be used because it means to suggest or indicate that someone has more information than they are explicitly stating. The sentence describes how the tone of his voice gave the impression that he knew more than he was sharing, making 'imply' the right choice. Whereas, 'Incise' means to cut, 'Intent' refers to purpose or intention, and 'Inculcate' means to teach or instill, which don't fit in this context.

10. A) **Enormous** (adjective) – Very large in size, quantity, or extent. विशाल/ बहुत

Antonym: **Tiny** (adjective) – Very small in size, extent, or quantity. छोटा

- **Inapposite** (adjective) – Not apt or pertinent; inappropriate; unsuitable. अनुपयुक्त
- **Irrelevant** (adjective) – Not connected with or relevant to something; off-topic. असंबद्ध

- **Gigantic** (adjective) – Very large; huge. विशाल
11. C) The incorrect spelling in the sentence is 'mistrably'. The correct spelling should be 'miserably'. बुरी तरह
12. D) **Revealed** का use होगा क्योंकि 'revealed' का अर्थ होता है कुछ को सामने लाना या उसे प्रकट करना। Sentence में mention किया गया है कि COVID-19 ने वैश्विक स्वास्थ्य प्रणालियों में संरचनात्मक कमजोरियाँ प्रकट की और व्यक्तियों, समाजों, और अर्थव्यवस्थाओं पर नकारात्मक प्रभाव डाला।
- **Revealed** should be used because it means to make something known or bring it into the open. The sentence mentions that COVID-19 unveiled structural weaknesses in health systems worldwide and had a negative impact on individuals, societies, and economies.
13. C) **will handling** के बदले 'will handle' का प्रयोग होगा क्योंकि Modal verb 'will' के base verb (V¹) का प्रयोग होता है।
- 'will handle' will be used instead of 'will handling' because after the modal verb 'will', the base form of the verb is used.
14. C) sentence के part '**A old woman**' में error है क्योंकि 'old' शब्द जो व्यंजन 'o' से आरंभ होता है, के पहले 'an' का प्रयोग होता है। सही वाक्य होगा - "An old woman suddenly laughed, sounding just like an amused hen."
- The error is in the part 'A old woman' because before the word 'old' which starts with the vowel sound 'o', 'an' should be used. The correct sentence would be - "An old woman suddenly laughed, sounding just like an amused hen."
15. A) **Annoy** (verb) – to cause to be slightly angry or irritated. परेशान करना
- Antonym** : **Gratify** (verb) – to give pleasure or satisfaction. संतुष्ट करना
- **Vex** (verb) – to irritate or annoy. चिढ़ाना
 - **Irritate** (verb) – to cause annoyance or impatience. परेशान करना
 - **Thrill** (verb) – to cause to feel sudden excitement or emotion. रोमांचित करना
16. C) The correct spelling of the word '**threatned**' is '**threatened**' which means "to be a danger to" or "to give warning of harm." खतरा पैदा करना, चेतावनी देना.
17. A) **A storm in a teacup** (idiom) – Much excitement over something trivial छोटीसी बात पर बहुत उत्तेजित हो जाना

18. A) 'Sacrifice' का use होगा क्योंकि "sacrifice" का अर्थ होता है त्यागना या बलिदान करना। Sentence में mention किया गया है कि Varun अपने बीमार पिता के लिए अपनी पढ़ाई त्याग रहा है, इसलिए 'sacrifice' यहाँ सही है। जबकि 'Imitate' का अर्थ है अनुकरण करना, 'Reverse' का अर्थ है उलटना, और 'Applaud' का अर्थ है ताली बजाना, जो इस context में सही नहीं है
- **Sacrifice** should be used because it means to give up something important or valued. The sentence mentions that Varun is forgoing his studies because of his sick father, making 'sacrifice' appropriate here. Whereas, 'Imitate' means to copy, 'Reverse' means to turn back, and 'Applaud' means to clap or praise, which are not fitting in this context.
19. A) 'very stronger' के बदले '**stronger**' का प्रयोग होगा क्योंकि 'stronger' एक Comparative Degree है और इसके साथ 'very' का प्रयोग गलत है। जैसे— Shobek is stronger than I am.
- 'stronger' will be used instead of 'very stronger' because 'stronger' is a Comparative Degree and using 'very' with it is incorrect. Like— Shobek is stronger than I am
20. C) 'try with jump' के बदले '**trying to jump**' का प्रयोग होगा क्योंकि यहाँ 'are always' के साथ Present Continuous Tense का उपयुक्त रूप 'trying to' होता है; जैसे— He is always trying to finish his work early.
- '**trying to jump**' will be used instead of 'try with jump' because with 'are always' the appropriate form in Present Continuous Tense is 'trying to'; Like— He is always trying to finish his work early.
21. C) 'Emphatic' का use होगा क्योंकि "emphatic" का अर्थ होता है किसी बात को स्पष्टता से और जोर से कहना। Sentence में mention किया गया है कि RBI Governor Shaktikanta Das ने स्पष्ट रूप से बताया कि यह निर्णय केवल इस meeting के लिए है, इसलिए 'emphatic' यहाँ सही है। 'Pragmatic' का अर्थ होता है व्यावसिक या यथार्थवादी, 'Untenable' का अर्थ है जिसे समर्थन नहीं किया जा सके, और 'Divisive' का अर्थ है विभाजनकारी, जो इस context में सही नहीं हैं।
- 'Emphatic' should be used because it means expressing something clearly and forcefully. The sentence mentions that RBI Governor Shaktikanta Das was clear in stating that this decision was for this meeting only, making 'emphatic' fitting here. Whereas, 'Pragmatic' means practical or realistic, 'Untenable' means not able to be maintained, and 'Divisive' means causing disagreement or division, which don't fit in this context.
22. A) 'Progressively' का use होगा क्योंकि "progressively" का अर्थ होता है धीरे-धीरे या क्रमशः। Sentence में बताया गया है कि retail inflation को mandated target of 4% के अनुसार adjust किया जाना चाहिए। इसलिए 'progressively' यहाँ सही है। 'Reportedly' का अर्थ होता है 'कहे जाने

पर', 'Periodically' का अर्थ है 'समय-समय पर' और 'Potentially' का अर्थ है 'संभावना से', जो इस context में सही नहीं है।

- 'Progressively' should be used because it means gradually or in stages. The sentence discusses adjusting retail inflation to be aligned with the mandated target of 4%, making 'progressively' the right choice here. On the other hand, 'Reportedly' means 'as said by others', 'Periodically' means 'at intervals', and 'Potentially' means 'possibly', which don't fit in this context.

23. A) 'Turmoil' का use होगा क्योंकि "turmoil" का अर्थ होता है अशांति या अस्थिरता। Sentence में mention किया गया है कि वैश्विक वित्तीय प्रणाली में, विशेष रूप से बैंकिंग क्षेत्र में हो रही developments के कारण volatility और uncertainty बढ़ गई है, इसलिए 'turmoil' यहाँ सही है। जबकि 'Vigil' का अर्थ होता है जागरूकता, 'Marginal' का अर्थ होता है सीमांत, और 'Threshold' का अर्थ है देहलीज़ या सीमा, जो इस context में सही नहीं है।

- 'Turmoil' should be used because it means a state of great disturbance, confusion, or uncertainty. The sentence mentions that developments in the global financial system, especially in the banking sector, have led to increased volatility and uncertainty, making 'turmoil' apt in this context. On the other hand, 'Vigil' means staying alert, 'Marginal' means minor or borderline, and 'Threshold' means a point of entry or beginning, which don't fit in this context.

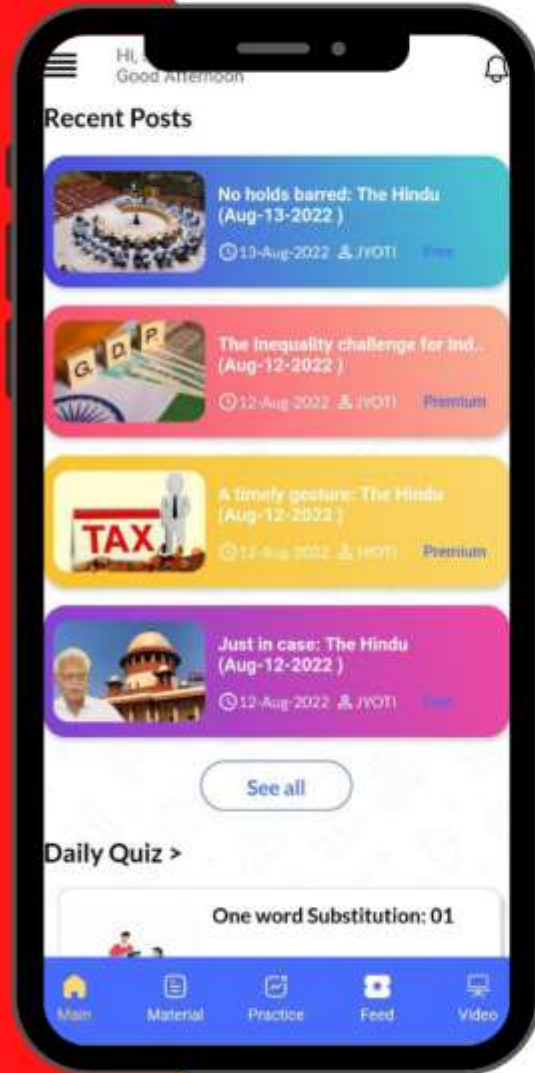
24. D) 'On' का use होगा क्योंकि sentence में बताया गया है कि global financial system की developments और उसके uncertainty और volatility ने policymakers के decision पर भारी पड़ा। इस context में 'on' का अर्थ होता है 'असर करना', जो यहाँ पर सही है। जबकि 'Of' एक possession या association दिखाने के लिए होता है, 'By' का अर्थ होता है 'द्वारा' और 'Into' का अर्थ होता है 'में' या 'की दिशा में', जो इस context में सही नहीं है।

- 'On' should be used because the sentence mentions how the developments and their resultant uncertainty and volatility have had an impact on the policymakers' decision. In this context, 'on' means 'affecting' or 'in relation to', which fits here. Whereas, 'Of' indicates possession or association, 'By' means 'through the means or agency of', and 'Into' indicates movement or transformation, which don't fit in this context.

25. C) 'Spectre' का use होगा क्योंकि "spectre" का अर्थ होता है एक डर या चिंता जो आने वाले समय में सामने आ सकती है। Sentence में mention किया गया है कि rising credit costs की समस्या दोनों consumption demand और private investment के लिए जोखिम डाल सकती है, इसलिए 'spectre' यहाँ सही है। जबकि 'Fairness' का अर्थ है न्यायपूर्णता, 'Incentive' का अर्थ है प्रोत्साहन और 'Concern' का अर्थ है चिंता, जो इस context में सही नहीं है।

- 'Spectre' should be used because it refers to a looming threat or concern that might arise in the future. The sentence indicates the issue of rising credit costs posing risks to

both consumption demand and private investment, making 'spectre' the right choice here. Whereas, 'Fairness' implies justice, 'Incentive' means a form of encouragement, and 'Concern' generally denotes worry or anxiety, which don't fit in this context.



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