

Express View on Supreme Court linking climate change and fundamental rights: A call to action

The Supreme Court of India has taken an **expansive** view of two Fundamental Rights **enshrined** in the Constitution — Right to Equality under Article 14 and Right to Life and Liberty under Article 21 — to **underline** the need to protect lives and **livelihoods in the face of** climate change, one of the toughest and most **pressing** global challenges. The **significance** of the Court’s **verdict** — delivered on March 21, uploaded on the SC’s website on Saturday — **cannot** be **overstated**.

Evidence for the **vulnerability** of Indians to climate change **is mounting** by the day. Floods have become more frequent and **intense**, rainfall patterns are changing and heatwaves **pose** serious health risks. **Several studies**, including IPCC reports, **have** warned that **global warming** will put an increasing number of Indians at risk in the coming years.

Yet, the **toll** taken by **receding glaciers, landslides**, sea-level rise, poor air and the loss of green lungs **is** rarely an issue for the country’s political class even in an election year.

Ecology has, **by and large**, remained the concern only of academics, civil society groups and **activists**. The SC’s **prod** could be the first step towards a wider ownership of the tasks that **lie** ahead.

The apex court has, from time to time, seen environmental protection through the lens of rights. In *M C Mehta v Union of India* (1987), **for instance**, it treated the right to live in a pollution-free environment as a part of the Right to Life. Since then, several SC **verdicts** — including as late as March this year, in a case related to the **mining major** Vedanta — **have** underlined that people have a right to breathe unpolluted air, drink clean water and live a healthy life. In its **ruling** on climate change, the Court made important connections between human rights and global warming **mitigation**. “Without a clean environment which is unimpacted by the **vagaries** of climate change, the right to life is not fully realised. The right to health is impacted due to factors such as shifts in **vector-borne** diseases, rising temperatures, **droughts**, crop failures and storms,” it said.

Governments have not always given proper respect to SC rulings that underline the links between **ecology** and human **dignity**. Delhi’s continuing air pollution is a classic example of the **hiatus** between **jurisprudence** and policy. The lack of executive action is **symptomatic** of a larger problem. Environmental issues like air and water quality receive attention only when they become an emergency. But with climate change, crisis **episodes** have **multiplied**. Year after year, extreme weather events expose the **unpreparedness** of India’s cities, towns, and increasingly, even rural areas. These events also invite questions on the country’s developmental **endeavours** which haven’t always been sensitive to ecological concerns.

The SC has underlined the need to apply **correctives**: “States are **compelled** to take effective measures to **mitigate** climate change”. Its ruling should be seen as a call to action. **[Practice exercise]**

Vocabulary

1. **Call to action** (noun) – A request or encouragement to take immediate action or respond to a situation. आह्वान
2. **Expansive** (adjective) – Broad, wide, extensive, comprehensive, inclusive व्यापक
3. **Enshrine** (in) (verb) – Preserve, protect, cherish, safeguard, consecrate संरक्षित करना
4. **Underline** (verb) – Emphasize, highlight, underscore, stress, accentuate जोर देना
5. **Livelihoods** (noun) – Employment, jobs, work, occupations, professions जीविका
6. **In the face of** (phrase) – Despite, notwithstanding, in spite of, against, confronting के बावजूद
7. **Pressing** (adjective) – Urgent, critical, crucial, important, exigent अत्यावश्यक
8. **Significance** (noun) – Importance, meaning, value, relevance, consequence महत्व
9. **Verdict** (noun) – Judgment, decision, ruling, pronouncement, conclusion फैसला
10. **Overstate** (verb) – Exaggerate, overemphasize, amplify, magnify, inflate बढ़ा-चढ़ाकर कहना
11. **Vulnerability** (noun) – The state of being exposed to the possibility of being attacked or harmed. संवेदनशीलता
12. **Mount** (verb) – Increase, grow, rise, escalate, accumulate बढ़ना
13. **Intense** (adjective) – Strong, extreme, acute, fierce, severe तीव्र
14. **Pose** (verb) – Present, create, cause, produce, provoke खड़ा करना (जोखिम)
15. **Global warming** (noun) – The long-term rise in the average temperature of the Earth's climate system. वैश्विक तापमान वृद्धि
16. **Take a toll** (phrase) – To cause harm or damage. प्रभावित करना
17. **Receding** (adjective) – Retreating, withdrawing, moving back, diminishing, declining घटता
18. **Glacier** (noun) – Ice mass, ice sheet, icecap, ice field हिमनद
19. **Landslide** (noun) – Rockslide, mudslide, avalanche, rockfall, earthfall भूस्खलन
20. **By and large** (phrase) – Generally, mostly, on the whole, for the most part, largely मोटे तौर पर
21. **Activist** (noun) – Campaigner, advocate, protester, agitator, reformer कार्यकर्ता

22. **Prod** (noun) – Prompt, reminder, encouragement, stimulus, motivation
प्रोत्साहन
23. **Lie** (verb) – Exist, be situated, be located, be found, be present स्थित होना
24. **The apex court** (noun) – Supreme Court, highest court, top court, ultimate court
सर्वोच्च न्यायालय
25. **For instance** (phrase) – For example, as an example, to illustrate, to give an example
उदाहरण के लिए
26. **Mining** (noun) – Extraction, quarrying, digging, drilling, tunneling खनन
27. **Major** (adjective) – greater or more important; main. प्रमुख
28. **Ruling** (noun) – Decision, judgment, decree, order, verdict निर्णय
29. **Mitigation** (noun) – The action of reducing the severity, seriousness, or painfulness of something
30. **Vagary** (noun) – Quirk, idiosyncrasy, peculiarity, oddity, caprice सनक
31. **Vector-borne** (adjective) – Transmitted by vectors (e.g., insects, ticks) वाहक जनित
32. **Drought** (noun) – Dry spell, water shortage, aridity, lack of rain सूखा
33. **Ecology** (noun) – Environment, ecosystem, biosphere, natural surroundings
पारिस्थितिकी
34. **Dignity** (noun) – Respect, honor, esteem, worth, nobility गरिमा
35. **Hiatus** (noun) – Break, pause, gap, interruption, intermission अंतराल
36. **Jurisprudence** (noun) – Legal theory, law, legal studies, legal philosophy, legal science न्यायशास्त्र
37. **Symptomatic** (adjective) – Indicative, suggestive, revealing, telling, characteristic लक्षणात्मक
38. **Episode** (noun) – Event, incident, occurrence, happening, situation घटना
39. **Multiply** (verb) – Increase, grow, expand, proliferate, escalate बढ़ना
40. **Unpreparedness** (noun) – Lack of readiness, lack of preparation, unprepared state अतैयारी
41. **Endeavour** (noun) – Effort, attempt, try, undertaking, enterprise प्रयास
42. **Corrective** (noun) – Remedy, solution, cure, corrective measure, rectification सुधारात्मक
43. **Compel** (verb) – Force, coerce, oblige, require, mandate बाध्य करना

44. **Mitigate** (verb) – Reduce, lessen, alleviate, relieve, diminish कम करना

Summary of the Editorial

1. The Supreme Court of India has emphasized the importance of protecting lives and livelihoods against climate change, highlighting the Right to Equality (Article 14) and Right to Life and Liberty (Article 21).
2. The Court's verdict, delivered on March 21 and uploaded on the SC's website later, stresses the urgency of addressing climate change, a global challenge.
3. Evidence of Indians' vulnerability to climate change, such as more frequent floods, changing rainfall patterns, and heatwaves, is increasing.
4. Despite the risks, environmental concerns are often overlooked by India's political class, even during election years.
5. Environmental issues have typically been the focus of academics, civil society groups, and activists, but the Supreme Court's push could lead to broader involvement.
6. The Supreme Court has a history of viewing environmental protection as a fundamental right, as seen in cases like M C Mehta v Union of India (1987).
7. In its recent ruling on climate change, the Court linked human rights with global warming mitigation, emphasizing the impact on the right to life and health.
8. Governments have sometimes failed to respect Supreme Court rulings that connect ecology with human dignity, as seen in Delhi's ongoing air pollution crisis.
9. Environmental issues tend to receive attention only during emergencies, but climate change has increased the frequency of crises.
10. Extreme weather events highlight the unpreparedness of India's cities, towns, and rural areas, and raise questions about development's sensitivity to ecology.
11. The Supreme Court has urged states to take effective measures to mitigate climate change.
12. The ruling is a call to action for both the government and society to address climate change more seriously.
13. The verdict emphasizes the need for a clean environment for the full realization of the right to life.
14. The Court's decision reinforces the idea that environmental protection is integral to fundamental human rights.
15. The ruling sets a precedent for future environmental jurisprudence and policy-making in India.

Practice Exercise: SSC Pattern Based

1. **What is the tone of the passage regarding the Supreme Court's approach to climate change and fundamental rights?** [Practice Exercise]
 - A. Critical
 - B. Appreciative
 - C. Indifferent
 - D. Skeptical
2. **According to the passage, which of the following statements accurately reflects the Supreme Court of India's perspective on the link between fundamental rights and climate change?**
 - A. The Supreme Court has ignored the connection between climate change and fundamental rights, focusing solely on legal technicalities.
 - B. The Supreme Court has taken a narrow view of fundamental rights, limiting their application to issues unrelated to climate change.
 - C. The Supreme Court has recognized the importance of fundamental rights in addressing climate change, particularly through the Right to Equality under Article 14 and the Right to Life and Liberty under Article 21.
 - D. The Supreme Court has ruled that climate change is not a matter of fundamental rights, and therefore should not be addressed by the judiciary.
3. **Based on the passage, which of the following best describes the impact of climate change on India as reported by several studies, including IPCC reports?**
 - A. Climate change has had minimal impact on India, with no significant changes in weather patterns or risks to health.
 - B. Climate change has led to a decrease in the frequency and intensity of floods in India, making it a less pressing issue for the country.
 - C. Climate change has caused more frequent and intense floods, altered rainfall patterns, and increased heatwaves, posing serious health risks in India.
 - D. Climate change has primarily affected the political landscape of India, with little to no effect on the environment or public health.
4. **According to the Supreme Court's view on climate change and fundamental rights, which of the following statements is/are true?**
 - (i) The right to live in a pollution-free environment has been recognized as part of the Right to Life since the verdict in M C Mehta v Union of India (1987).
 - (ii) The Supreme Court has consistently ignored the connection between environmental protection and human rights in its rulings.
 - (iii) The lack of executive action on environmental issues is indicative of a broader disconnect between jurisprudence and policy.
 - A. i only
 - B. i and ii
 - C. i and iii
 - D. ii and iii

5. **In the context of the Supreme Court's ruling on climate change, which of the following implications is/are highlighted?**
- (i) The right to health is impacted by factors such as rising temperatures and crop failures, which are consequences of climate change.
 - (ii) Governments have always given proper respect to Supreme Court rulings that underline the links between ecology and human dignity.
 - (iii) Effective measures to mitigate climate change are optional for states, according to the Supreme Court's ruling.
- A. i only
 - B. i and ii
 - C. i and iii
 - D. ii and iii
6. **In the context of the passage, which word is synonymous with "enormity"?**
- A. vulnerability
 - B. significance
 - C. hiatus
 - D. mitigation
7. **Select the most appropriate synonym of the given word**
Gentle
- A. Fierce
 - B. Ferocious
 - C. Cruel
 - D. Sympathetic
8. **Select the most appropriate option that can substitute the underlined segment in the given sentence**
My friend Meera and her mother is visiting me this weekend
- A. have visiting
 - B. am visiting
 - C. was visiting
 - D. are visiting
9. **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. Several times I have visited the narrow, dirty streets where the poor live, and I grow hot and indignant to think that good people should be content to live in fine houses and become strong and beautiful, while others are condemned to live in hideous, sunless tenements and grow ugly, withered and cringing.
 - B. Dear little creatures, they crouch in my heart and haunt me with a constant sense of pain.
 - C. The children who crowd these grimy alleys, half-clad and underfed, shrink away from your outstretched hand as if from a blow.
 - D. In the country one sees only nature's fair works, and one's soul is not saddened by the cruel struggle for mere existence that goes on in the crowded city.

- A. BACD
B. ADBC
C. CABD
D. DACB
10. Identify from the given options the word **OPPOSITE** in meaning to the underlined word according to its meaning in the following sentence.
The confectioner dusted a fine layer of sugar on the muffin
A. scattered
B. sprinkled
C. cleaned
D. powdered
11. **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.**
Anti-party activities / improved my relations /with an opposition
A. Anti-party activities
B. No error
C. Improved my relations
D. With an opposition
12. Select the most appropriate **ANTONYM** of the given word.
Compulsory
A. Obligatory
B. Mandatory
C. Voluntary
D. Subsidiary
13. **Select the most appropriate meaning of the given idiom.**
At cross purposes
A. Developing and amplifying ideas given
B. Finalising ideas and plans
C. Blindly following each other's ideas
D. Disagreeing with each other's ideas
14. **Select the most appropriate synonym of the underlined word.**
The Department of Educational Policy is committed to the study of educational policy, analyse, and evaluate educational programmes, to identify trends, understand outcomes and guide policy and practice, towards finding solutions to current problems in educational governance and management.
A. affiliated
B. dedicated
C. inclined
D. apathetic
15. **Select the option that can be used as a one-word substitute for the given group of words.**
Never changing and therefore boring.

- A. Outdated
- B. Impractical
- C. Idealistic
- D. Monotonous

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

The painting was not made by you.

- A. You should not make the painting.
- B. You does not make the painting.
- C. You did not make the painting.
- D. You do not make the painting.

17. **Sentences of a paragraph are given below in jumbled order. Arrange the sentences in the correct order to form a meaningful and coherent paragraph.**

- P. More villages have come up on the Chinese side of the LAC along Arunachal Pradesh.
 - Q. These villages have the twin purposes of enhancing China's military readiness for a potential battle with India as well as to bolster its territorial claims.
 - R. The Line of Actual Control (LAC) is set to become more contentious, with China announcing plans to set up 175 border villages besides the 628 Xiaokang (prosperous villages) it has already raised along the LAC.
 - S. But villages sprouting up in areas along the Ladakh region need a more concerted intervention from the troops and the locals.
- A. RSPQ
 - B. QPRS
 - C. QRPS
 - D. RQPS

18. **Sentences of a paragraph are given below in jumbled order. Select the option that gives their correct logical sequence.**

- A. However, its soaring popularity has not been matched by adequate safety measures.
 - B. The death of Ritu Chopra, a seasoned paragliding pilot, at Bir Billing on Sunday underscores a grave concern — the lack of stringent enforcement of international safety norms in paragliding activities.
 - C. Three paragliders had lost their lives in seven days in October last year.
 - D. Bir Billing, nestled amidst the picturesque Dhauladhar range in Himachal Pradesh, has gained international recognition as a prime destination for paragliding.
 - E. It serves as a stark reminder of the risks associated with this adventure sport when precautions are not strictly adhered to.
- A. DECAB
 - B. BDCEA
 - C. CABED
 - D. BEDAC

19. **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 country's location makes it vulnerable to seismic disturbances, and it has invested well in disaster preparedness.
- b. Yet, amidst the devastation wrought by the tremors, Taiwan's response stands as a beacon of resilience, underscoring a crucial message: earthquakes don't kill, buildings do.
- c. In many other countries, buildings fail to withstand tremors because of constructional flaws, exacting a heavy toll on human life.
- d. On Wednesday, Taiwan was shaken by its most powerful earthquake — measuring 7.2 on the Richter scale — in 25 years, a grim reminder of the seismic risks faced by nations situated along the Pacific 'Ring of Fire'.

- A. d, b, a, c
- B. c, a, b, d
- C. a, b, c, d
- D. a, c, b, d

20. **Some sentences are given below. While the first and the last sentences (1 and 2) are in the correct order, the sentences in between are jumbled up. Arrange the sentences in the correct order to form a meaningful and coherent paragraph.**

1. Citing 'emerging challenges due to the current socio-cultural, religious and political situation' in the country, the Catholic Bishops' Conference of India (CBCI) has issued a set of guidelines for all educational institutions under its jurisdiction.
 - A. on students of other religions, and setting up an inter-religious prayer room on the campus
 - B. these include recitation of the Preamble to the Constitution by students during the daily morning assembly, showing respect for all faiths and traditions, not forcing Christian traditions
 - C. the CBCI, the apex decision-making body of the Catholic community in India, has about 14,000 schools,
 - D. 650 colleges, seven universities, five medical colleges and 450 technical and vocational institutions under its aegis
2. It is commendable that this influential association has taken the initiative to promote religious and cultural sensitivity and encourage respect for diversity among students as well as staff members.
 - A. ADCB
 - B. BACD
 - C. BCDA
 - D. ABCD

Comprehension

In a major initiative aimed at improving as well as _____1_____ railway infrastructure across the country, Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Monday inaugurated and laid the foundation stone of more than 2,000 projects worth about Rs 41,000 crore. As many as 553 railway stations will be redeveloped under the Amrit Bharat Station Scheme at a cost of over Rs 19,000 crore. The government's 'Viksit Bharat Viksit Railway' programme is aimed at upgrading the rail network and railway stations for the comfort and convenience of passengers.

In his speech, the PM said: ‘Whatever India does today, it does it at an ____2____ speed and scale.’ No less important than speed and scale is safety, especially since several train ____3____ took place last year. More than 290 passengers were killed when the Coromandel Express and two other trains collided in Odisha’s Balasore district in June. A ____4____ between two passenger trains on the Howrah-Chennai line in Vizianagaram district of Andhra Pradesh had claimed 14 lives in October. Earlier this week, a freight train ran driverless for about 70 km from Kathua (Jammu) to Dasuya (Punjab) on the Jammu Tawi-Pathankot section before it was finally stopped by placing sandbags and wood blocks on the track. A preliminary probe has indicated ____5____ on the part of the driver and the station master.

Fill in the blanks with the most appropriate combinations of words

21. **Select the most appropriate option to fill in blank 1.**
 - A. Unrelenting
 - B. Augmenting
 - C. Fermenting
 - D. Alienating
22. **Select the most appropriate option to fill in blank 2.**
 - A. Unprecedented
 - B. Elevated
 - C. Unjustified
 - D. Uncredited
23. **Select the most appropriate option to fill in blank 3.**
 - A. Relapse
 - B. Perhaps
 - C. Mishaps
 - D. Collapse
24. **Select the most appropriate option to fill in blank 4.**
 - A. Explosion
 - B. Erosion
 - C. Inclusion
 - D. Collision
25. **Select the most appropriate option to fill in blank 5.**
 - A. Lapses
 - B. Masses
 - C. Promises
 - D. Expenses

Answers

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

[Practice Exercise]

Explanations

1. B) Appreciative

The tone of the passage is appreciative, as it commends the Supreme Court of India for its expansive view of Fundamental Rights in the context of climate change. The passage highlights the Court's verdicts and their significance in underlining the need to protect lives and livelihoods in the face of climate change. The author appreciates the Court's efforts to connect human rights with global warming mitigation and urges action based on the Court's rulings.

2. C) The Supreme Court has recognized the importance of fundamental rights in addressing climate change, particularly through the Right to Equality under Article 14 and the Right to Life and Liberty under Article 21.

The passage explicitly states that the Supreme Court of India has taken an "expansive view" of the Right to Equality and the Right to Life and Liberty to emphasize the need to protect lives and livelihoods in the face of climate change. This indicates that the Court has recognized the importance of fundamental rights in addressing climate change.

3. C) Climate change has caused more frequent and intense floods, altered rainfall patterns, and increased heatwaves, posing serious health risks in India.

The passage provides evidence of the vulnerability of Indians to climate change, mentioning that floods have become more frequent and intense, rainfall patterns are changing, and heatwaves pose serious health risks.

4. C) i and iii

Statement i is true, as the Supreme Court has recognized the right to live in a pollution-free environment as part of the Right to Life in various verdicts, starting with M C Mehta v Union of India (1987).

Statement ii is false, as the Supreme Court has, in fact, consistently underlined the connection between environmental protection and human rights. Statement iii is true, as the passage highlights the lack of executive action on environmental issues, indicating a disconnect between jurisprudence and policy.

5. A) i only

Statement i is true, as the passage states that the right to health is impacted by various factors related to climate change, such as rising temperatures and crop failures. Statement ii is false, as the passage indicates that governments have not always respected Supreme Court rulings linking ecology and human dignity. Statement iii is false, as the Supreme Court has underlined that states are compelled to take effective measures to mitigate climate change.

6. B) Significance

The term "significance" in the passage is used to denote the importance or enormity of the Supreme Court's verdict on climate change and fundamental rights.

7. D) Gentle (adjective) – Mild, tender, kind, soft, considerate. कोमल

Synonym: **Sympathetic** (adjective) – Compassionate, understanding, caring, empathetic. सहानुभूतिपूर्ण

- **Fierce** (adjective) – Intense, strong, aggressive, ferocious. उग्र

- **Ferocious** (adjective) – Savage, brutal, violent, aggressive. उग्र

- **Cruel** (adjective) – Harsh, merciless, unkind, brutal. क्रूर
8. D) 'is visiting' के बदले 'are visiting' का प्रयोग होगा क्योंकि यहाँ 'My friend Meera and her mother' दोनों व्यक्तियों का संबंधित रूप है जिसके कारण Verb भी Plural Form में होना चाहिए।
- The usage should be 'are visiting' instead of 'is visiting' because here, 'My friend Meera and her mother' refers to two individuals, which requires the verb to be in the plural form.
9. D) **DACB**
In the country one sees only nature's fair works, and one's soul is not saddened by the cruel struggle for mere existence that goes on in the crowded city. . Several times I have visited the narrow, dirty streets where the poor live, and I grow hot and indignant to think that good people should be content to live in fine houses and become strong and beautiful, while others are condemned to live in hideous, sunless tenements and grow ugly, withered and cringing. The children who crowd these grimy alleys, half-clad and underfed, shrink away from your outstretched hand as if from a blow. Dear little creatures, they crouch in my heart and haunt me with a constant sense of pain.
10. C) **Dusted** (verb) – Sprinkled a fine substance over a surface. छिड़कना
Opposite: **Cleaned** (verb) – Removed dirt, stains, or impurities from a surface. साफ़ किया
- **Scattered** (verb) – Threw or spread things in various directions. बिखेरना
 - **Sprinkled** (verb) – Scattered small drops or particles over a surface. छिड़कना
 - **Powdered** (adjective) – Turned into a fine substance like powder. पाउडर में
11. D) **an'** का प्रयोग 'opposition' के साथ गलत है क्योंकि इस संदर्भ में 'opposition' एक uncountable noun है; इसलिए इसे 'an' के साथ प्रयोग नहीं किया जाता है।
- The use of 'an' with 'opposition' is incorrect because 'opposition' is an uncountable noun in this context; therefore, it should not be used with 'an'.
12. C) **Compulsory** (adjective) - Required, obligatory, mandatory. अनिवार्य
Antonym: **Voluntary** (adjective) - Done, given, or acting of one's own free will, optional. स्वेच्छिक
- **Obligatory** (adjective) - Required as a result of a legal or moral obligation, mandatory. अनिवार्य
 - **Mandatory** (adjective) - Required or commanded by authority, obligatory. अनिवार्य
 - **Subsidiary** (adjective) - Less important than but related or supplementary to something. उपको
13. D) **At cross purposes** (idiom) – Disagreeing with each other's ideas एक-दूसरे के विचारों से असहमत
14. B) **Committed** (adjective) – Devoted, dedicated, loyal, steadfast. प्रतिबद्ध
Synonym: **Dedicated** (adjective) – Committed, devoted, earnest, enthusiastic. समर्पित
- **Affiliated** (adjective) – Associated, connected, linked. संबद्ध
 - **Inclined** (adjective) – Tending towards, disposed, prone. झुकाव वाला
 - **Apathetic** (adjective) – Showing lack of interest, indifference, unresponsive. उदासीन
15. D) **Monotonous** (adjective) – Never changing and therefore boring. एकरस/ नीरस
- **Outdated** (adjective) – Old-fashioned or obsolete. पुराना

- **Impractical** (adjective) – Not feasible or realistic. अव्यवहारिक
- **Idealistic** (adjective) – Characterized by the pursuit of noble ideals, often unrealistically so. आदर्शवादी

16. C) You did not make the painting

17. D) **RQPS**

Sentence R introduces the main topic of the paragraph, which is the situation along the Line of Actual Control (LAC) and China's plans to set up border villages.

Sentence Q logically follows R, as it elaborates on the purpose of the villages mentioned in R. The use of "These villages" clearly refers back to the villages discussed in the previous sentence.

Sentence P follows Q because it provides specific information about the location of the new villages along the LAC, which is Arunachal Pradesh.

Sentence S follows P because it introduces a contrast ("But") to the situation described in the previous sentences. It shifts the focus to the Ladakh region and suggests a different response to the villages sprouting up there.

18. D) **BEDAC**

B is the first sentence because it introduces the main topic of the paragraph, which is the death of a seasoned paragliding pilot, Ritu Chopra, at Bir Billing.

E is the second sentence as it directly relates to the event mentioned in sentence B. It emphasizes the reminder that the incident serves about the risks associated with paragliding when safety measures are not strictly followed.

D is the third sentence because it provides background information about Bir Billing, explaining why it is significant in the context of the paragraph. It mentions the location's international recognition as a prime destination for paragliding, which is relevant to the discussion of safety measures.

A is the fourth sentence as it builds on the sentence D by highlighting the contrast between Bir Billing's popularity and the lack of adequate safety measures. This continues the focus on the theme of safety in paragliding.

C is the last sentence because it provides additional evidence to support the concern raised in the paragraph about safety in paragliding. It mentions the deaths of three paragliders in a short span, which reinforces the need for stringent safety measures.

19. A) **d, b, a, c**

Sentence d is the natural starting point as it introduces the main event: a powerful earthquake in Taiwan.

Sentence b logically follows d, as it continues the narrative by discussing Taiwan's response to the earthquake, highlighting the country's resilience.

Sentence a is placed after b because it provides additional information about why Taiwan has such a strong response to earthquakes, explaining the country's vulnerability and its investment in disaster preparedness.

Sentence c is placed last because it broadens the discussion to compare the situation in other countries, emphasizing the importance of building construction in earthquake-prone areas.

20. B) **1BACD2**

1: The first sentence sets the context by mentioning the challenges and the response of the Catholic Bishops' Conference of India (CBCI).

B: The next logical step after setting the context is to introduce the specific guidelines issued by the CBCI. Sentence B does this by listing some of the key guidelines, such as the recitation of the Preamble to the Constitution and showing respect for all faiths.

A: After introducing the guidelines, it is natural to elaborate on them. Sentence A continues the list of guidelines by mentioning not forcing Christian traditions on students of other religions and setting up an inter-religious prayer room.

C: Once the guidelines have been fully outlined, it makes sense to provide some background information about the CBCI. Sentence C gives an overview of the extent of the CBCI's jurisdiction, which helps to underscore the significance of the guidelines.

D: Sentence D further elaborates on the scale of the CBCI's influence by listing the various types of educational institutions under its aegis.

2: Finally, the last sentence concludes the paragraph by commending the CBCI's initiative, which is a natural conclusion after discussing the guidelines and the scale of the CBCI's influence.

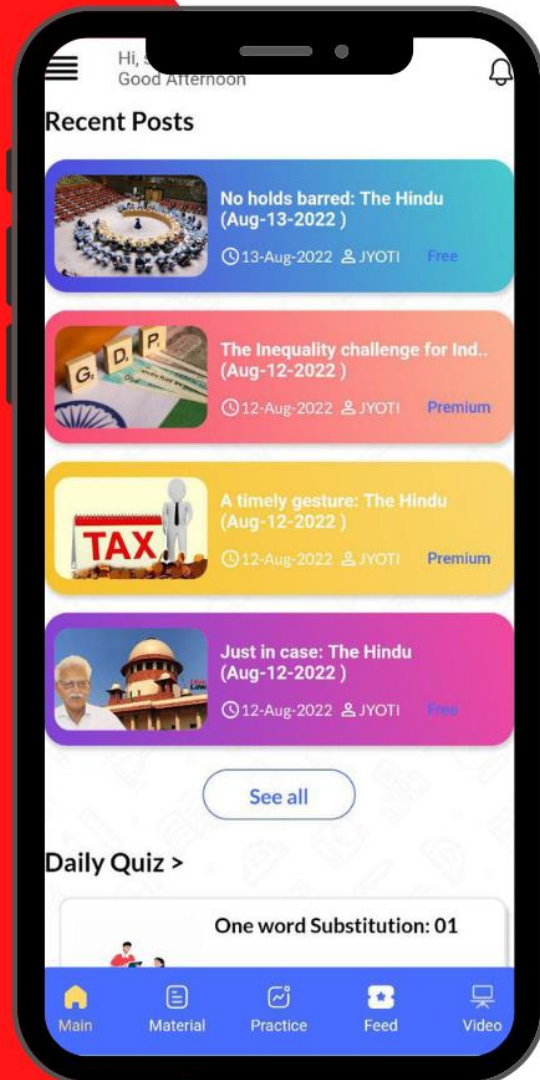
21. 'B) Augmenting' का use होगा 'Augmenting' का अर्थ होता है बढ़ाना या सुधारना। passage में बताया गया है कि सरकार रेलवे के ढांचे को सुधारने और उसे बढ़ाने की दिशा में काम कर रही है, इसलिए 'Augmenting' यहाँ सही है। 'Unrelenting' का अर्थ है निरंतर या अटल, 'Fermenting' का अर्थ है किण्वन या सक्रिय करना, और 'Alienating' का अर्थ है पराया करना या अलग करना, जो इस context में सही नहीं है। 'Augmenting' will be used because 'Augmenting' means to increase or improve. The passage mentions that the government is working towards improving and augmenting the railway infrastructure, making 'Augmenting' the right choice here. 'Unrelenting' means continuous or relentless, 'Fermenting' means to ferment or activate, and 'Alienating' means to estrange or isolate, which don't fit in this context.
22. A) 'Unprecedented' का use होगा क्योंकि "unprecedented" का अर्थ होता है पहले कभी न हुआ। Sentence में PM ने कहा है कि भारत जो भी करता है, वह अभूतपूर्व गति और पैमाने पर करता है, इसलिए 'unprecedented' यहाँ सही है। जबकि 'Elevated' का अर्थ है उठाया हुआ, 'Unjustified' का अर्थ है अनुचित, और 'Uncredited' का अर्थ है अप्रमाणित, जो इस context में सही नहीं है। 'Unprecedented' will be used because it means never done or known before. The sentence mentions that PM said India does everything at an unprecedented speed and scale, making 'unprecedented' fitting here. Whereas, 'Elevated' means raised, 'Unjustified' means without a good reason, and 'Uncredited' means not acknowledged, which don't fit in this context.
23. C) 'Mishaps' का use होगा क्योंकि 'mishaps' का अर्थ होता है दुर्घटनाएँ या अप्रत्याशित घटनाएँ। Passage में mention किया गया है कि कई ट्रेन दुर्घटनाएँ हुईं, इसलिए 'mishaps' यहाँ सही है। जबकि 'Relapse' का अर्थ है बीमारी में फिर से गिरावट आना, 'Perhaps' का अर्थ है शायद, और 'Collapse' का अर्थ है ढह जाना, जो इस context में सही नहीं है। 'Mishaps' will be used because it means accidents or unforeseen events. The passage mentions that several train accidents took place, making 'mishaps' fitting here. Whereas, 'Relapse' means a deterioration in health, 'Perhaps' means maybe, and 'Collapse' means to fall down, which don't fit in this context.
24. D) 'Collision' का use होगा क्योंकि passage में mention किया गया है कि "A collision between two passenger trains on the Howrah-Chennai line in Vizianagaram district of Andhra Pradesh had claimed 14 lives in October." इसलिए, यहाँ 'Collision' का अर्थ है दो चीजों का टकराना, जो कि संदर्भ में सही है।

जबकि 'Explosion' का अर्थ है विस्फोट, 'Erosion' का अर्थ है कटाव, और 'Inclusion' का अर्थ है समावेशन, जो इस संदर्भ में सही नहीं हैं।

The correct option is 'D' Collision because the passage mentions that "A collision between two passenger trains on the Howrah-Chennai line in Vizianagaram district of Andhra Pradesh had claimed 14 lives in October." Therefore, 'Collision' meaning the act of two things crashing into each other is appropriate here. Whereas, 'Explosion' means a burst, 'Erosion' means wearing away, and 'Inclusion' means incorporating, which don't fit in this context.

25. A) 'Lapses' का use होगा क्योंकि 'lapses' का अर्थ होता है चूक या गलतियाँ। Sentence में mention किया गया है कि एक प्रारंभिक जाँच से पता चला है कि ड्राइवर और स्टेशन मास्टर की ओर से चूक हुई थी, इसलिए 'lapses' यहाँ सही है। जबकि 'Masses' का अर्थ है जनता, 'Promises' का अर्थ है वादे, और 'Expenses' का अर्थ है खर्च, जो इस context में सही नहीं हैं।

'Lapses' will be used because it means failures or mistakes. The sentence mentions that a preliminary probe has indicated lapses on the part of the driver and the station master, making 'lapses' fitting here. Whereas, 'Masses' means the general public, 'Promises' means commitments, and 'Expenses' means costs, which don't fit in this context.



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