

Express View: Hepatitis warning

A WHO report has **flagged** the seriousness of India's Hepatitis challenge. With nearly 3 crore Hepatitis B patients and more than 50 lakh Hepatitis C patients, the country's **burden** of these liver diseases **is** the second highest in the world. They **claimed** more than a lakh lives in 2022. Even more worrying is that a very small **fraction** of the **infected come** under the **diagnostic ambit**. Less than 30 per cent of Hepatitis C cases are detected; the figure for Hepatitis B is less than 3 per cent. The National Viral Hepatitis Control Programme (NVHCP) aims to **eliminate** Hepatitis C by 2030 and "achieve significant reduction in **morbidity** and **mortality associated** with Hepatitis B" by that year. The WHO report is a warning that the country has much work to do to **attain** this target. However, the global health agency has also **struck a note** of **optimism**: "**Course correction** between 2024 and 2026 can bring NVHCP on track".

Hepatitis B and C are spread through contact with **contaminated** blood. Hepatitis B can **lead to** the **scarring** of liver tissues and increase the risk of cancer. Diagnosis is **complicated** — carriers can **harbour** the virus for years without appearing to be diseased. They can infect others even when they do not show symptoms — these **often show up** only when the **pathogen** takes an aggressive form. There is no cure, though treatment can help manage symptoms **to an extent**. **The NVHCP**, initiated in 2018, **provides** free testing and **medication**. However, the WHO report indicates that the programme hasn't touched most patients. **Rigorous adoption** of blood **screening** protocols in the past 20 years **has substantially** reduced the risks from **transfusion**. **Most** of the Hepatitis B infections in the country **are** today **passed on** from mother to child. **Vaccination** can prevent the disease but the highest **immunity** is **conferred** when the child is **administered** a **jab** just after birth. In India, less than 50 per cent **infants** get **vaccinated** this early. This is largely to do with the low rate of **institutionalised births** in large parts of the country. **Informing** community healthcare workers with vaccination protocols **could** increase the **efficacy** of the **immunisation regime**.

Hepatitis C is far easier to treat. Anti-virals can cure the disease and prevent long-term liver damage. According to WHO, treatment costs in India are amongst the lowest in the world. But **70 per cent patients eluding** the diagnostic network **speak of** a healthcare **deficit** that must be **addressed** immediately. Whether it's **containing** viral diseases like hepatitis or bacterial infections like TB, there can be no shortcuts to **expanding** the country's medical facilities. [Practice Exercise]

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

Vocabulary

1. **Flag** (verb) – Highlight, signal, indicate, point out, draw attention to चिन्हित करना
2. **Claim** (verb) – Cause, lead to, result in, bring about, provoke दावा करना
3. **The infected** (noun) – People who have been infected by a disease. संक्रमित
4. **Diagnostic** (adjective) – Related to the identification of the nature or cause of a disease or condition. निदान संबंधी
5. **Ambit** (noun) – Scope, range, extent, sphere, reach दायरे
6. **Eliminate** (verb) – Remove, eradicate, get rid of, abolish, exterminate खत्म करना
7. **Morbidity** (noun) – The condition of being diseased or the incidence of illness in a population. रोगिता
8. **Mortality** (noun) – Death, fatality, loss of life, demise, expiration मृत्यु दर
9. **Associated** (with) (adjective) – Connected, related, linked, affiliated संबद्ध
10. **Attain** (verb) – Achieve, reach, accomplish, obtain, realize प्राप्त करना
11. **Strike a note** (phrase) – To express or evoke a particular feeling or idea.
12. **Optimism** (noun) – Hopefulness, positivity, confidence, cheerfulness, sanguinity आशावाद
13. **Course correction** (phrase) – An adjustment or change in direction to correct a previous mistake or address a problem. मार्ग सुधार
14. **Contaminated** (adjective) – Polluted, tainted, infected, dirty, unclean दूषित
15. **Lead** (to) (verb) – Result in, cause, bring about, produce, give rise to वजह बनना
16. **Scarring** (noun) – Damaging, marking, blemishing, mutilating, wounding नुकसान पहुंचाना
17. **Complicated** (adjective) – Complex, intricate, involved, convoluted, elaborate जटिल
18. **Harbour** (verb) – Carry, hold, possess, bear, maintain आश्रय देना
19. **Often** (adverb) – Frequently, regularly, commonly, repeatedly, habitually अक्सर
20. **Show up** (phrasal verb) – Appear, arrive, turn up, emerge, manifest प्रकट होना
21. **Pathogen** (noun) – A microorganism that causes disease. रोगाणु
22. **To an extent** (phrase) – Partially, to a degree, to some degree, somewhat, in part कुछ हद तक
23. **Medication** (noun) – Medicine, drug, pharmaceutical, remedy, treatment दवा

24. **Rigorous** (adjective) – Strict, stringent, severe, harsh, demanding कठोर
25. **Adoption** (noun) – Acceptance, taking up, embracing, implementation, use अपनाना
26. **Screening** (noun) – Testing, examination, assessment, evaluation, check जांच
27. **Substantially** (adverb) – Significantly, considerably, greatly, largely, markedly काफी हद तक
28. **Transfusion** (noun) – The transfer of blood or a blood component from one person to another. रक्ताधान
29. **Pass on** (phrasal verb) – Transmit, transfer, convey, hand down, deliver संचारित करना
30. **Vaccination** (noun) – Immunization, inoculation, injection, shot, jab टीकाकरण
31. **Immunity** (noun) – Resistance, protection, defense, safeguard, shield प्रतिरक्षा
32. **Confer** (verb) – Bestow, grant, give, award, present प्रदान करना
33. **Administer** (verb) – (of relating to medicine/drug) Give, provide, dispense, deliver, apply देना
34. **Jab** (noun) – Injection, shot, vaccination, inoculation, needle इंजेक्शन
35. **Infant** (noun) – Baby, newborn, child, toddler, young child शिशु
36. **Vaccinate** (verb) – Immunize, inoculate, give a shot, administer a vaccine टीका लगाना
37. **Institutionalised birth** (noun) – Childbirth that takes place in a medical institution such as a hospital. संस्थागत प्रसव
38. **Efficacy** (noun) – Effectiveness, efficiency, potency, power, success प्रभावशीलता
39. **Immunisation** (noun) – Vaccination, inoculation, immunization, protection प्रतिरक्षण
40. **Regime** (noun) – System, method, procedure, regimen, protocol व्यवस्था
41. **Elude** (verb) – Escape, evade, avoid, dodge, sidestep बचना, टलना
42. **Deficit** (noun) – Shortfall, deficiency, lack, shortage, inadequacy कमी
43. **Address** (verb) – Deal with, tackle, handle, manage, attend to सुलझाना, निपटाना,
44. **Contain** (verb) – Control, manage, restrain, hold back, check नियंत्रण में रखना
45. **Expand** (verb) – Increase, enlarge, extend, grow, develop विस्तार करना

Summary of the Editorial

1. A WHO report highlights the severity of India's Hepatitis challenge, with nearly 3 crore Hepatitis B patients and over 50 lakh Hepatitis C patients.
2. India has the second-highest burden of liver diseases in the world, with more than a lakh deaths in 2022 due to Hepatitis.
3. Less than 30% of Hepatitis C cases and less than 3% of Hepatitis B cases are detected.
4. The National Viral Hepatitis Control Programme (NVHCP) aims to eliminate Hepatitis C by 2030 and reduce morbidity and mortality associated with Hepatitis B.
5. WHO suggests that a course correction between 2024 and 2026 can bring NVHCP on track.
6. Hepatitis B and C are spread through contact with contaminated blood.
7. Hepatitis B can lead to liver scarring and increase the risk of cancer.
8. Diagnosis is complicated, as carriers can harbor the virus for years without showing symptoms.
9. There is no cure for Hepatitis B, but treatment can manage symptoms.
10. The NVHCP, initiated in 2018, provides free testing and medication, but has not reached most patients.
11. Rigorous blood screening protocols have reduced transfusion risks, but Hepatitis B is often passed from mother to child.
12. Vaccination can prevent Hepatitis B, but less than 50% of infants in India are vaccinated immediately after birth.
13. Hepatitis C is easier to treat, with anti-virals that can cure the disease and prevent liver damage.
14. Treatment costs for Hepatitis C in India are among the lowest in the world.
15. The high percentage of patients eluding the diagnostic network indicates a healthcare deficit that needs immediate attention.

Practice Exercise: SSC Pattern Based

1. **Which of the following statements is TRUE based on the WHO report regarding Hepatitis in India?** [Editorial Page]
 - A. India has the highest burden of Hepatitis B and C in the world, with more than 5 crore patients combined.
 - B. The National Viral Hepatitis Control Programme (NVHCP) aims to eliminate both Hepatitis B and C by 2030, with a significant reduction in associated morbidity and mortality.
 - C. Less than 30% of Hepatitis C cases and less than 3% of Hepatitis B cases are detected in India, highlighting a significant gap in the diagnostic ambit.
 - D. Hepatitis B is not a serious concern in India as it cannot lead to scarring of liver tissues or increase the risk of cancer.
2. **What is the tone of the line "According to WHO, treatment costs in India are amongst the lowest in the world. But 70 per cent patients eluding the diagnostic network speaks of a healthcare deficit that must be addressed immediately."?**
 - A. Critical
 - B. Optimistic
 - C. Indifferent
 - D. Pessimistic
3. **What is the main theme of the passage?**
 - A. The economic impact of Hepatitis in India
 - B. The challenges and strategies in controlling Hepatitis in India
 - C. The global efforts to eradicate Hepatitis
 - D. The role of WHO in healthcare management
4. **According to the passage, what is a crucial step that needs to be taken between 2024 and 2026 to ensure the success of the National Viral Hepatitis Control Programme (NVHCP)?**
 - A. The complete eradication of Hepatitis B and C from India by 2026.
 - B. A course correction that can bring the NVHCP on track to achieve its goals.
 - C. Increasing the detection rate of Hepatitis B and C cases to over 50%.
 - D. Launching a new initiative to replace the NVHCP with a more effective program.
5. **According to the passage, all of the following are true about the challenges of combating Hepatitis B in India EXCEPT that:**
 - A. The majority of Hepatitis B infections in India are transmitted from mother to child, highlighting the critical need for early infant vaccination.
 - B. Despite the availability of effective vaccinations, less than half of the infants in India receive their first vaccination shot immediately after birth, primarily due to the low rate of institutionalized births.
 - C. Rigorous blood screening protocols adopted over the past 20 years have been ineffective, as most Hepatitis B infections are now acquired through transfusions.
 - D. Informing community healthcare workers about vaccination protocols could potentially improve the effectiveness of the country's immunization regime against Hepatitis B

Direction (Q6 – Q10): Each of the following items in this section consists of a sentence, parts of which have been jumbled. These parts have been labelled as P, Q, R and S. Given below each sentence has four sequences, namely (A), (B), (C) and (D). You are required to re-arrange the Jumbled parts of the sentence and mark your response accordingly.

6. the Joe Biden administration is not doing (P)/ the spike in the deaths of Indian or Indian-origin (Q)/ students in the US this year indicates that (R)/ enough to halt the alarming attacks (S)
 - A. PQRS
 - B. RQPS
 - C. QPSR
 - D. QRPS
7. the Centre over disaster relief funds underscores (P)/ having to fight legal battles with (Q)/ a state grappling with the aftermath of natural calamities, (R)/ broader issues of governance and accountability (S)
 - A. PQRS
 - B. RQPS
 - C. QPSR
 - D. QRPS
8. the maiden ‘Parivartan Chintan’, a pioneering tri-service (P)/ conference held in New Delhi on Monday, (Q)/ is a major step towards achieving the twin goals (R)/ of jointness and integration in the armed forces (S)
 - A. RQPS
 - B. QPSR
 - C. QRPS
 - D. PQRS
9. at Bir Billing on Sunday underscores a grave concern — (P)/ the death of Ritu Chopra, a seasoned paragliding pilot, (Q)/ norms in paragliding activities (R)/ the lack of stringent enforcement of international safety (S)
 - A. QPSR
 - B. RQPS
 - C. PQRS
 - D. QRPS
10. the conflict between (P)/ the attack on officials of the National Investigation Agency (NIA) at Bhupatinagar (Q)/ in West Bengal’s East Midnapore district on April 6 has aggravated (R)/ the Centre and the state government (S)
 - A. RQPS
 - B. QPSR
 - C. PSQR
 - D. QRPS

Comprehension:

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

Science and technology stand as the twin engines _____1_____our nation towards progress, but they must address the needs of society. Science and technology serve as the driving force propelling our nation forward, _____2_____ the wheels of progress. However, the efficacy of these wheels determines the speed of our journey. Since independence, Bharat has experienced significant advancement, largely attributable _____3_____ strides in scientific innovation undertaken by our scientific community. This progress is _____4_____ across various sectors crucial to human life, including agriculture, food, healthcare, infrastructure, and communication. _____5_____, the translation of scientific innovations into societal benefits often encounters challenges, primarily due to a disconnect between scientific research and grassroots needs.

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

- A. Compelling
- B. Chilling
- C. Propelling
- D. Unwilling

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

- A. point to
- B. strip of
- C. able to
- D. akin to

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

- A. To
- B. For
- C. By
- D. With

14. **Select the most appropriate option to fill in blank number 4**

- A. Evident
- B. Equivalent
- C. Benevolent
- D. Intent

15. **Select the most appropriate option to fill in blank number 5**

- A. Furthermore
- B. Consequently
- C. Yet
- D. Therefore

16. **Select the option that can be used as a one-word substitute for the given phrase.**

Gradual recovery of health and strength

- A. Convalescence
- B. Potency
- C. Benefaction
- D. Rejuvenation

17. Select the most appropriate **ANTONYM** of the word given in brackets to fill in the blank.
The teacher could judge that his intentions were _____ (nefarious) so he was not stopped from entering the hall.
- A. pious
 - B. traitorous
 - C. envious
 - D. Perfidious
18. Select the **INCORRECTLY** spelt word.
- A. Arbitrary
 - B. Favourite
 - C. Agreement
 - D. Conviction
19. Select the most appropriate meaning of the given idiom.
On the ball
- A. Doing a job in a slow and incorrect manner
 - B. Doing a job in a quick and competent manner
 - C. Playing with a ball
 - D. Exercising using a ball
20. 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.
My students / had expect/ guidance from my end.
- A. had expect
 - B. guidance from my end
 - C. My students
 - D. No error
21. Select the option that can be used as a one-word substitute for the given group of words.
Capable of being bent or pulled into different shapes
- A. Lithe
 - B. Willowy
 - C. Ductile
 - D. Lissome
22. Select the option that expresses the given sentence in passive voice.
He didn't eat a single morsel of food at his daughter's wedding.
- A. A single morsel of food is not eaten by him at his daughter's wedding.
 - B. A single morsel of food was not eaten by him at his daughter's wedding.
 - C. A single morsel of food can not be eaten by him at his daughter's wedding.
 - D. A single morsel of food was not being eaten by him at his daughter's wedding.
23. Select the most appropriate **ANTONYM** of the underlined word.
My teacher accepted my excuse for being late.
- A. Trusted
 - B. Rejected

- C. Agreed
- D. Believed

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

A large cage, building, or enclosure to keep birds

- A. Aviary
- B. Burrow
- C. Apiary
- D. Dormitory

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

Disability was viewed as God's retribution for wickedness in the past.

- A. revenge for legal works
- B. punishment for wrongdoing
- C. payback for doing help
- D. fine for misbehavior

Answers

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

[\[Practice Exercise\]](#)

Explanations

- C) Less than 30% of Hepatitis C cases and less than 3% of Hepatitis B cases are detected in India, highlighting a significant gap in the diagnostic ambit.**

The passage states that less than 30% of Hepatitis C cases and less than 3% of Hepatitis B cases are detected in India, indicating a significant gap in diagnosis. Options A, B, and D are incorrect.
- A) Critical**

The tone of the line is critical, as it highlights a significant issue in the Indian healthcare system. While it acknowledges the low treatment costs, it emphasizes the concerning fact that 70% of patients are not being diagnosed, indicating a healthcare deficit that requires immediate attention.
- B) The challenges and strategies in controlling Hepatitis in India**

The main theme of the passage is the challenges and strategies in controlling Hepatitis in India. It discusses the burden of Hepatitis B and C in the country, the low detection rates, the goals of the National Viral Hepatitis Control Programme, and the importance of early vaccination and diagnosis to manage the disease effectively.
- B) A course correction that can bring the NVHCP on track to achieve its goals.**

The passage mentions that a "course correction between 2024 and 2026 can bring NVHCP on track," indicating that adjustments in the program's approach during this period are crucial for its success. Options A, C, and D are not supported by the passage.
- C) Rigorous blood screening protocols adopted over the past 20 years have been ineffective, as most Hepatitis B infections are now acquired through transfusions.**

The passage explicitly states that rigorous adoption of blood screening protocols in the past 20 years has substantially reduced the risks from transfusion, and most of the Hepatitis B infections in the country today are passed on from mother to child. This directly contradicts option C, which incorrectly asserts that most Hepatitis B infections are now acquired through transfusions and that blood screening has been ineffective. In reality, the passage suggests that blood screening has been a successful measure. Options A, B, and D accurately reflect points made in the passage regarding the transmission of Hepatitis B, the challenges of early vaccination, and the potential benefits of educating healthcare workers on vaccination protocols.
- D) QRPS**

Q starts with "the spike in the deaths," which introduces the main subject of the sentence.
 R follows Q because it continues the idea introduced in Q, specifying who the victims are ("students in the US") and indicating a cause-and-effect relationship ("indicates that").
 P follows R because it introduces the agent responsible for addressing the issue ("the Joe Biden administration") and what they are allegedly failing to do ("is not doing").
 S concludes the sentence by specifying what the administration is not doing enough of ("enough to halt the alarming attacks").
- B) RQPS**

R is first because it introduces the main subject of the sentence, which is "A state grappling with the aftermath of natural calamities."

Q comes after R because it continues the description of the state's situation by adding the detail of "having to fight legal battles with the Centre over disaster relief funds." This part is logically connected to the state's struggles mentioned in R.

P is placed after Q because it provides further information about the legal battles mentioned in Q. It specifies that these battles are "over disaster relief funds," which is a direct continuation of the thought.

S comes after P because it concludes the sentence by stating the implication of the state's struggles, which is that they "underscore broader issues of governance and accountability."

8. D) PQRS

P - "the maiden 'Parivartan Chintan', a pioneering tri-service" is the introductory that sets the context for the sentence. It introduces the subject, which is the 'Parivartan Chintan' conference.

Q - "conference held in New Delhi on Monday," follows the introduction of the conference, providing specific details about where and when it was held.

R - "is a major step towards achieving the twin goals" follows the description of the conference and introduces the significance of the event.

S - "of jointness and integration in the armed forces" completes the sentence by specifying what the twin goals mentioned in part R are.

9. A) QPSR

Q: This part introduces the main subject of the sentence, which is the death of Ritu Chopra.

P: This part provides additional information about the event (Ritu Chopra's death) and introduces the main idea of the sentence, which is a "grave concern." The phrase "underscores a grave concern" connects the event to its implications.

S: This part introduces the specific concern that is being underscored, which is the lack of stringent enforcement of international safety norms.

R: This part completes the sentence by specifying the area where the lack of enforcement is a concern, which is "in paragliding activities."

10. D) QRPS

Q: This part introduces the main event that is being discussed in the sentence.

R: (R) follows Q because it provides additional details about the event, such as its location and date. Moreover, the word "aggravated" indicates a worsening or escalation, which sets up the context for a conflict or problem that follows

P: (P) comes after R because the word "aggravated" in R suggests that something has worsened, and P introduces what that something is – a conflict.

S: (S) follows P because P introduces a conflict, and S specifies the parties involved in that conflict. It completes the sentence by providing the necessary detail about who is in conflict.

11. C) Propelling' का use होगा क्योंकि "propelling" का अर्थ होता है किसी चीज़ को आगे बढ़ाना या

धकेलना। sentence में कहा गया है कि विज्ञान और प्रौद्योगिकी हमारे देश को प्रगति की ओर धकेल रहे

हैं, इसलिए 'propelling' यहाँ सही है। जबकि 'Compelling' का अर्थ है मजबूर करना, 'Chilling' का अर्थ है

ठंडा करना या डराना, और 'Unwilling' का अर्थ है अनिच्छुक होना, जो इस context में सही नहीं है।

'Propelling' will be used because it means to drive or push something forward. The sentence states that science and technology are propelling our nation towards progress, making 'propelling' the correct choice. Whereas, 'Compelling' means to force, 'Chilling' means to cool or frighten, and 'Unwilling' means reluctant, which don't fit in this context.

12. D) "akin to" का use होगा क्योंकि "akin to" का अर्थ होता है किसी चीज़ के समान होना या उससे मिलता-जुलता होना। Sentence में mention किया गया है कि विज्ञान और प्रौद्योगिकी प्रगति के पहियों की तरह हैं, इसलिए 'akin to' यहाँ सही है। जबकि 'point to' का अर्थ है किसी दिशा में इंगित करना, 'strip of' का अर्थ है किसी चीज़ से वंचित करना, और 'able to' का अर्थ है किसी कार्य को करने में सक्षम होना, जो इस context में सही नहीं है।

"akin to" will be used because "akin to" means being similar to or akin to something. The sentence mentions that science and technology are like the wheels of progress, making 'akin to' fitting here. Whereas, 'point to' means to indicate a direction, 'strip of' means to deprive something of, and 'able to' means being capable of performing a task, which don't fit in this context.

13. A) 'Attributable to' का उपयोग होगा जिसका अर्थ होता है किसी चीज़ का कारण या उत्पत्ति होना। वाक्य में कहा गया है कि भारत की प्रगति का बड़ा हिस्सा वैज्ञानिक समुदाय द्वारा किए गए वैज्ञानिक नवाचारों के कारण है, इसलिए 'attributable to' यहाँ सही है। 'For' का उपयोग किसी चीज़ के उद्देश्य या कारण के लिए किया जाता है, 'in' का उपयोग स्थान या समय के संदर्भ में किया जाता है, और 'with' का उपयोग साथी या उपकरण के संदर्भ में किया जाता है, जो इस संदर्भ में सही नहीं हैं।

'Attributable to' will be used because it means being the cause or origin of something. The sentence states that a significant part of India's progress is due to scientific innovations made by our scientific community, making 'attributable to' fitting here. 'For' is used for the purpose or reason of something, 'in' is used in the context of location or time, and 'with' is used in the context of companionship or instruments, which are not correct in this context.

14. A) 'Evident' का उपयोग होगा क्योंकि "evident" का अर्थ होता है स्पष्ट या दिखाई देने वाला। वाक्य में उल्लेख किया गया है कि प्रगति विभिन्न क्षेत्रों में स्पष्ट है, इसलिए 'evident' यहाँ सही है। जबकि 'Equivalent' का अर्थ है समान, 'Benevolent' का अर्थ है दयालु, और 'Intent' का अर्थ है इरादा, जो इस संदर्भ में सही नहीं हैं।

'Evident' will be used because it means clear or visible. The sentence mentions that progress is evident across various sectors, making 'evident' fitting here. Whereas, 'Equivalent' means equal, 'Benevolent' means kind, and 'Intent' means purpose, which don't fit in this context.

15. C) Yet' का use होगा क्योंकि यहाँ पर एक contrast दिखाया जा रहा है कि विज्ञान और प्रौद्योगिकी के क्षेत्र में भारत ने प्रगति की है, लेकिन इस प्रगति का समाज पर सीधा प्रभाव नहीं पड़ रहा है। 'Yet' का अर्थ होता है 'फिर भी' जो यहाँ पर सही बैठता है। 'Furthermore' का अर्थ होता है 'इसके अलावा', 'Consequently' का अर्थ होता है 'परिणामस्वरूप', और 'Therefore' का अर्थ होता है 'इसलिए', जो इस context में सही नहीं हैं।

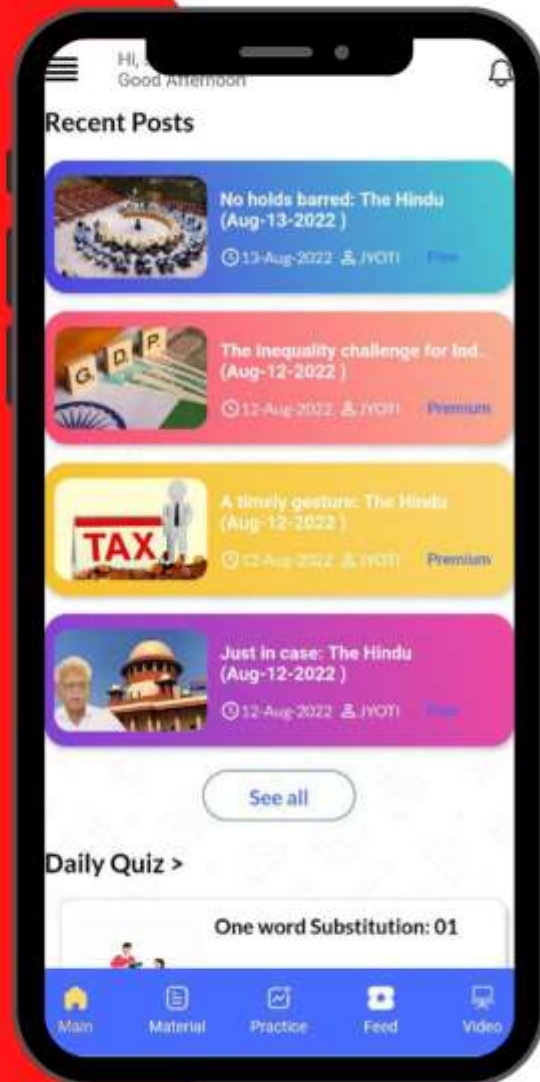
'Yet' will be used because it shows a contrast between the progress made in science and technology in India and the direct impact of this progress on society. 'Yet' means 'nevertheless' or 'despite this', which fits well here. 'Furthermore' means 'in addition', 'Consequently' means 'as a result', and 'Therefore' means 'for that reason', which don't fit in this context.

16. A) **Convalescence** (noun) – The time spent recovering from an illness or medical treatment; gradual recovery of health and strength. स्वास्थ्यलाभावधि

- **Potency** (noun) – The power of something to influence or make an impact. शक्ति
 - **Benefaction** (noun) – A donation or gift, especially one made to a charity. दान
 - **Rejuvenation** (noun) – The action or process of making someone or something look or feel better, younger, or more vital. पुनर्जीवन/ कायाकल्प
17. A) **Nefarious** (adjective) – Wicked, evil, sinful, iniquitous. दुष्ट
Antonym: Pious (adjective) – Devout, religious, spiritual, godly. धार्मिक
- **Traitorous** (adjective) – Treacherous, betraying, disloyal, perfidious. विश्वासघाती
 - **Envious** (adjective) – Jealous, desirous, resentful, covetous. ईर्ष्या
 - **Perfidious** (adjective) – Treacherous, untrustworthy, deceitful, disloyal. विश्वासघाती
18. C) The incorrectly spelled word among the given options is 'Agreement'. The correct spelling is 'Agreement'. This word means "a mutual understanding or arrangement" or "a contract or document outlining such an understanding" समझौता, अनुबंध।
19. B) **On the ball** (idiom) – Doing a job in a quick and competent manner त्वरित और सक्षम तरीके से कार्य करना
20. A) **'had expect'** के बदले **'had expected'** का प्रयोग होगा क्योंकि **'had'** के साथ Past Perfect tense में main verb का past participle form प्रयोग होता है।
- **'had expected'** will be used instead of **'had expect'** because with **'had'**, the main verb in Past Perfect tense should be in its past participle form.
21. C) **Ductile** (noun) – (of a metal) able to be drawn out into a thin wire. कोमल, तार खींचने योग्य
- **Lithe** (adjective) – (especially of a person's body) thin, supple, and graceful. लचीला
 - **Willowy** (adjective) – (of a person) tall, slim, and lithe. दुबला
 - **Lissome** (adjective) – (of a person or their body) thin, supple, and graceful. लचीला, लचकदार
22. B) A single morsel of food was not eaten by him at his daughter's wedding.
23. B) **Accepted** (verb) – Consented to receive, gave approval to, acknowledged. स्वीकार करना
Antonym: Rejected (verb) – Dismissed, refused, declined, turned down. अस्वीकार करना
- **Trusted** (verb) – Had faith in, believed in, relied on. विश्वास किया
 - **Agreed** (verb) – Had the same opinion, consented, concurred. सहमत होना
 - **Believed** (verb) – Accepted as true, felt sure of the truth of. माना
24. A) **Aviary** (noun) – A large cage, building, or enclosure to keep birds पक्षीशाला
- **Burrow** (noun) – A hole or tunnel dug by a small animal, especially a rabbit, as a dwelling. बिल/ सुरंग
 - **Apiary** (noun) – A place where bees are kept; a collection of beehives. मधुमक्खी पालन गृह
 - **Dormitory** (noun) – A large bedroom for a number of people in a school or institution. शयनागार

25. B) Given the context of the sentence, the most suitable substitute for "retribution for wickedness" is "punishment for wrongdoing", which means that option B is the correct answer.

- **Retribution** (noun) – punishment that is considered to be morally right and fully deserved दंड
- **Revenge** (noun) – the action of hurting or harming someone in return for an injury or wrong बदला
- **Payback** (noun) – an act of retaliation; getting back at someone प्रतिशोध
- **Fine** (noun) – a sum of money to be paid as a penalty जुर्माना



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