

## AstraZeneca withdraws vaccine: No need to panic

Ten days after AstraZeneca **admitted** side effects of its Covid vaccine in rare cases, the company has **withdrawn** the shots, renamed Vaxzveria in 2021, from the global market. It has **cited** a “surplus of available updated vaccines” that target new **variants** of the virus as the reason for its decision. The vaccine **major’s** moves have generated negative **sentiments bordering on** panic, including among some people in India where AstraZeneca partnered with the Serum Institute of India to develop Covishield — the **bulwark** of the country’s fight against Covid. Such responses might not be surprising **given** that social media is the prime source of information for a **sizable** section and the **means to distinguish** science from **pseudoscience** are not always **at hand**. But **knee-jerk reactions** from other quarters **have** also not helped. Especially unfortunate are the politically loaded comments about Covishield during the Lok Sabha election campaigns.

The **emergency** created by an unknown **contagion required due** procedures — including clinical trials — and schedules to be compressed. But the crisis also **galvanised** scientists, medical experts and **policymakers** to **push the frontiers of** their **disciplines** and **domains**. **Vaccine hesitancy** tested the **persuasion** skills of local officials and healthcare workers. It’s a **testimony** to such initiatives that social and economic activities return to **normalcy** about two years after the virus **unleashed** its **virulence**. Vaccination ensured that the contagion took on a significantly less aggressive form after the **lethal** second wave in the summer of 2021 — when the **bulk** of the country’s population **had** not received the shots. **Hospitalisation** and **fatality** rates remained low even during periods of **spike** in infection after the second wave.

Covid **inoculation drives** are now subjects of **intensive** research. That’s how it should be. These studies help generate **nuanced** information about the safety and **efficacy** of the vaccines, that could not have been generated with the volunteer size of the trials. Scientists can today **draw on** databases that comprise **inoculated** people across nations and continents. Besides helping **epidemiologists** understand how the **jabs** work on **diverse** sections of people, and **reaffirming** the **potency** of the shots, such studies **shine the light on** rare **adverse** reactions, including thrombosis and thrombocytopenia Syndrome (TTS) — **blood clots** and low levels of platelets — **associated** with the AstraZeneca vaccine. Such research will help vaccine developers refine their methods. **Technologies** used in the Covid jabs — whether the viral vector of AstraZeneca or the mRNA technique of some other developers — **are** part of a larger battle against **infectious** diseases. **Alarmist** reactions against the Covid jabs could **raise the head of** vaccine hesitancy and hurt the fight against other contagions.

- **Means** (noun) – Channel, medium, way, method, instrument मध्यम [\[Practice exercise\]](#)
- Red/blue coloring of words in the sentence indicates subject verb relationship; where ‘red’ denotes ‘subject’ and ‘blue’ denotes ‘verb’.

## Vocabulary

1. **Admit** (verb) – Confess, acknowledge, concede, accept, admit स्वीकार करना
2. **Withdraw** (verb) – Retract, remove, pull out, take back, recall वापस लेना
3. **Cite** (verb) – Mention, quote, refer to, adduce, specify हवाला देना
4. **Variant** (noun) – Version, form, type, strain, mutation प्रकार
5. **The Major** (noun) – a major organization
6. **Sentiment** (noun) – Feeling, emotion, view, opinion, attitude भावना
7. **Border on** (phrasal verb) – Approach, verge on, resemble, be similar to, be close to लगा हुआ होना
8. **Bulwark** (noun) – Defense, protection, safeguard, barrier, shield सुरक्षा कवच
9. **Given** (preposition) – Considering, taking into account, in view of, with regard to, due to देखते हुए
10. **Sizable** (adjective) – Large, substantial, considerable, significant, extensive बड़ा
11. **Distinguish** (verb) – Differentiate, discern, recognize, identify, distinguish अंतर करना
12. **Pseudoscience** (noun) – A collection of beliefs or practices mistakenly regarded as being based on scientific method.
13. **At hand** (phrase) – Available, accessible, nearby, within reach, ready उपलब्ध
14. **Knee-jerk reaction** (noun) – a quick reaction that does not allow you time to consider something carefully तत्काल प्रतिक्रिया
15. **Contagion** (noun) – Infection, disease, virus, spread, transmission संक्रमण
16. **Due** (adjective) – Appropriate, suitable, fitting, proper, correct उचित
17. **Galvanise** (verb) – Stimulate, energize, excite, motivate, spur प्रेरित करना
18. **Policymaker** (noun) – Official, regulator, legislator, administrator, decision-maker नीति निर्माता
19. **Push the frontier of** (phrase) – Extend the boundaries, innovate, pioneer, advance, expand सीमा का विस्तार करना
20. **Discipline** (noun) – Field, area of study; a branch of knowledge, typically one studied in higher education. अनुशासन
21. **Domain** (noun) – Area, field, sphere, realm, territory क्षेत्र
22. **Vaccine hesitancy** (noun) – Reluctance or refusal to be vaccinated or to have one's children vaccinated. वैक्सीन को लेकर हिचकिचाहट

23. **Persuasion** (noun) – Convincing, influence, inducement, suasion, argumentation  
समझाने की कला
24. **Testimony** (noun) – Evidence, witness, proof, declaration, statement साक्ष्य/ सबूत
25. **Normalcy** (noun) – Normality, regularity, routine, the usual, standard condition  
सामान्यता
26. **Unleash** (verb) – release, free, let loose; to let happen or begin something powerful that, once begun, cannot be controlled शुरू करना
27. **Virulence** (noun) – Potency, toxicity, harmfulness, deadliness, aggressiveness  
उग्रता
28. **Lethal** (adjective) – Deadly, fatal, mortal, deathly, murderous घातक
29. **Hospitalisation** (noun) – Admission, treatment, care, stay in hospital अस्पताल में भर्ती
30. **Fatality rate** (noun) – Death rate, mortality rate, lethality rate, case fatality rate मृत्यु दर
31. **Spike** (noun) – Surge, increase, rise, jump, peak उछाल
32. **Inoculation** (noun) – Vaccination, immunization, injection, shot, jab टीकाकरण
33. **Drive** (noun) – Campaign, initiative, movement, push, effort अभियान
34. **Intensive** (adjective) – Concentrated, thorough, in-depth, exhaustive, rigorous  
गहन
35. **Nuanced** (adjective) – Subtle, refined, sophisticated, detailed, intricate सूक्ष्म
36. **Efficacy** (noun) – Effectiveness, potency, power, efficiency, capability प्रभावकारिता
37. **Draw on** (phrasal verb) – Use, utilize, employ, rely on, resort to उपयोग करना
38. **Inoculated** (adjective) – Vaccinated, immunized, treated, protected टीकाकृत
39. **Epidemiologist** (noun) – Specialist in disease patterns, public health scientist, disease researcher महामारी विज्ञानी
40. **Jab** (noun) – Injection, shot, vaccine, needle, dose इंजेक्शन
41. **Diverse** (adjective) – Varied, different, various, assorted, multiple विविध
42. **Reaffirm** (verb) – Confirm, reassert, restate, reaffirm, reiterate पुनः पुष्टि करना
43. **Potency** (noun) – Strength, power, effectiveness, force, vigor शक्ति
44. **Shine the light on** (phrase) – Highlight, illuminate, clarify, reveal, expose प्रकाश डालना
45. **Adverse** (adjective) – Negative, unfavorable, harmful, detrimental, deleterious प्रतिकूल

46. **Blood clot** (noun) – Thrombus, coagulation, clotting, congealment, clump  
रक्त का थक्का
47. **Associated** (with) (adjective) – Connected, linked, related, affiliated, coupled संबद्ध
48. **Infectious** (adjective) – Contagious, communicable, transmittable, spreadable, catching संक्रामक
49. **Alarmist** (adjective) – Fearmongering, scaremongering, panicky, sensational, exaggerative आतंक फैलाने वाला
50. **Raise the head of** (phrase) – Cause to emerge, lead to the rise of, provoke, bring about उभरना

## Summary of the Editorial

1. **AstraZeneca's Withdrawal:** AstraZeneca has withdrawn its Covid vaccine, Vaxzveria, formerly known as the AstraZeneca vaccine, from the global market.
2. **Reason for Withdrawal:** The company cited the availability of newer vaccines targeting recent variants as the primary reason for discontinuing Vaxzveria.
3. **Admission of Side Effects:** The withdrawal comes ten days after the company acknowledged rare side effects associated with the vaccine.
4. **Impact on Public Sentiment:** The announcement has triggered widespread negative sentiment and near-panic, particularly noticeable on social media.
5. **Situation in India:** In India, where AstraZeneca collaborated with the Serum Institute to produce Covishield, the reaction has been significant, partly due to the vaccine's pivotal role in India's Covid response.
6. **Political Repercussions:** The situation has been further complicated by politically charged comments during the Lok Sabha election campaigns.
7. **Historical Context:** Initially, the urgency of the pandemic required fast-tracking clinical trials and other procedures, which was a challenge globally.
8. **Scientific and Policy Response:** The crisis prompted a collaborative effort among scientists, medical professionals, and policymakers, pushing the boundaries of their fields.
9. **Vaccine Hesitancy Challenges:** Overcoming vaccine hesitancy was a critical task, handled effectively by local officials and healthcare workers.
10. **Return to Normalcy:** About two years post-outbreak, social and economic activities began returning to normal, facilitated by widespread vaccination.
11. **Reduction in Severity:** Post-vaccination, the virus's impact lessened significantly, with lower hospitalization and fatality rates even during infection spikes.
12. **Ongoing Research:** Current extensive research on Covid vaccination drives is shedding light on vaccine safety and efficacy that was unattainable during initial trials.
13. **Global Data Utilization:** Researchers are utilizing global databases of vaccinated individuals to understand vaccine effects across diverse populations.
14. **Revealing Rare Reactions:** These studies help identify rare but serious side effects, such as thrombosis and thrombocytopenia Syndrome (TTS), linked to the AstraZeneca vaccine.
15. **Future of Vaccine Technologies:** The experiences and technologies, including viral vector and mRNA platforms, are vital in the ongoing battle against infectious diseases and addressing vaccine hesitancy.

### Practice Exercise: SSC Pattern Based

1. **What was the primary reason cited by AstraZeneca for withdrawing its Covid vaccine, Vaxzveria, from the global market?** [Editorial Page]
  - A. To address the vaccine's widespread side effects.
  - B. To reformulate the vaccine to improve efficacy.
  - C. Due to a surplus of updated vaccines targeting new variants.
  - D. Pressure from political comments during the Lok Sabha election.
2. **Which of the following sequences correctly represents the timeline of events as described in the passage regarding AstraZeneca's vaccine?**
  - A. AstraZeneca partners with Serum Institute of India -> Vaccine renamed Vaxzveria -> Vaccine withdrawal.
  - B. Vaccine withdrawal -> Vaccine renamed Vaxzveria -> AstraZeneca partners with Serum Institute of India.
  - C. Vaccine renamed Vaxzveria -> AstraZeneca partners with Serum Institute of India -> Vaccine withdrawal.
  - D. AstraZeneca partners with Serum Institute of India -> Vaccine withdrawal -> Vaccine renamed Vaxzveria.
3. **Which of the following statements accurately reflects the impact of continuous research on Covid vaccinations as discussed in the passage?**
  - A. Intensive research on Covid vaccines has been shown to decrease the global vaccination rates due to increased public fear.
  - B. Studies on Covid vaccines primarily focus on disproving the efficacy and safety of the vaccines.
  - C. Intensive research helps identify rare adverse reactions like thrombosis and thrombocytopenia Syndrome (TTS) associated with vaccines.
  - D. The AstraZeneca vaccine has been proven completely safe in all sections of the population without any side effects
4. **What is the tone of the passage regarding the withdrawal of the AstraZeneca vaccine?**
  - A. Alarmist
  - B. Optimistic
  - C. Analytical
  - D. Indifferent
5. **Based on the passage, what could be an inferred impact of alarmist reactions against Covid vaccinations?**
  - A. They may lead to a stronger public trust in vaccine safety and effectiveness.
  - B. They will ensure a faster refinement of vaccine development technologies.
  - C. Alarmist reactions are likely to increase the volunteer size for future vaccine trials.
  - D. They could contribute to a rise in vaccine hesitancy, potentially hampering efforts against other infectious diseases.
6. **What is the main theme of the passage?**
  - A. The political impact of vaccines

- B. The importance of scientific perspective in vaccine development and public reaction
- C. The economic effects of Covid-19
- D. The role of social media in spreading misinformation

**Comprehension:**

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

The Centre's fiscal deficit, or the gap between the Union Government's receipts and expenditure, \_\_\_\_\_ 1 \_\_\_\_\_ widened sharply from about ₹11 lakh crore by January to ₹15 lakh crore at the end of February. This represents the deficit moving up from 63.6% of the revised target of ₹17.3 lakh crore to 86.5% within 29 days. This is a significantly \_\_\_\_\_ 2 \_\_\_\_\_ trajectory compared with last year — the deficit target was ₹17.55 lakh crore in 2022-23, it stood at 67.6% of target by January and reached 82.6% in February when the deficit rose ₹2.3 lakh crore. Eventually, last year's fiscal gap was ₹17.33 lakh crore, virtually the same as this year's goal. A couple of factors partially explain the February deficit spurt. One, the Centre transferred around ₹2.15 lakh crore to States through two instalments of their tax devolution share, \_\_\_\_\_ 3 \_\_\_\_\_ just ₹1.4 lakh crore last year. Second, capital expenditure which had \_\_\_\_\_ 4 \_\_\_\_\_ to ₹47,600 crore this January, was scaled up to ₹84,400 crore, over four times February 2023's capex outlay. Capex will have to further rise to ₹1.4 lakh crore in March to meet the government's ₹10 lakh crore target, but the implementation of the Model Code of Conduct for the Lok Sabha polls mid-way through the month could temper the number a bit.

7. **Select the most appropriate option to fill in blank number 1.**
  - A. Were
  - B. Was
  - C. Have
  - D. Has
8. **Select the most appropriate option to fill in blank number 2.**
  - A. Bumpier
  - B. Easier
  - C. Bumps
  - D. Bump
9. **Select the most appropriate option to fill in blank number 3.**
  - A. as opposed to
  - B. In terms of
  - C. stay abreast of
  - D. set up
10. **Select the most appropriate option to fill in blank number 4**
  - A. Lodged
  - B. Paved
  - C. Recede
  - D. Slumped

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

- P. Every time I have travelled to rural India, I have been astounded by how much the people of urban
  - Q. These necessities remain a dream for some people, as I learned recently
  - R. while travelling in north Maharashtra, a State known to be progressive
  - S. India take access to basic necessities for granted
- A. RSPQ
  - B. QPRS
  - C. PSQR
  - D. RQPS

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

- A. The recent surge, prompting the deployment of the Army, underscores the severity of the situation.
  - B. With 31 fire incidents being reported within a span of 24 hours last week, Chief Minister Pushkar Singh Dhami's acknowledgment of the enormity of the challenge must be backed by decisive action.
  - C. Since November last year, Uttarakhand has recorded hundreds of forest fire incidents, resulting in the destruction of around 700 hectares of forest land.
  - D. The raging infernos engulfing Uttarakhand's forests have again turned the spotlight on the perennial problem of forest fires in India.
  - E. Every year, these blazes not only devour precious green cover but also pose a grave threat to human settlements, wildlife and the fragile ecosystem.
- A. DECAB
  - B. CBDEA
  - C. CABED
  - D. CBEDA

13. 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. Last year, an incident of a frantic mother who had received an ominous call from "kidnappers.
  - b. " who had 'kidnapped' her daughter, raised an alarm in the U.S. Senate about the detrimental impact of artificial intelligence.
  - c. The news took the nation by a storm as the said "kidnappers" and the daughter's voice were nothing but hackers utilising generative AI to extort money.
  - d. With such instances on the rise, the human perception of what is real and what is merely generative AI is slowly eroding.
- A. d, b, a, c
  - B. c, a, b, d
  - C. a, b, c, d



D. a, c, b, d

14. Select the **INCORRECTLY** spelt word.

- A. Infer
- B. Neutral
- C. Apprehensive
- D. Maintanence

15. **Parts of the following sentence have been given as options. One of them may contain an error. Select the option that contains the error. If you don't find any error, mark 'No error' as your answer.**

By virtue off the power given to the leader, the followers accepted his decision

- A. No error
- B. By virtue off
- C. the power given to the leader
- D. the followers accepted his decision

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

Education gives people the knowledge and skills they need to stay healthy, get jobs and foster tolerance.

- A. entrench
- B. distrust
- C. lethargy
- D. Endurance

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

The doctor reassured Raman that the lump was benign, which brought immense relief to both him and his family

- A. Harsh
- B. Rugged
- C. Malignant
- D. Healthy

18. **Parts of a sentence are given below in jumbled order. Arrange the parts in the correct order to form a meaningful sentence.**

- A. disrupted, posing major threats to progress
- B. global health systems have been
- C. health services have been
- D. overwhelmed and many essential
- E. in fighting other deadly diseases

- A. BECDA
- B. EADCB
- C. BDCAE
- D. DEABC

19. **Select the most appropriate option that can substitute the underlined segment in the following sentence.**

- As the orchestra began to play, the audience was transported to another world, **enthralled by the psychological effects** of the music and the skill of the musicians, who performed each note with precision and passion.
- A. influenced by the overall scenario  
B. impacted by feelings  
C. swept away by the emotive power  
D. taken in by the effect on emotions
20. Select the option that can be used as a **one-word substitute** for the given group of words.  
A person who is against the use of violence and war to settle disputes
- A. Fatalist  
B. Hedonist  
C. Pacifist  
D. Misogynist
21. **Identity the correct spelling of the underlined word.**  
Alcohol causes **intocsication**.
- A. intoxication  
B. intaxicasion  
C. entoxkation  
D. Intakcication
22. **Parts of a sentence are given below in jumbled order. Arrange the parts in the correct order to form a meaningful sentence.**
- P. so they design the advertisement of products in such a way  
Q. the main target consumers of food companies  
R. that consumers are stimulated to buy them repeatedly  
S. are children and youth of the country
- A. QRSP  
B. RPQS  
C. PRQS  
D. QSPR
23. **Parts of the following sentence have been given as options. Select the option that contains an error.**  
The team of scientists were conducting experiments to test their hypothesis.
- A. experiments to test  
B. The team of scientists  
C. their hypothesis  
D. were conducting
24. **Parts of a sentence are given below in jumbled order. Arrange the parts in the correct order to form a meaningful sentence.**
- P. due to the lofty hilly terrain, curves and cliffs  
Q. the route to Badrinath  
R. is one of the most arduous one  
S. amidst the most scenically beautiful place on the earth

- A. QRPS
- B. QSPR
- C. PRSQ
- D. PQRS

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

Fixation

- A. Formulation
- B. Indifference
- C. Inclination
- D. Reformation

## Answers

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

**[Practice Exercise]**

## Explanations

1. **C) Due to a surplus of updated vaccines targeting new variants.**

A is incorrect because the passage does not mention that widespread side effects were the reason for withdrawal; it specifies the side effects were rare.

B is incorrect as the passage does not suggest that AstraZeneca planned to reformulate the vaccine, but rather it has withdrawn it completely.

C is correct as per the passage which states that AstraZeneca cited a "surplus of available updated vaccines" that target new variants as the reason for withdrawal.

D is incorrect because although there were politically loaded comments about Covishield, these were not cited as a reason for the vaccine's withdrawal.

2. **A) AstraZeneca partners with Serum Institute of India -> Vaccine renamed Vaxzveria -> Vaccine withdrawal.**

A is correct as it follows the order mentioned in the passage: AstraZeneca first partnered with the Serum Institute of India to develop Covishield, the vaccine was later renamed Vaxzveria in 2021, and subsequently, it was withdrawn from the market.

B is incorrect because it suggests that the vaccine was withdrawn before it was renamed, which contradicts the timeline given.

C is incorrect as it places the renaming before the partnership with the Serum Institute of India, which is not supported by the passage.

D is incorrect as it suggests the vaccine was withdrawn before it was renamed, which is out of order according to the passage.

3. **C) Intensive research helps identify rare adverse reactions like thrombosis and thrombocytopenia Syndrome (TTS) associated with vaccines.**

A is incorrect because the passage does not state that research decreases vaccination rates; it emphasizes the importance of research in generating nuanced information.

B is incorrect as it falsely represents the goal of research; the passage highlights that research helps understand vaccine safety and efficacy, not disprove it.

C is correct as it directly aligns with the passage's mention of research shining light on rare adverse reactions like TTS.

D is incorrect as the passage indicates the presence of side effects like blood clots and low levels of platelets, not universal safety.

4. **C) Analytical**

A: Incorrect because the passage aims to analyze the situation from a scientific perspective, advising against alarmist views.

B: Incorrect as the passage does not express a hopeful or positive outlook; it instead focuses on a rational analysis of events and responses.

- C: Correct because the tone is methodical and factual, focusing on the scientific analysis of the vaccine's side effects and public reactions.
- D: Incorrect because the passage shows concern and engagement with the topic, which is the opposite of indifference.
5. **D) They could contribute to a rise in vaccine hesitancy, potentially hampering efforts against other infectious diseases.**
- A is incorrect because alarmist reactions generally decrease trust in vaccine safety and efficacy, not increase it.
- B is incorrect because while alarmist reactions highlight issues that need addressing, they do not directly ensure technological refinement; they potentially delay it by fostering hesitancy.
- C is incorrect as there is no indication that alarmist reactions would motivate more people to volunteer for trials; typically, negative publicity has the opposite effect.
- D is correct as the passage suggests that alarmist reactions could raise the head of vaccine hesitancy, which may negatively impact other public health efforts.
6. **B) The importance of scientific perspective in vaccine development and public reaction**
- A: Incorrect because although the passage mentions political comments, it does not focus on the political impacts of vaccines as its central theme.
- B: Correct because the passage centers around understanding vaccine reactions and public sentiment through a scientific lens, urging a non-alarmist approach.
- C: Incorrect as the economic effects of Covid-19 are not a focal point in this discussion.
- D: Incorrect because, while social media's role is mentioned, it is not the central theme; rather, it is part of a broader discussion on public perception and scientific understanding.
7. D) 'Has' का use होगा क्योंकि 'fiscal deficit' singular है और present perfect tense में 'has' का प्रयोग किया जाता है। Sentence में कहा गया है कि फिस्कल डेफिसिट बढ़ गई है, जो एक ongoing action को दर्शाता है और इसलिए 'has' यहाँ सही है। 'Were' और 'was' का इस्तेमाल past tense में होता है, और 'have' plural subjects के साथ इस्तेमाल होता है, जो इस context में सही नहीं है।
- 'Has' will be used because 'fiscal deficit' is singular and the present perfect tense uses 'has'. The sentence indicates that the fiscal deficit has widened, showing an ongoing action, making 'has' appropriate here. 'Were' and 'was' are used in past tense, and 'have' is used with plural subjects, which don't fit in this context.
8. A) 'Bumpier' का use होगा क्योंकि "bumpier" का अर्थ होता है अधिक मुश्किल या असमान प्रगति। Sentence में mention किया गया है कि राजकोषीय घाटे में वृद्धि की गति पिछले साल की तुलना में ज्यादा कठिन थी, जो कि इस साल भी उसी लक्ष्य के करीब है। जबकि 'Easier' का अर्थ है ज्यादा आसान, 'Bumps' का अर्थ है अड़चनें (noun के रूप में), और 'Bump' का अर्थ है टक्कर (noun or verb के रूप में), जो इस context में सही नहीं है।
- 'Bumpier' will be used because it means more difficult or uneven progress. The sentence mentions that the pace of increase in the fiscal deficit was more challenging compared to last

year, which is also close to this year's target. Whereas, 'Easier' means more easy, 'Bumps' means obstacles (as a noun), and 'Bump' means a collision (as a noun or verb), which don't fit in this context.

9. A) 'As opposed to' का उपयोग होगा क्योंकि यह दो स्थितियों या मात्राओं के बीच तुलना दिखाने के लिए प्रयुक्त होता है। passage में mention है कि केंद्र ने इस वर्ष राज्यों को उनके कर वितरण हिस्से के रूप में लगभग ₹2.15 लाख करोड़ ट्रांसफर किए, जबकि पिछले वर्ष यह केवल ₹1.4 लाख करोड़ था। 'In terms of' का प्रयोग संदर्भ के अनुसार कुछ विशेषता या वर्णन करने के लिए होता है, जो यहाँ उपयुक्त नहीं है। 'Stay abreast of' का अर्थ होता है नवीनतम जानकारी या विकास के साथ अपडेट रहना, जो इस संदर्भ में सही नहीं है। 'Set up' का अर्थ है स्थापित करना या तैयार करना, जो यहाँ बिल्कुल भी appropriate नहीं है।

'As opposed to' will be used because it serves to indicate a comparison between two situations or amounts. The passage describes that this year the Centre transferred around ₹2.15 lakh crore to States as their tax devolution share, as opposed to just ₹1.4 lakh crore last year. 'In terms of' is used to describe a particular characteristic in context, which doesn't fit here. 'Stay abreast of' means to keep up-to-date with the latest information or developments, which is incorrect in this context. 'Set up' means to establish or arrange, which is completely inappropriate here.

10. D) 'Slumped' का use होगा क्योंकि "slumped" का अर्थ होता है तेजी से गिरावट आना। Passage में बताया गया है कि January में capital expenditure तेजी से गिरकर ₹47,600 crore हो गया था और फिर February में इसे बढ़ाया गया, इसलिए 'slumped' यहाँ सही है। जबकि 'Lodged' का अर्थ होता है ठहराव, 'Paved' का अर्थ है मार्ग प्रशस्त करना, और 'Recede' का अर्थ है पीछे हटना, जो इस context में सही नहीं है।

'Slumped' will be used because it means a sharp fall. The passage indicates that the capital expenditure dramatically dropped to ₹47,600 crore in January, then was increased in February, making 'slumped' appropriate here. Whereas, 'Lodged' implies a fixed position, 'Paved' means to make a path easier, and 'Recede' means to move back or decline, which don't fit in this context.

11. C) **PSQR**

P: Sentence P is the introductory sentence, setting the context of the author's experiences traveling in rural India. It introduces the subject (author's astonishment)

S: Sentence S follows P logically because it completes the idea started in P. The phrase in P, "the people of urban," is hanging without S, as "India" in S is what "urban" was modifying.

Q: While Sentence S describes the complacency of urban residents regarding basic necessities, Q highlights the lack of these necessities for some people – presumably, the rural populace mentioned in P

R: Sentence R provides specific context or an example to the general observation made in Q.

12. A) **DECAB**

**D:** This sentence introduces the main topic of the paragraph, which is the issue of forest fires in Uttarakhand, India.

**E:** Following the introduction of the forest fires issue, this sentence elaborates on the annual impact of these fires, describing the damage to the environment and the risks they pose.

**C:** After establishing the general danger of the fires, this sentence presents specific data and statistics from the recent occurrences, anchoring the problem in a particular timeframe and location, thus adding detail to the background presented.

**A:** This sentence builds on the specifics mentioned in the previous sentence by highlighting a dramatic response to the crisis—deploying the Army.

**B:** Concluding the paragraph, this sentence moves from describing the problem and responses to a specific recent event and a call to action

13. **C) a, b, c, d**

a: This sentence introduces the main topic of the paragraph—the incident involving a frantic mother and an ominous call.

b: The relative pronoun "who" acts as a subject complement that describes the "kidnappers," continuing the narrative about their actions.

c: The demonstrative adjective "the" in "The news" signifies that it refers to previously mentioned information (the incident of the fake kidnapping), which helps to stitch the context together. Additionally, the conjunction "as" introduces a cause-effect relationship explaining the reaction to the news.

d: The prepositional phrase "With such instances on the rise" uses the preposition "with" to indicate the circumstance or condition, linking back to the scenario described in the previous sentences.

14. **D)** The incorrect spelling is 'Maintanence'. The correct spelling is 'Maintenance'. 'Maintenance' means "the process of maintaining or preserving someone or something" बनावट, रखवाली.

15. **B) 'By virtue off' के बदले 'By virtue of' का प्रयोग होगा क्योंकि 'By virtue of' एक सही phrase है जिसका अर्थ है 'because of' या 'due to'.**

- 'By virtue of' will be used instead of 'By virtue off' because 'By virtue of' is the correct phrase meaning 'because of' or 'due to'.

16. **D) tolerance** (verb) – Encourage, promote, stimulate, nurture. सहनशीलता

Synonym: **Endurance** (noun) – The ability or strength to continue or last, especially despite fatigue, stress, or other adverse conditions. सहिष्णुता

- **Entrench** (verb) – Establish, settle in, dig in, anchor. मजबूती से स्थापित करना
- **Distrust** (noun) – Doubt, mistrust, suspicion, skepticism. संदेह
- **Lethargy** (noun) – Laziness, sluggishness, inactivity, inertia. अलस्य

17. **C) Benign** (adjective) – Not harmful, non-cancerous, innocent, harmless. हानिरहित/ अच्छा

Antonym: **Malignant** (adjective) – Harmful, cancerous, virulent, malicious. अभिशापी

- **Harsh** (adjective) – Severe, rough, cruel, stern. कठोर
- **Rugged** (adjective) – Rough, uneven, jagged, rocky. असम
- **Healthy** (adjective) – In good health, well, fit, strong. स्वस्थ

18. C) **BDCAE**

Global health systems have been overwhelmed and many essential health services have been disrupted, posing major threats to progress in fighting other deadly diseases

19. C) **'enthralled by the psychological effects'** के बदले 'swept away by the emotive power' का

प्रयोग होगा क्योंकि यह sentence संगीत के भावनात्मक प्रभाव को व्यक्त करता है जो

audience पर हो रहा है; जैसे— As the orchestra began to play, the audience was transported to another world, swept away by the emotive power of the music and the skill of the musicians, who performed each note with precision and passion.

- 'swept away by the emotive power' will be used instead of 'enthralled by the psychological effects' because it expresses the emotional impact of the music on the audience; Like— As the orchestra began to play, the audience was transported to another world, swept away by the emotive power of the music and the skill of the musicians, who performed each note with precision and passion.

20. C) **Pacifist** (noun) – A person who believes that war and violence are unjustifiable and is against their use to settle disputes. अहिंसावादी

- **Fatalist** (noun) – A person who believes that all events are predetermined and therefore inevitable. नियतिवादी
- **Hedonist** (noun) – A person who believes that the pursuit of pleasure is the most important thing in life; a pleasure-seeker. सुखवादी
- **Misogynist** (noun) – A person who dislikes, despises, or is strongly prejudiced against women. स्त्री द्वेषी

21. A) **intocsication**' की सही spelling 'intoxication' है

- The correct spelling of 'intocsication' is 'intoxication' means the state of being intoxicated, especially by alcohol.

22. D) **QSPR**

the main target consumers of food companies are children and youth of the country so they design the advertisement of products in such a way that consumers are stimulated to buy them repeatedly

23. D) **were conducting**' के बदले 'was conducting' का प्रयोग होगा क्योंकि 'The team of scientists'

एक collective group को सूचित करता है जिसका प्रयोग singular verb के साथ होता है; जैसे— The team plays well.



- 'was conducting' will be used instead of 'were conducting' because 'The team of scientists' indicates a collective group which is used with a singular verb; Like— The team plays well.

24. A) **QRPS**

The route to Badrinath is one of the most arduous one due to the lofty hilly terrain, curves and cliffs amidst the most scenically beautiful place on the earth

25. B) **Fixation** (noun) – An obsessive interest in or feeling about someone or something. **स्थायिता**

Antonym: **Indifference** (noun) – Lack of interest, concern, or sympathy. **उदासीनता**

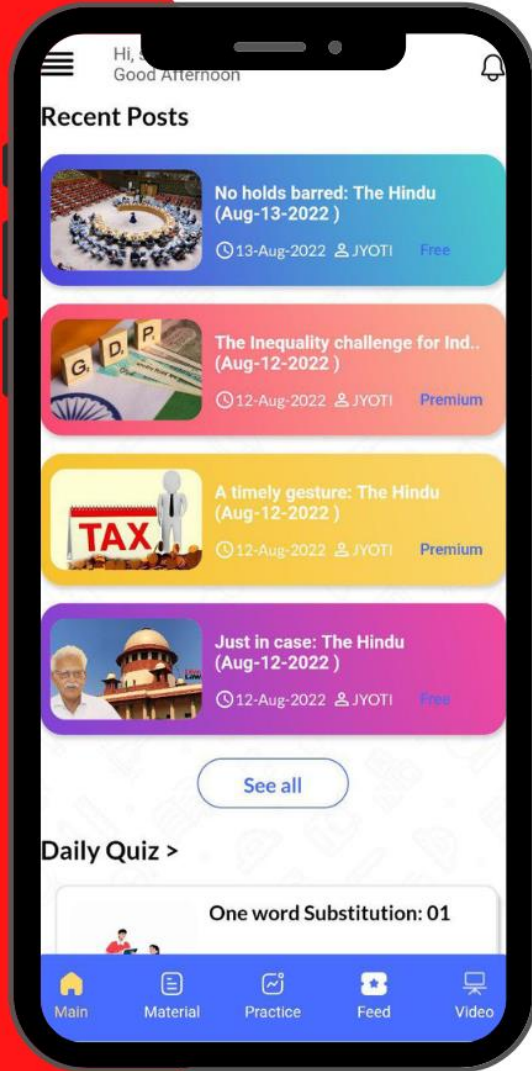
- **Formulation** (noun) – The action of creating or preparing a strategy or proposal.

**सूत्रीकरण**

- **Inclination** (noun) – A person's natural tendency or urge to act or feel in a particular way. **प्रवृत्ति**

- **Reformation** (noun) – The action or process of reforming an institution or practice.

**सुधार**



# Learn Vocabulary Through Reading Articles

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