

## New Army Chief

Gen Dwivedi has his **work cut out**

A continued **focus** on modernisation **has** been listed among the top priorities of Gen Upendra Dwivedi, the 30th Chief of the Army Staff. The Vice Chief since February, he takes over from Gen Manoj Pande, whose tenure, in an unusual move, was extended by a month. Gen Dwivedi has **pointed to** a faster **induction** of new technology and greater emphasis on **self-reliance**, **amid** the rapidly changing **geopolitical landscape**. **Acknowledging** the unique security challenges, he has given an **assurance** of the Army's capability and **readiness**. As the **standoff** with China along the Line of Actual Control in eastern Ladakh **lingers on**, the Army Chief's immediate concern will be to tackle the **spike** in terror attacks in the Jammu region. He had, as the Northern Army Commander, **effected** major **deployment** changes in the area bordering Pakistan.

**Theaterisation** plans and structural **reforms**, being **overseen** by the Chief of Defence Staff, **remain** a work in progress. **Elaborate consultative mechanisms** are time-consuming, and so they should be. It is **vital** to ensure there is no forced **acquiescence**. The **envisaged synergy** between the Army, Air Force and the Navy **has** to be a natural **progression** of shared goals and purpose. To **actualise** it, the **role** of the Service Chiefs **becomes** critical. **Demands** of a higher percentage of Agniveer **retention** at the end of four years **have** found **resonance** in political circles, particularly after it became a major election issue recently. **How concerns** over the Agnipath recruitment scheme are handled by Gen Dwivedi **will** be **keenly** watched.



**Gen Dwivedi**, who was **commissioned** into the Jammu and Kashmir Rifles in 1984, **is** an **alumnus** of the Sainik School at Rewa, Madhya Pradesh. He and Navy Chief Admiral Dinesh Tripathi studied together. That's a comforting **coincidence** for the armed forces **fraternity**. [\[Practice Exercise\]](#)

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

## Vocabulary

1. **Work cut out** (phrasal verb) – Difficult tasks ahead, challenging responsibilities, tough job, demanding duties, significant tasks चुनौतीपूर्ण कार्य
2. **Point to** (phrasal verb) – Indicate, suggest, highlight, denote, signal इंगित करना
3. **Induction** (noun) – Introduction, initiation, enlistment, recruitment, admission प्रवेश
4. **Self-reliance** (noun) – Independence, self-sufficiency, autonomy, self-support, self-dependence आत्मनिर्भरता
5. **Amid** (preposition) – In the middle of, among, during, in the midst of, surrounded by के बीच में
6. **Geopolitical** (adjective) – Related to international politics, global strategic, geographical-political, global political भूराजनीतिक
7. **Landscape** (noun) – Environment, situation, scenario, terrain, backdrop परिदृश्य
8. **Acknowledge** (verb) – Recognize, admit, accept, concede, appreciate स्वीकार करना
9. **Assurance** (noun) – Guarantee, promise, certainty, confidence, pledge आश्वासन
10. **Readiness** (noun) – Preparedness, willingness, ability, eagerness, alertness तत्परता
11. **Standoff** (noun) – Deadlock, impasse, stalemate, confrontation, standstill गतिरोध
12. **Linger on** (phrasal verb) – Persist, remain, continue, endure, stay बने रहना
13. **Spike** (noun) – Increase, surge, rise, escalation, upsurge उछाल
14. **Effect** (verb) – Implement, execute, bring about, accomplish, achieve कार्यान्वित करना
15. **Deployment** (noun) – Stationing, positioning, placement, arrangement, distribution तैनाती
16. **Theaterisation** (noun) – the integration of the army, air force, and navy under a single unified command structure for a specific geographical area
17. **Oversee** (verb) – Supervise, manage, direct, control, monitor देखरेख करना
18. **Elaborate** (adjective) – Detailed, thorough, extensive, intricate, comprehensive विस्तृत
19. **Consultative** (adjective) – Advisory, consultive, deliberative, counseling, recommendatory सलाहकार
20. **Mechanism** (noun) – System, process, procedure, method, structure तंत्र
21. **Vital** (adjective) – Essential, crucial, critical, important, fundamental महत्वपूर्ण

22. **Acquiescence** (noun) – Agreement, consent, compliance, acceptance, submission स्वीकृति/ रज़ामंदी
23. **Envisaged** (adjective) – Imagined, envisioned, anticipated, planned, conceived परिकल्पित
24. **Synergy** (noun) – Cooperation, collaboration, teamwork, interaction, alliance तालमेल
25. **Progression** (noun) – Development, advancement, evolution, growth, continuation प्रगति
26. **Actualise** (verb) – Realize, achieve, accomplish, bring to fruition, make happen साकार करना
27. **Retention** (noun) – Keeping, maintaining, holding, preserving, continuation अवधारण
28. **Resonance** (noun) – Impact, significance, relevance, echo, effect प्रतिध्वनि
29. **Keenly** (adverb) – Eagerly, intensely, sharply, closely, attentively उत्सुकता से
30. **Commission** (verb) – Assign, appoint, engage, enlist, recruit नियुक्त करना
31. **Alumnus** (noun) – Graduate, former student, ex-student, old student, alumnus पूर्व छात्र
32. **Coincidence** (noun) – Chance occurrence, simultaneous happening, concurrence, happenstance संयोग
33. **Fraternity** (noun) – Brotherhood, fellowship, camaraderie, community, association भाईचारा

## Summary of the Editorial

1. Gen Upendra Dwivedi has been appointed as the 30th Chief of the Army Staff.
2. His top priority is to focus on the modernization of the Army.
3. Gen Dwivedi has served as the Vice Chief since February.
4. He succeeds Gen Manoj Pande, whose tenure was extended by a month.
5. Gen Dwivedi emphasizes faster induction of new technology.
6. He advocates for greater self-reliance amid a changing geopolitical landscape.
7. He acknowledges unique security challenges and assures the Army's readiness.
8. The standoff with China in eastern Ladakh continues to be a significant concern.
9. Immediate focus includes addressing the rise in terror attacks in the Jammu region.
10. As Northern Army Commander, he previously made significant deployment changes near Pakistan.
11. Theaterisation plans and structural reforms are ongoing under the Chief of Defence Staff.
12. Consultative mechanisms for reforms are elaborate and time-consuming but necessary.
13. Synergy among the Army, Air Force, and Navy is essential for shared goals and purposes.
14. The role of Service Chiefs is crucial for the actualization of these reforms.
15. Gen Dwivedi's handling of the Agnipath recruitment scheme and its political implications will be closely monitored.

### Practice Exercise: SSC Pattern Based

1. **What has been identified as one of the top priorities by Gen Upendra Dwivedi, the new Chief of the Army Staff?** [Editorial page]
  - A. Increasing the number of troops
  - B. Reducing military spending
  - C. Modernisation of the army
  - D. Disengaging from active conflicts
2. **What is Gen Dwivedi's stance regarding the induction of new technology in the army?**
  - A. He believes it should be reduced.
  - B. He has pointed to a faster induction of new technology.
  - C. He supports only foreign technology.
  - D. He is indifferent to technological advancements.
3. **Why are the theaterisation plans and structural reforms described as being time-consuming?**
  - A. Due to lack of funding
  - B. Because they are of low priority
  - C. Due to elaborate consultative mechanisms
  - D. Because they are not supported by the government
4. **How are the relationships among the Army, Air Force, and Navy described in the context of theaterisation plans?**
  - A. Synergistic
  - B. Competitive
  - C. Conflicted
  - D. Independent of each other
5. **What is the tone of the passage?**
  - A. Pessimistic
  - B. Critical
  - C. Enthusiastic
  - D. Objective
6. Select the option that can be used as a **one-word substitute** for the given group of words.  
One who studies the evolution of mankind
  - A. Anarchist
  - B. Amateur
  - C. Anthropologist
  - D. Antagonist
7. Select the most appropriate **ANTONYM** for 'redeem' in the given sentence.  
Shantanu violated the rules of the college when he started screaming and shouting in the premises.
  - A. Screaming
  - B. Violated
  - C. Premises
  - D. Shouting
8. Select the option that can be used as a **one-word substitute** for the given group of words.

- Something to be easily carried or moved
- A. Robust
  - B. Stagnant
  - C. Portable
  - D. Fragile
9. Select the option that can be used as a **one-word substitute** for the given group of words.  
An imagined place or state of things in which everything is perfect
- A. Dwarf
  - B. Utopia
  - C. Chronology
  - D. Octogenarian
10. Select the option that can be used as a **one-word substitute** for the given group of words.  
Poor physical or mental condition.
- A. Ill nature
  - B. Illicit
  - C. Ill-fated
  - D. Ill health
11. **The following sentence has been split into four segments. Identify the segment that contains a grammatical error.**  
They were laid / in the sun / the entire morning / till Sudharshan came
- A. till Sudharshan came
  - B. They were laid
  - C. the entire morning
  - D. in the sun
12. **Select the correct spelling of the underlined word in the given sentence.**  
The feeling of weightlessness while skydiving is known to exilarete many people.
- A. exilairate
  - B. exhilarete
  - C. exilarate
  - D. Exhilarate
13. **Select the option that expresses the given sentence in active voice.**  
I was never supported by my family.
- A. My family have never supported me.
  - B. My family had never supported me.
  - C. My family never supported me.
  - D. My family never supports me.
14. **The following sentence has been split into four segments. Identify the segment that contains a spelling error.**  
The famous author / clearly mentioned / all the names of his friends / in the  
acknowledgments of the book.
- A. in the acknowledgments of the book
  - B. The famous author

- C. clearly mentioned  
D. all the names of his friends
15. Select the most appropriate **ANTONYM** of the given word.  
Mean  
A. Minute  
B. Noble  
C. Notorious  
D. Novel
16. **Select the most appropriate idiom for the underlined segment in the following sentence.**  
Nitish's promotion is due.  
A. On the cards  
B. Not worth his salt  
C. With due respect  
D. Done to death
17. **Parts of a sentence are given below in jumbled order. Select the option that arranges the parts in the correct order to form a meaningful sentence.**  
A) in social evolution by imitation  
B) by reason of its higher standard of living  
C) the royal style is the agent  
D) and cultural patterns are similarly transmitted by the dominant caste  
A. C, D, A, B  
B. C, A, D, B  
C. B, C, D, A  
D. B, A, C, D
18. **Select the option that expresses the following sentence in passive voice.**  
An agitated gathering of workers in the company disturbed the meeting.  
A. Meeting of the company was disturbed.  
B. An agitated meeting of workers in the company disturbed the gathering.  
C. The meeting was disturbed by an agitated gathering of workers in the company.  
D. The gathering agitated the meeting of the company.
19. **Select the most appropriate meaning of the given idiom.**  
Costs an arm and a leg  
A. To be affordable  
B. To be moderately priced  
C. To be free of charge  
D. To be very expensive
20. **Select the most appropriate option to fill in the blank.**  
The \_\_\_\_\_ of the company's CEO was widely praised for her innovative leadership.  
A. rein  
B. rayne  
C. rain  
D. Reign

**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.

Globalisation is not a new 1\_\_\_\_\_. Traders travelled vast distances in ancient times to buy commodities that were 2\_\_\_\_\_ and expensive for sale in their homelands. The Industrial Revolution brought 3\_\_\_\_\_ in transportation and communication in the 19th century that eased trade across borders. The think tank, Peterson Institute for International Economics (PIIE), states globalisation 4\_\_\_\_\_ after World War I and nations moved toward 5\_\_\_\_\_ as they launched import taxes to more closely guard their industries in the aftermath of the conflict.

21. **Select the most appropriate option to fill in blank number 1.**
  - A. power
  - B. variation
  - C. design
  - D. Concept
22. **Select the most appropriate option to fill in blank number 2.**
  - A. plentiful
  - B. common
  - C. preserved
  - D. Rare
23. **Select the most appropriate option to fill in blank number 3.**
  - A. chaos
  - B. advances
  - C. issues
  - D. a decline
24. **Select the most appropriate option to fill in blank number 4.**
  - A. trooped
  - B. soared
  - C. de-escalated
  - D. Stalled
25. **Select the most appropriate option to fill in blank number 5**
  - A. protectionism
  - B. integration
  - C. liberalization
  - D. diversification



## Answers

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

[\[Practice Exercise\]](#)

## Explanations

### 1. C) Modernisation of the army

The passage states that a "continued focus on modernisation" is among the top priorities for Gen Dwivedi. Options A, B, and D are not mentioned in the passage.

### 2. B) He has pointed to a faster induction of new technology.

The passage mentions that Gen Dwivedi has emphasized a faster induction of new technology, making B the correct choice. Options A, C, and D are incorrect as they contradict the information in the passage.

### 3. C) Due to elaborate consultative mechanisms

The passage explains that these plans are time-consuming because of "elaborate consultative mechanisms," making C the correct answer.

### 4. A) Synergistic

The passage indicates that the envisaged synergy between the Army, Air Force, and Navy should be a natural progression, suggesting a synergistic relationship. Options C, B, and D are incorrect as they do not reflect the cooperative and unified approach highlighted in the passage.

### 5. D) Objective

Pessimistic: Incorrect because the passage does not express a negative or hopeless perspective; it rather outlines the actions and priorities of Gen Dwivedi.

Objective: Correct as the passage presents factual information and updates on Gen Dwivedi's role and challenges without displaying personal feelings or opinions.

Critical: Incorrect because the passage does not critique or evaluate the subject negatively; it remains factual and neutral.

Enthusiastic: Incorrect as the tone of the passage does not convey excitement or fervor; it maintains a professional and straightforward tone.

### 6. C) Anthropologist (noun) – One who studies the evolution of mankind and human societies and cultures. मानवशास्त्री

- **Anarchist** (noun) – A person who believes in or tries to bring about anarchy.

अराजकतावादी

- **Amateur** (noun) – A person who engages in a pursuit, especially a sport, on an unpaid basis. शौकिया

- **Antagonist** (noun) – A person who actively opposes or is hostile to someone or something; an adversary. प्रतिद्वंद्वी

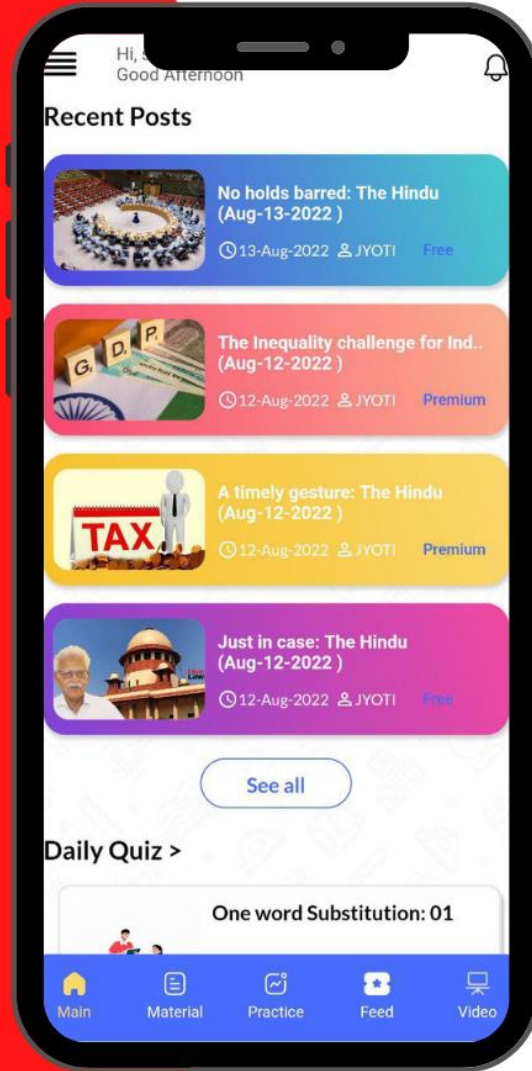
7. B) **Redeem** (verb) – To make up for past errors, to atone for, to save, to recover. **किसी को पूर्णतया घटिया होने से बचा लेना**  
Antonym: **Violate** (verb) – To break or fail to comply with (a rule or formal agreement), to desecrate, to defile. **उल्लंघन**
- **Screaming** (verb) – Making a loud, high-pitched sound. **चिल्लाना**
  - **Premises** (noun) – A house or building together with its grounds. **परिसर**
  - **Shouting** (verb) – Calling loudly, yelling. **धाधा**
8. C) **Portable** (noun) – Something that can be easily carried or moved. **सुवाहनीय**
- **Robust** (adjective) – Strong and healthy; sturdy in constitution. **मजबूत**
  - **Stagnant** (adjective) – Not flowing or moving; inactive. **स्थिर**
  - **Fragile** (adjective) – Easily broken or damaged; delicate. **भंगुर**
9. B) **Utopia** (noun) – An imagined place or state of things in which everything is perfect **आदर्शलोक**
- **Dwarf** (noun) – a person, animal, plant, or thing much smaller than the usual size **बौना**
  - **Chronology** (noun) – the arrangement of events or dates in the order of their occurrence **समय अनुक्रम**
  - **Octogenarian** (noun) – a person who is between 80 and 89 years old **अशीतिवर्षीय**
10. D) **Ill health** (noun) – Poor physical or mental condition. **अस्वस्थता**
- **Ill nature** (noun) – Unfriendly or unkind disposition or temperament. **असौहार्दय**
  - **Illicit** (adjective) – Forbidden by law, rules, or custom. **अवैध**
  - **Ill-fated** (adjective) – Destined to fail or have bad luck. **दुर्भाग्यशाली**
11. B) The segment 'They were laid' contains a grammatical error because the correct form of 'lay' to be used here is 'lie' when referring to lying down in the sun. Therefore, the correct form would be 'They were lying'; like— They were lying in the sun the entire morning till Sudharshan came.
12. D) '**exilarete**' के बदले '**Exhilarate**' का प्रयोग होगा क्योंकि '**Exhilarate**' सही वर्तनी है जिसका अर्थ होता है "उत्तेजित करना" या "खुशी महसूस कराना".
- **Exhilarate**' will be used instead of '**exilarete**' because '**Exhilarate**' is the correct spelling which means "to make feel very happy or animated".
13. C) My family never supported me

14. A) इस वाक्य में 'acknolledgments' गलत तरीके से लिखा गया है। सही spelling 'acknowledgments' होती है।
- The word 'acknolledgments' is misspelled in the sentence. The correct spelling is 'acknowledgments'.
15. B) **Mean** (adjective) – Lacking in generosity or fairness, petty, small-minded, unkind. तुच्छ  
**Antonym: Noble** (adjective) – Having or showing high moral qualities or ideals, or greatness of character; aristocratic. महान/ कुलीन
- **Minute** (adjective) – Very small; tiny. सूक्ष्म
  - **Notorious** (adjective) – Famous for something bad; infamous. कुख्यात
  - **Novel** (adjective) – New or unusual in an interesting way. नया
16. A) **On the cards** (idiom) – Something that is likely to happen or is expected to take place. संभावना में
- **On the cards** (idiom) – Something that is likely to happen. संभावना में
  - **Not worth his salt** (idiom) – Not deserving respect or attention; not competent.
  - **With due respect** (idiom) – Used to express polite disagreement or criticism. उचित सम्मान के साथ
  - **Done to death** (idiom) – Something that has been used or discussed so much that it is no longer interesting. बहुत अधिक उपयोग हो चुका है
17. B) **C, A, D, B**  
 The royal style is the agent in social evolution by imitation and cultural patterns are similarly transmitted by the dominant caste by reason of its higher standard of living
18. C) The meeting was disturbed by an agitated gathering of workers in the company
19. D) **Costs an arm and a leg** (idiom) – To be very expensive बहुत महंगा
20. D) **'Reign'** का प्रयोग होगा क्योंकि इस संदर्भ में, sentence एक कंपनी के CEO के प्रशासनिक अवधि या नेतृत्व का वर्णन कर रहा है। "Reign" शब्द का अर्थ होता है 'शासनकाल' या 'प्रशासनिक अवधि', जो इस संदर्भ में सही है। अन्य विकल्पों का इस संदर्भ में कोई अर्थ नहीं है। इसलिए, "Reign" सबसे उपयुक्त विकल्प होगा।
- **'Reign'** should be used because in this context, the sentence is describing the administrative period or leadership of a company's CEO. The word "Reign" means 'rule' or 'administrative period', which is correct in this context. The other options do not make sense in this context. Thus, "Reign" would be the most appropriate choice.

21. D) '**Concept**' का प्रयोग होगा क्योंकि "concept" का अर्थ होता है विचार या सोच। जब बात ग्लोबलीकरण की पुरानी अवधारणा की हो रही है, तो यह शब्द सबसे अधिक उपयुक्त है। 'Power' का अर्थ होता है शक्ति, 'Variation' का अर्थ है भिन्नता या अंतर, और 'Design' का अर्थ है नक्शा या योजना, जो इस संदर्भ में सही नहीं है।
- '**Concept**' should be used because it means an idea or thought. When referring to the old notion of globalization, this word is most appropriate. Whereas, 'Power' means strength, 'Variation' means a change or difference, and 'Design' implies a blueprint or plan, which don't fit in this context.
22. D) '**Rare**' का प्रयोग होगा क्योंकि "rare" का अर्थ होता है वह चीज जो आमतौर पर उपलब्ध नहीं है या कम पाई जाती है। व्यापारी प्राचीन समय में वस्त्रागार खरीदने के लिए विशाल दूरी तय करते थे जो उनके स्वदेश में बेचने के लिए दुर्लभ और महंगी थी। जबकि 'Plentiful' का अर्थ है अधिक मात्रा में, 'Common' का अर्थ है सामान्य, और 'Preserved' का अर्थ है संरक्षित करना, जो इस संदर्भ में सही नहीं है।
- '**Rare**' should be used because it refers to something that is not commonly available or is found in limited quantities. Traders in ancient times would travel great distances to buy goods that were scarce and costly to sell in their own lands. Whereas, 'Plentiful' means in abundant quantity, 'Common' means ordinary, and 'Preserved' implies kept in a particular condition, which don't fit in this context.
23. B) '**Advances**' का प्रयोग होगा क्योंकि "advances" का अर्थ होता है प्रगति या सुधार, जो संदर्भ में उल्लेख की गई तकनीकी और संचार में हुई वृद्धि को दर्शाता है। जबकि 'Chaos' का अर्थ होता है अराजकता, 'Issues' का अर्थ होता है समस्याएं, और 'a decline' का अर्थ है गिरावट, जो इस संदर्भ में सही नहीं हैं
- '**Advances**' should be used because it means progress or improvement, which signifies the enhancements mentioned in technology and communication in the context. Whereas, 'Chaos' means disorder, 'Issues' imply problems, and 'a decline' means a decrease, which don't fit in this context.
24. D) '**Stalled**' का प्रयोग होगा क्योंकि "stalled" का अर्थ होता है रुक जाना या ठप हो जाना। जबकि 'Trooped' का अर्थ है समूह में जाना, 'De-escalated' का अर्थ है घटना, और 'Soared' का अर्थ है तेजी से बढ़ना, जो इस संदर्भ में सही नहीं है।
- '**Stalled**' should be used because it means to stop or come to a standstill. Whereas, 'Trooped' means to move in a group, 'De-escalated' means to reduce or lessen, and 'Soared' implies a rapid increase, which don't fit in this context.

25. A) **Protectionism**' का प्रयोग होगा क्योंकि "protectionism" का अर्थ होता है वाणिज्यिक और आर्थिक नीतियों का उपयोग जिससे अपने स्थानीय उद्योगों और रोजगार की सुरक्षा की जा सकती है। जबकि 'Integration' का अर्थ है एकीकरण, 'Liberalisation' का अर्थ है उदारीकरण और 'Diversification' का अर्थ है विविधीकरण, जो इस संदर्भ में सही नहीं है।

- '**Protectionism**' should be used because it refers to the use of commercial and economic policies to protect local industries and jobs. Whereas, 'Integration' means unification, 'Liberalisation' means relaxation of regulations, and 'Diversification' implies variety, which don't fit in this context.



# Learn Vocabulary Through Reading Articles

**English Madhyam**