

All or any: On resources and Supreme Court verdict

The state must have enough **bandwidth** to guard against **concentration** of resources

That the Constitution has an economic philosophy **rooted in socialist** principles, mainly **embodied in its Directive Principles of State Policy, is** well understood. However, a question that has **often** arisen for judicial review concerns how far the state's **obligation** to **subserve the common good** and prevent the concentration of wealth and means of production **can** be allowed to **go against** fundamental rights of individuals. The state's **obligation** to ensure that the ownership and control of "material resources of the community are so distributed as to subserve the common good" and to prevent the working of the economic system to the common **detriment is** found in Articles 39(b) and (c). The recent **verdict** of a nine-judge **Bench** of the Supreme Court, **holding** that not all private resources would fall under the **ambit** of 'material resources' of the community in Article 39, **is notable** for its examination of whether the **underlying** economic thought should be given an **expansive** view, or there are **limitations** on what **sort of** private property can be the subject of state action. The Court's majority opinion rejects the expansive view taken in a few **precedents** in favour of any private resources, including those individual-owned, falling under its ambit. **In tune with** present-day economic realities, it holds that this directive principle cannot be seen through any particular **ideological prism**, and disapproves of such earlier formulations.

The majority view is that while, theoretically, private resources could be part of the community's resources, the relevant **consideration** for the state to acquire or distribute them **in pursuit of** the common good **will** depend on "**non-exhaustive** factors": the nature of the resources and their characteristics, whether such **acquisition** is **essential** for the community, the **scarcity** of such resources, and the **consequences** of their being concentrated in private hands. Land acquisition has always been based on the principle of **eminent domain**, while allocation of natural resources will require fair and **transparent** processes. On the other hand, **nationalisation** of utilities, services and industries **has** required constitutional justification through the Directive Principles. The majority is right in holding that the Constitution-makers **consciously worded** Article 39 in broad terms so that they do not **tie down** future regimes to any particular **strand** of economic thought. However, Justice Sudhanshu Dhulia's **dissent** has **significance**. **Highlighting** the continuing inequality in society, he has questioned the majority for **seeking to limit** the scope of the "material resources", when the better approach would have been to leave it to the **wisdom** of the **legislature**. **[Practice Exercise]**

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

Vocabulary

1. **Verdict** (noun) – Judgment, decision, ruling, conclusion, decree निर्णय
2. **Bandwidth** (noun) – it refers to the state's ability or capacity to handle an issue.
3. **Concentration** (noun) – Accumulation, gathering, aggregation, clustering, consolidation एकत्रीकरण
4. **Root** (in) (verb) – Based in, originate from, stem from, derive from, founded on आधारित होना
5. **Socialist** (adjective) – Leftist, collectivist, communal, advocating socialism समाजवादी
6. **Embody** (verb) – to include or contain something समाए होना
7. **Directive Principles of State Policy** (DPSP) (noun) – Guidelines or principles given in the Constitution of India for the governance of the country, aiming to create social and economic conditions under which citizens can lead a good life. राज्य के नीति निदेशक सिद्धांत
8. **Often** (adverb) – Frequently, regularly, repeatedly, commonly, habitually अक्सर
9. **Obligation** (noun) – Duty, responsibility, commitment, requirement, compulsion कर्तव्य
10. **Subserve** (verb) – Promote, further, assist, support, help सहायता करना
11. **Common good** (phrase) – the benefit or interests of all. जनहित के लिए
12. **Go against** (phrase) – Oppose, contradict, defy, conflict with, resist के खिलाफ जाना
13. **Detriment** (noun) – Harm, damage, injury, disadvantage, loss हानि
14. **Bench** (noun) – Panel of judges, judiciary, court, tribunal न्यायपीठ
15. **Hold** (verb) – Decide, rule, determine, declare, pronounce निर्णय देना
16. **Ambit** (noun) – Scope, range, extent, sphere, boundaries दायरे
17. **Notable** (adjective) – Significant, remarkable, noteworthy, important, prominent उल्लेखनीय
18. **Underlying** (adjective) – Fundamental, basic, foundational, intrinsic, inherent मूलभूत
19. **Expansive** (adjective) – Broad, comprehensive, extensive, wide-ranging, far-reaching व्यापक
20. **Limitation** (noun) – Restriction, constraint, boundary, curb, cap सीमा
21. **Sort of** (phrase) – Kind of, type of, form of, category of प्रकार का

22. **Precedent** (noun) – Previous case, example, model, prior instance, earlier ruling पूर्व उदाहरण
23. **In tune with** (phrase) – In harmony with, consistent with, aligned with, in agreement with के अनुरूप
24. **Ideological** (adjective) – Doctrinal, philosophical, theoretical, based on beliefs वैचारिक
25. **Prism** (noun) – viewpoint, perspective, standpoint, position दृष्टिकोण
26. **Consideration** (noun) – Factor, aspect, thought, deliberation, reflection विचार
27. **In pursuit of** (phrase) – Seeking, striving for, in search of, aiming for, chasing की खोज में
28. **Non-exhaustive** (adjective) – Not comprehensive; not including all possibilities; partial list अपूर्ण
29. **Acquisition** (noun) – Purchase, obtaining, attainment, procurement, gaining अधिग्रहण
30. **Essential** (adjective) – Necessary, vital, crucial, indispensable, fundamental आवश्यक
31. **Scarcity** (noun) – Shortage, lack, insufficiency, dearth, paucity कमी
32. **Consequence** (noun) – Result, outcome, effect, impact, repercussion परिणाम
33. **Eminent Domain** (noun) – it refers to the government's legal power.
34. **Transparent** (adjective) – Open, clear, straightforward, candid, obvious पारदर्शी
35. **Nationalisation** (noun) – State ownership, government takeover, public ownership, expropriation राष्ट्रीयकरण
36. **Consciously** (adverb) – Deliberately, intentionally, knowingly, purposefully, with awareness होशपूर्वक
37. **Word** (verb) – Phrase, articulate, express, formulate, put into words शब्दों में प्रस्तुत करना
38. **Tie down** (phrasal verb) – Restrict, bind, limit, constrain, confine सीमित करना
39. **Strand** (noun) – Element, aspect, component, thread, facet पहलू
40. **Dissent** (noun) – Disagreement, objection, protest, opposition, difference of opinion मतभेद
41. **Significance** (noun) – Importance, meaning, consequence, relevance, value महत्व
42. **Highlight** (verb) – Emphasize, underline, underscore, spotlight, draw attention to जोर देना

43. **Seek** (verb) – Try to obtain, pursue, search for, aim for, endeavor प्रयास करना
44. **Limit** (verb) – Restrict, confine, constrain, curb, reduce सीमित करना
45. **Wisdom** (noun) – Insight, knowledge, understanding, prudence, sagacity बुद्धिमत्ता
46. **Legislature** (noun) – Law-making body, parliament, assembly, congress, legislative body विधानमंडल

Summary of the Editorial

1. The Indian Constitution is founded on socialist principles, emphasizing resource distribution for common good.
2. A critical issue in judicial review is balancing the state's duty to prevent wealth concentration with individual rights.
3. Articles 39(b) and (c) emphasize equitable distribution of resources to benefit society and prevent economic harm.
4. A recent Supreme Court verdict addressed whether all private resources should be considered community resources under Article 39.
5. The nine-judge Bench ruled that not all private property falls under the definition of "material resources" of the community.
6. The Court rejected earlier expansive interpretations, emphasizing limits on what private property can be regulated for public good.
7. The decision reflects current economic realities, moving away from any rigid ideological interpretations.
8. Factors for determining state control over private resources include resource nature, necessity, scarcity, and private ownership impact.
9. Land acquisition is based on eminent domain, while natural resource allocation requires fairness and transparency.
10. Nationalizing industries needs constitutional backing via the Directive Principles.
11. The Court emphasized that Article 39's broad wording allows flexibility for future economic policies.
12. The verdict affirms that constitutional framers did not restrict economic philosophy to any specific doctrine.
13. Justice Sudhanshu Dhulia dissented, arguing for broader scope for state intervention due to persistent societal inequality.
14. He criticized the majority for limiting the definition of "material resources" and suggested legislative discretion.
15. The editorial highlights the ongoing debate between economic freedom and state regulation for social equity.

Practice Exercise: SSC Pattern Based

[Editorial Page]

- 1. What is the tone of the passage?**
 - A. Neutral and Analytical
 - B. Highly Critical
 - C. Optimistic
 - D. Sarcastic
- 2. What is the main theme of the passage?**
 - A. The Supreme Court's limitations on economic principles in the Constitution
 - B. The critique of Justice Sudhanshu Dhulia's opinion
 - C. The emphasis on private property rights over community welfare
 - D. The debate on nationalization and land acquisition
- 3. Determine whether the statement below is true or false based on the passage.**

The recent Supreme Court verdict held that all private resources, regardless of ownership, can be categorized as 'material resources of the community' under Article 39(b).

 - A. True
 - B. False
 - C. Cannot be determined from the passage
 - D. Partially True
- 4. Which of the following best describes the meaning of an idiom "in tune with" as used in the passage?**
 - A. In complete opposition to
 - B. In harmony or agreement with
 - C. Ignoring entirely
 - D. Unrelated or irrelevant to
- 5. Why does Justice Sudhanshu Dhulia disagree with the majority opinion regarding the scope of "material resources"?**
 - A. He believes that the Constitution-makers intended to tie down future regimes to one economic ideology.
 - B. He thinks that the acquisition of resources should be left entirely to judicial discretion
 - C. He supports a more rigid interpretation of Article 39 to ensure economic uniformity.
 - D. He argues that limiting the scope of "material resources" undermines the efforts to address social inequality.
- 6. Select the most appropriate option that means the same as the underlined group of words to fill in the blank.**

Most of the rivers dry up during the summer season, but the Ganga is full of water round the year because it is _____.

 - A. perennial
 - B. biannual
 - C. annual
 - D. Biennial

7. **Select the most appropriate option that can substitute the underlined word in the given sentence.**

Bankrupts are those who are incapable to pay their debts.

- A. powerful
- B. meagre
- C. capable
- D. incompetent

8. **Select the most appropriate option to substitute the underlined segment in the given sentence.**

Rohan exercised and ate a lot, lest he should not be weak

- A. lest he would be weak
- B. lest he should be weak
- C. lest he should not weak
- D. lest he would not be weak

9. **Select the option that expresses the given sentence in passive voice.**

Can you compose an inspiring poem?

- A. Can an inspiring poem be composed?
- B. Can an inspiring poem by you composed?
- C. Can an inspiring poem be composed by you?
- D. An inspiring poem can be composed by you.

10. **Select the most appropriate meaning of the given group of words.**

On cloud nine

- A. Flying in the sky
- B. Being angry with someone
- C. Being very high
- D. Being very delighted

11. **Parts of a sentence are given below in jumbled order. Select the option that arranges the parts in the correct sequence to form a meaningful sentence.**

(P) dreams provide an escape
(Q) where reality is suspended
(R) into a world
(O) of endless possibilities

- A. PROQ
- B. QORP
- C. OPQR
- D. RPOQ

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

- A. So I am not very sure
- B. I have a driving license
- C. Of myself reaching home safely
- D. But no real driving experience

- A. BDAC
B. CABD
C. BDCA
D. BCAD
13. **Select the most appropriate synonym of the given word.**
Kilter
A. Anarchy
B. Shambles
C. Disrepair
D. Order
14. **Select the most appropriate synonym of the given word.**
Condone
A. Solicitude
B. Solace
C. Penalty
D. Pardon
15. **The given sentence is divided into four segments. Select the option that has the segment with a grammatical error.**
We were on the way/ to the party;/ suddenly, there/ will a heavy downpour.
A. will a heavy downpour.
B. suddenly, there
C. We were on the way
D. to the party
16. **Select the most appropriate synonym of the given word.**
Tendency
A. Decoy
B. Aversion
C. Proneness
D. Distaste
17. **Select the option that can substitute/replace the bracketed word correctly and complete the sentence.**
He (seek) for the wallet in his pocket.
A. Are seeking
B. Had seeking
C. Seeking
D. Sought
18. **Select the correct spelling to fill in the blank.**
When numerous ideas are presented in a historical context, more than mere _____ can be seen
A. paralelism
B. parollelism
C. paralialism

- D. parallelism
19. **Select the most appropriate ANTONYM of the given word.**
Dogmatic
- A. Diplomatic
B. Conservative
C. Liberal
D. Concerned
20. **Select the most appropriate ANTONYM for the underlined word in the given sentence.**
Despite his annoyance, Rahul knew that rushing the delicate process would only lead to mistakes

- A. Gnawer
B. Serenity
C. Susceptibility
D. Absurdity

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.

This Diwali is more significant because we are going to celebrate it after three years, without the evil shadow of Covid-19 that (1)_____ looming over all festivities. The lockdowns and endless bad news of death and (2)_____ had turned our country into a zone of gloom. But, this season of Diwali (3)_____ all the sorrows of people by lighting the candle of hope in their lives. We can see the lights, the candles, the lanterns, and the busy people coming out of their houses and purchasing toys for their children. Let's (4)_____ those people who have made such a huge contribution to (5)_____ good thoughts and saving people's lives.

21. **Select the most appropriate option to fill in blank number 1.**
- A. was
B. is
C. were
D. are
22. **Select the most appropriate option to fill in blank number 2.**
- A. demonetisation
B. disease
C. economic boom
D. new birth
23. **Select the most appropriate option to fill in blank number 3.**
- A. has hovered
B. had recognised
C. has adopted
D. has shed
24. **Select the most appropriate option to fill in blank number 4.**
- A. onerous
B. berate

- C. salute
- D. terminate

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

- A. stagnating
- B. spreading
- C. implicating
- D. impeding

Answers

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

[Practice Exercise]

Explanations

1. A) Neutral and Analytical

A) The tone of the passage is neutral and analytical because it carefully examines and explains the Supreme Court's verdict on the economic philosophy of the Constitution without expressing any strong bias or emotional language. It provides a balanced analysis of both the majority and dissenting opinions.

B) This option is incorrect because the passage does not criticize or express a strong negative stance toward the verdict or the concepts discussed.

C) This is incorrect as the passage does not express hope or positivity about the future or outcomes of the economic principles.

D) This option is incorrect because there is no use of sarcasm or irony in the passage.

2. A) The Supreme Court's limitations on economic principles in the Constitution

A) The main theme revolves around the Supreme Court's recent verdict and the debate on the extent to which economic directives in the Constitution can influence private property. The discussion centers on the limitations and considerations that guide state action regarding community resources.

B) This is incorrect because the passage does not focus entirely on critiquing Justice Dhulia's opinion. It merely mentions his dissent for context and provides a balanced view of both sides.

C) This option is incorrect as the passage does not emphasize prioritizing private property over community welfare. Instead, it discusses the balance and considerations involved.

D) This is incorrect because, while the passage does mention land acquisition and nationalization, these are not the central focus. The main theme is the interpretation of economic principles in the Constitution.

3. B) False

False: The passage clearly states that the Supreme Court's verdict holds that not all private resources would fall under the ambit of 'material resources' of the community as per Article 39. It specifically mentions that the Court rejects the expansive view.

A (True): This is incorrect because the verdict did not include all private resources; it limited the scope of 'material resources'.

C (Cannot be determined from the passage): This is incorrect because the passage provides sufficient details to determine the nature of the Supreme Court's ruling.

D (Partially True): This is incorrect because the statement is wholly false; the Court explicitly rejected the idea that all private resources fall under the definition.

4. B) In harmony or agreement with

The idiom "in tune with" means to be in agreement or harmony, and the passage indicates that the Court's view aligns with present-day economic realities.

A: This is incorrect because "in tune with" suggests agreement, not opposition.

C: This is incorrect because the phrase implies paying attention and being consistent, not ignoring.

D: This is incorrect as the phrase "in tune with" means having relevance and connection, not being irrelevant.

5. **D) He argues that limiting the scope of "material resources" undermines the efforts to address social inequality.**

Justice Sudhanshu Dhulia's dissent highlights his concern about societal inequality and believes that limiting the definition of "material resources" may restrict efforts to alleviate these disparities.

A: Incorrect because Justice Dhulia does not claim that the Constitution-makers wanted to enforce a single economic ideology. Instead, he argues for a broader interpretation.

C: Incorrect because he does not support a rigid interpretation of Article 39. On the contrary, he wants more flexibility for legislative decision-making.

B: Incorrect because he does not advocate for resource acquisition to be solely determined by judicial discretion. He emphasizes legislative wisdom instead.

6. A) **Perennial** (adjective) – lasting or existing for a long or apparently infinite time; enduring or continually recurring. साल भर रहने वाला

- **Biannual** (adjective) – occurring twice a year. वर्ष में दो बार होने वाला
- **Annual** (adjective) – occurring once every year. वार्षिक
- **Biennial** (adjective) – occurring every two years. दो साल में एक बार होने वाला

7. D) "**incompetent**" का use सही होगा क्योंकि 'incapable' का अर्थ होता है 'असमर्थ' या 'किसी कार्य को करने में सक्षम नहीं।' 'Incompetent' का अर्थ भी 'किसी कार्य को करने में अयोग्य' होता है, और यह वाक्य में 'incapable' के synonym के रूप में उपयुक्त है।

"incompetent" is the correct choice because 'incapable' means 'unable' or 'not capable of doing something.' 'Incompetent' similarly means 'not qualified or unable to perform a task,' making it an appropriate synonym in this context.

Incapable (adjective) – Unable to do something, lacking the ability or capacity to perform.

अक्षम

Incompetent (adjective) – Lacking the skills or ability to do something successfully; ineffective.

अक्षम

- **Powerful** (adjective) – Having great power, strength, or control. शक्तिशाली
- **Meagre** (adjective) – Lacking in quantity or quality; insufficient. अपर्याप्त
- **Capable** (adjective) – Having the ability, fitness, or quality to do something. सक्षम

8. B) 'lest he should not be weak' के बदले 'lest he should be weak' का use होगा क्योंकि 'lest' के साथ negative sense पहले से implied होता है, इसलिए 'not' का प्रयोग गलत है। सही structure 'lest + subject + should + verb' है; जैसे— Rohan exercised and ate a lot, lest he should be weak. 'lest he should be weak' will be used instead of 'lest he should not be weak' because the word 'lest' already implies a negative sense, so using 'not' makes it incorrect. The correct structure is lest + subject + should + verb; Like— Rohan exercised and ate a lot, lest he should be weak.

9. C) Can an inspiring poem be composed by you?

Active Voice को Passive Voice में बदलने के लिए (Modal Verb + Object + Be + Past Participle + by + Subject) का use किया जाता है। sentence 'Can you compose an inspiring poem?' को Passive Voice में बदलते समय Object 'an inspiring poem' को वाक्य की शुरुआत में रखा जाता है। Modal Verb 'Can' को वैसा ही रखा जाता है, और Verb 'compose' को Passive Voice में बदलकर 'be composed' किया जाता है। अंत में, Subject 'you' को 'by you' के रूप में जोड़ा जाता है।

To convert Active Voice into Passive Voice with a modal verb, the structure (Modal Verb + Object + Be + Past Participle + by + Subject) is used. In the sentence 'Can you compose an inspiring poem?', the object 'an inspiring poem' is placed at the beginning. The modal verb 'Can' remains the same, and the verb 'compose' is changed to 'be composed' in Passive Voice. The subject 'you' is added at the end as 'by you'. Therefore, the correct answer is (Can an inspiring poem be composed by you?).

10. D) **On cloud nine** (idiom) – Being very delighted (बहुत खुश होना)

11. A) **PROQ**

dreams provide an escape dreams provide an escape of endless possibilities where reality is suspended

Why P comes first: P introduces the main subject and verb, establishing the idea that dreams offer a form of escape.

Why R follows P: R adds to P by describing where the escape leads — into a world. It connects directly to P by specifying that the escape provided by dreams leads into another world.

Why O follows R: O completes the idea introduced by R by describing this world as one "of endless possibilities."

Why Q follows O: Q provides additional information about the nature of this world by explaining that "reality is suspended."

12. A) **BDAC**

I have a driving license But no real driving experience So I am not very sure Of myself reaching home safely

Why B comes first: B introduces the main subject (I) and a fact about the subject's qualifications — possessing a driving license.

Why D follows B: D contrasts B by mentioning that despite having a license, the person lacks real driving experience. The use of "but" establishes a contrast with the previous statement.

Why A follows D: A expresses the consequence of the lack of experience mentioned in D — uncertainty. The use of "so" here implies a resulting feeling due to the contrast in D.

Why C follows A: C completes the thought introduced in A by specifying what the person is uncertain about — reaching home safely. This provides the full context of the speaker's uncertainty.

13. D) **Kilter** (noun) – Proper condition, balance, harmony, state of being in order.

Synonym: **Order** (noun) – An arrangement or condition where everything is functioning properly, system, organization. व्यवस्था

- **Anarchy** (noun) – Absence of government or control, disorder, chaos. अराजकता
- **Shambles** (noun) – A state of total disorder, chaos, mess. अराजकता
- **Disrepair** (noun) – A state of being in poor condition or needing repairs, deterioration. खराब स्थिति

14. D) **Condone** (verb) – To accept or allow behavior that is morally wrong or offensive, to forgive or overlook an offense. माफ करना, अनदेखी करना

Synonym: **Pardon** (verb) – To forgive someone for an offense or wrongdoing, to excuse. माफी देना

- **Solicitude** (noun) – Care or concern for someone or something. चिंता
- **Solace** (noun) – Comfort or consolation in a time of distress. सांत्वना
- **Penalty** (noun) – A punishment imposed for breaking a law or rule. दंड

15. A) 'will a heavy downpour' के बदले '**was a heavy downpour**' का प्रयोग होगा क्योंकि मुख्य वाक्य में 'We were' का प्रयोग Past Tense में किया गया है। इसलिए, अचानक हुई बारिश को दर्शाने के लिए Past Tense का प्रयोग होना चाहिए; जैसे— "Suddenly, there was a heavy downpour."

'**was a heavy downpour**' will be used instead of 'will a heavy downpour' because the main sentence uses 'We were' in Past Tense. Hence, to indicate the sudden rain, the verb should also be in the Past Tense; like— "Suddenly, there was a heavy downpour."

16. C) **Tendency** (noun) – An inclination towards a particular type of behavior or action. प्रवृत्ति

Synonym: **Proneness** (noun) – The state of being likely to behave in a certain way, inclination, predisposition. प्रवृत्ति

- **Decoy** (noun) – A person or thing used to mislead or lure someone into a trap. प्रलोभन
- **Aversion** (noun) – A strong dislike or unwillingness towards something. अरुचि

- **Distaste** (noun) – A feeling of dislike or disapproval. नापसंदगी
17. D) 'seek' के बदले **Sought** का प्रयोग होगा क्योंकि यह sentence Past Tense में है और 'sought' verb 'seek' का Past Tense रूप है। वाक्य में "He (seek) for the wallet in his pocket" का संदर्भ एक ऐसी स्थिति का है जो पहले हो चुकी है। यह वाक्य पहले से पूर्ण हो चुकी क्रिया का संदर्भ दे रहा है,
'Sought' will be used instead of 'seek' because the sentence is in Past Tense, and 'sought' is the Past Tense form of the verb 'seek.' The sentence refers to an action that has already been completed, so the correct form is 'sought.'
18. D) The correct spelling is '**Parallelism**' (Option D), which means "the use of successive verbal constructions in poetry or prose that correspond in grammatical structure, sound, meter, meaning, etc." In Hindi, it translates to "समांतरता या समानता।"
19. C) **Liberal** (adjective) – Open to new behavior or opinions, willing to discard traditional values. उदार
Antonym: **Dogmatic** (adjective) – Inclined to lay down principles as undeniably true, stubborn, inflexible, rigid. कट्टर
- **Diplomatic** (adjective) – Skilled in managing negotiations or people without causing bad feelings, tactful, sensitive. कूटनीतिक
 - **Conservative** (adjective) – Holding to traditional attitudes and values, cautious about change. रूढ़िवादी
 - **Concerned** (adjective) – Worried, anxious, troubled. चिंतित
20. B) **Annoyance** (noun) – A feeling of irritation or displeasure, being bothered by something. नाराज़गी, झुंझलाहट।
Antonym: **Serenity** (noun) – The state of being calm, peaceful, and untroubled. शांत, शांति।
- **Gnawer** (noun) – A type of animal that chews or gnaws, such as a rodent. चबाने वाला।
 - **Susceptibility** (noun) – The state of being likely to be influenced or harmed by a particular thing, vulnerability. संवेदनशीलता।
 - **Absurdity** (noun) – The state or quality of being ridiculous or wildly unreasonable. मूर्खता।
21. A) 'was' का use होगा क्योंकि "was" का अर्थ है कि कोई घटना या स्थिति अतीत में हो रही थी। Covid-19 की छाया, जो बीते समय में Diwali को प्रभावित कर रही थी, को एक past event के रूप में बताया गया है, इसलिए 'was' सही है। जबकि 'is' वर्तमान काल को दर्शाता है, 'were' plural subjects के लिए है, और 'are' भी वर्तमान tense को दिखाता है, जो इस context में सही नहीं हैं।

'was' will be used because it indicates that an event or situation was happening in the past. The sentence refers to Covid-19's shadow as a past event affecting Diwali celebrations, making 'was' appropriate. Whereas, 'is' refers to the present tense, 'were' is used with plural subjects, and 'are' also indicates the present tense, which are not suitable in this context.

22. B) **Disease** का use होगा क्योंकि "disease" का अर्थ है बीमारी या रोग। यहाँ sentence में "death" (मृत्यु) और किसी समस्या का जिक्र है, जो "disease" से संबंधित है। Covid-19 महामारी ने जीवन में मौत और बीमारी लाई थी, इसलिए 'disease' का उपयोग सही है। 'Demonetisation' का अर्थ है नोटबंदी, जो इस context में फिट नहीं बैठता। 'Economic boom' का अर्थ है आर्थिक उछाल, जो यहाँ ठीक नहीं है क्योंकि यहाँ निराशा का वर्णन हो रहा है। 'New birth' का अर्थ है नया जन्म, जो इस वाक्य में मृत्यु और परेशानी की चर्चा के साथ मेल नहीं खाता।

'Disease' will be used because it refers to illness or sickness. In the sentence, "death" and a problematic situation are mentioned, which is linked to "disease." The Covid-19 pandemic brought death and disease into life, so 'disease' is the correct fit. 'Demonetisation' refers to the banning of currency, which does not fit here. 'Economic boom' means a rise in economic growth, which is unsuitable because the passage describes gloom. 'New birth' refers to new life, which does not match with the talk of death and suffering.

23. D) **Has shed** का use होगा क्योंकि "shed" का अर्थ है किसी चीज़ को छोड़ना या छुटकारा पाना। इस sentence में यह बताया जा रहा है कि इस दिवाली ने लोगों के दुखों को दूर कर दिया है, इसलिए 'has shed' सही विकल्प है। जबकि 'has hovered' का अर्थ होता है मंडराना, जो यहाँ सही नहीं है क्योंकि यहाँ दुखों का छुटकारा पाने की बात हो रही है। 'Had recognised' का अर्थ होता है पहचानना, जो इस context में सही नहीं है। 'Has adopted' का अर्थ होता है अपनाना, जो यहां fit नहीं बैठता।

'Has shed' will be used because "shed" means to let go of or get rid of something. The sentence mentions that this Diwali has removed the sorrows of people, making 'has shed' the right option. Whereas 'has hovered' means to linger, which is incorrect here as the context is about getting rid of sorrows. 'Had recognised' means to identify, and 'has adopted' means to take on, both of which do not fit in this context.

24. C) **Salute** का use होगा क्योंकि "salute" का अर्थ होता है सम्मान देना या प्रशंसा करना। यहाँ passage में बात की जा रही है उन लोगों की जिन्होंने लोगों की ज़िन्दगी बचाने और अच्छे विचारों को फैलाने में योगदान दिया है, इसलिए उन्हें सम्मान देने के लिए "salute" सही है। Onerous का अर्थ है कठिन या बोझिल, जो इस context में उपयुक्त नहीं है। Berate का अर्थ है कड़ी आलोचना करना, जो यहाँ सही नहीं होगा क्योंकि आलोचना के बारे में नहीं कहा गया है।

Terminate का अर्थ है समाप्त करना, जो कि यहाँ उन लोगों के योगदान को सम्मानित करने के सन्दर्भ में फिट नहीं बैठता।

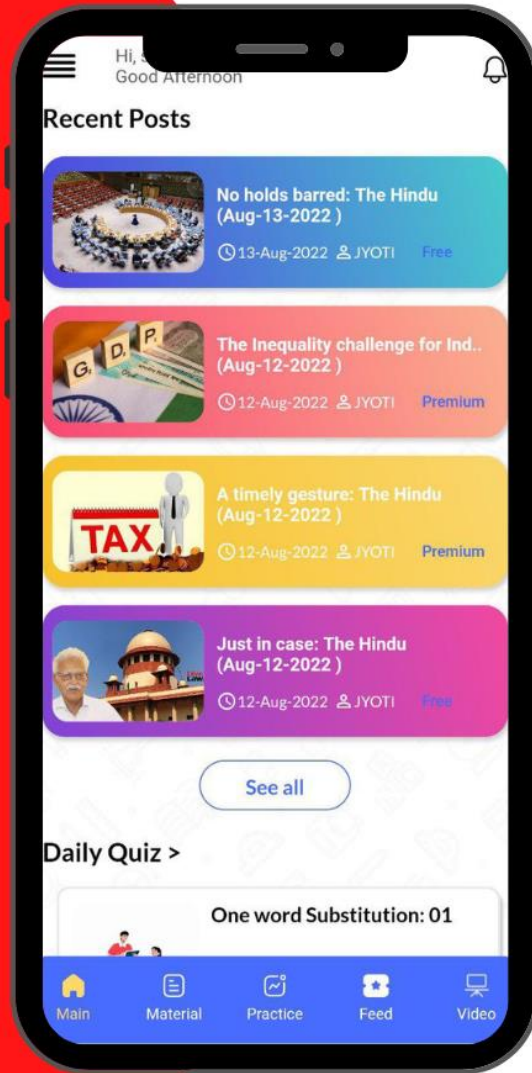
Salute is the correct choice because it means to honor or show respect. In this passage, it talks about honoring people who have contributed to saving lives and spreading good thoughts, so "salute" is appropriate. Onerous means burdensome, which doesn't fit in this context.

Berate means to criticize harshly, which isn't suitable as the passage isn't about criticism.

Terminate means to end, which doesn't align with the idea of honoring someone's contributions.

25. B) '**Spreading**' का use correct होगा क्योंकि 'spreading' का अर्थ होता है फैलाना या प्रचार करना। यहाँ sentence में बात की जा रही है उन लोगों की जिन्होंने अच्छे विचार फैलाने और लोगों की जिंदगियाँ बचाने में महत्वपूर्ण योगदान दिया है। इसलिए 'spreading' सही विकल्प है। जबकि 'stagnating' का अर्थ है ठहरना, 'implicating' का अर्थ है फंसाना, और 'impeding' का अर्थ है बाधा डालना, जो इस संदर्भ में फिट नहीं होते।

- '**Spreading**' will be used because it means to propagate or disseminate. In this sentence, it refers to those people who have made a significant contribution to spreading good thoughts and saving people's lives, making 'spreading' the most appropriate choice. Whereas 'stagnating' means to become stagnant or remain still, 'implicating' means to involve in a crime, and 'impeding' means to obstruct, which don't fit in this context.



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