

## Assuaging concerns: On India and ethanol-blended fuel

Vehicle owners deserve support on use of **ethanol-blended** fuel

The **downsides** to ethanol use when compared to petrol **are** well known, including in the U.S. and Brazil, that have led in ethanol blending. But the **engineering** behind the safe and **efficient** use of ethanol-blended petrol, from 5% to 100%, **is established** too. Ethanol blending began as a response to the oil shock of the 1970s. Ethanol has also been **pushed** as carbon neutral. For India, however, the **clinching** argument is **import substitution** and lower price. The government's case is that ethanol blending up to 20% can ensure \$10 billion being put in Indian pockets every year. But, the benefits will be **uneven** for farmers, traders and **distillers**. India's case **hinges on** increasing use of C-heavy molasses that are not used for sugar making, using broken rice that otherwise **rots** in godowns, and on **ramping up acreage** and **productivity** of maize that is agriculturally less demanding. These are **supposed to set off** food security concerns. Once the ethanol economy is fully established, however, it may be tough to prioritise food stocks over the interests of **stakeholders** in case of shortages and imbalances. Import substitution figures can be **dented** by import of farm inputs such as fertilizers that have a forex **outgo** of \$10 billion.

Ethanol has an **efficiency** penalty — it can affect material **durability** and **corrode** fuel handling systems. But, global studies have shown that **vehicles** manufactured as per Euro 2, U.S. Tier 1 and India's BS 2 norms (in force since 2001) **are compatible** for ethanol use up to E15. The closed **loop** fuel control **systems mandated** to control fuel burning and keeping **emissions** down in BS 2 **can** help to **mitigate** efficiency and durability penalties of ethanol and the upgraded materials in BS 2 can help to reduce **corrosion**. In addition, as per norms, India's vehicles sold since 2023 are **committed** to handle up to E20 although questions arise over the impact on the mass of older vehicles. And what is not helping is that in India there is no choice for consumers. Also, any **reduction** in price **claimed** earlier **does** not seem to be **reflected** in the **bunk**. **Meanwhile**, India has adopted two ethanol-specific norms and is expected to come up with E27, **taking a cue** from Brazil. While the government **insists** that its research indicates no harm, what would really help is full disclosure by automakers on their past brands even as they are announcing models that can accept any level of ethanol. **For instance**, some models sold some five years ago accepted only E5. Manufacturers should indicate possible **mitigation** routes for such models. And the government must **back** insurance claims. **Transparency** should support policy moves.

[Practice Exercise]

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

## Vocabulary

1. **Assuage** (verb) – ease, alleviate, lessen, relieve, soothe शांत करना / कम करना
2. **Ethanol-blended** (adjective) – alcohol-mixed, fuel-mixed, biofuel-based, spirit-infused, hybrid मिश्रित एथेनॉल वाला
3. **Downside** (noun) – drawback, disadvantage, weakness, flaw, limitation कमी / नकारात्मक पक्ष
4. **Engineering** (noun) – the action of working artfully to bring something about. अभियांत्रिकी
5. **Efficient** (adjective) – effective, competent, capable, streamlined, productive कुशल / प्रभावी
6. **Establish** (verb) – set up, found, create, initiate, institute स्थापित करना
7. **Push** (verb) – promote, encourage, advance, drive, advocate बढ़ावा देना
8. **Clinching** (adjective) – a decisive and conclusive पक्का / सुनिश्चित
9. **Import Substitution** (noun) – a trade policy where a country aims to replace the import of foreign goods with domestically produced goods.
10. **Distiller** (noun) – alcohol-maker, brewer, producer, manufacturer, spirit-maker शराब बनाने वाला
11. **Hinge** (on) (verb) – depend, rely, rest, be based, be determined निर्भर होना
12. **Rot** (verb) – decay, decompose, spoil, perish, disintegrate सड़ना
13. **Ramp up** (phrasal verb) – increase, boost, enhance, intensify, accelerate बढ़ाना
14. **Acreage** (noun) – farmland, plot size, land area, estate, holding भूमि क्षेत्रफल
15. **Productivity** (noun) – output, efficiency, performance, yield, capacity उत्पादकता
16. **Supposed** (to) (adjective) – expected, presumed, assumed, intended, meant अपेक्षित / माना गया
17. **Set off** (phrasal verb) – trigger, cause, initiate, prompt, activate आरंभ करना
18. **Stakeholder** (noun) – participant, investor, partner, shareholder, member हितधारक
19. **Dent** (verb) – damage, harm, impair, weaken, reduce कम करना / चोट पहुँचाना
20. **Outgo** (noun) – expenditure, spending, cost, disbursement, expense खर्च
21. **Efficiency** (noun) – effectiveness, proficiency, productivity, performance, competence दक्षता
22. **Durability** (noun) – endurance, longevity, resilience, toughness, sturdiness टिकाऊपन

23. **Corrode** (verb) – rust, erode, tarnish, eat away, decay जंग लगना / क्षय होना
24. **Compatible** (adjective) – consistent, suitable, fitting, adaptable, harmonious संगत
25. **Loop** (noun) – circuit, ring, cycle, chain, sequence घेरा / चक्र
26. **Mandate** (verb) – require, order, command, decree, direct अनिवार्य करना / आदेश देना
27. **Emission** (noun) – discharge, release, outflow, output, exhalation उत्सर्जन
28. **Mitigate** (verb) – reduce, alleviate, lessen, ease, moderate कम करना
29. **Corrosion** (noun) – rusting, erosion, deterioration, oxidation, decay जंग / क्षरण
30. **Committed** (to) (adjective) – dedicated, devoted, bound, obligated, pledged प्रतिबद्ध
31. **Claim** (verb) – assert, state, allege, declare, maintain दावा करना
32. **Reflect** (in) (verb) – show, indicate, display, manifest, reveal दिखना
33. **Bunk** (noun) – fuel station, gas pump, service station, petrol outlet पेट्रोल पंप
34. **Meanwhile** (adverb) – at the same time, simultaneously, concurrently, in the interim, during this time इस बीच
35. **Take a cue** (phrase) – follow an example, be inspired, imitate, adopt, copy उदाहरण लेना
36. **Insist** (verb) – demand, maintain, assert, stress, emphasize ज़ोर देना
37. **For instance** (phrase) – for example, such as, like, namely, to illustrate उदाहरण के लिए
38. **Mitigation** (noun) – reduction, alleviation, lessening, moderation, easing कमी / शमन
39. **Back** (verb) – support, endorse, approve, advocate, promote समर्थन करना
40. **Transparency** (noun) – openness, clarity, honesty, accountability, candour पारदर्शिता

### Summary of the Editorial

1. Ethanol blending has known downsides compared to petrol, as seen in countries like the U.S. and Brazil.
2. The technology for safely using ethanol blends from 5% to 100% is already well-established.
3. Ethanol blending began in response to the 1970s oil crisis and is also promoted as carbon neutral.
4. For India, the main advantage is import substitution and potential annual savings of \$10 billion.
5. Benefits from ethanol will be unevenly distributed among farmers, traders, and distillers.
6. India plans to use C-heavy molasses, broken rice, and expand maize cultivation to produce ethanol.
7. These feedstock choices are meant to reduce food security concerns.
8. Once fully established, the ethanol economy may make it difficult to prioritise food stocks over industry needs during shortages.
9. Import savings could be offset by the import of farm inputs like fertilisers, which also cost around \$10 billion in forex.
10. Ethanol has efficiency penalties, can affect material durability, and cause corrosion in fuel systems.
11. Vehicles built under BS 2 norms (since 2001) are generally compatible with ethanol blends up to E15.
12. BS 2 vehicles' closed loop fuel control systems and upgraded materials help mitigate ethanol's drawbacks.
13. Since 2023, Indian vehicles are designed to handle up to E20 ethanol, but older vehicles face compatibility issues.
14. Consumers in India currently have no choice on fuel type, and expected price reductions are not seen at pumps.
15. Greater transparency is needed—automakers should disclose ethanol compatibility of past models, offer solutions for older vehicles, and the government should support insurance claims related to ethanol use.

### Practice Exercise: SSC Pattern Based

**[Editorial page]**

1. **What is the tone of the passage?**
  - A. Cautiously analytical
  - B. Optimistic and promotional
  - C. Humorous and sarcastic
  - D. Indifferent and neutral
2. **According to the passage, what is the primary reason the Indian government promotes ethanol blending, despite known drawbacks?**
  - A. To reduce carbon emissions and match Brazil's success in ethanol production.
  - B. To substitute costly petroleum imports and save substantial foreign exchange for India.
  - C. To ensure that Indian automakers comply with upgraded emission and material durability standards.
  - D. To completely replace petrol with ethanol and achieve energy independence within the next decade.
3. **Why might the ethanol economy pose challenges to food security in India in the long run, according to the passage?**
  - A. Because ethanol production will lead to a complete stop in sugar production from molasses.
  - B. Because ethanol's corrosive nature could damage storage silos meant for grains.
  - C. Because priority might shift from maintaining adequate food grain stocks to serving ethanol stakeholders during shortages.
  - D. Because India will be forced to import all maize used for ethanol production, increasing costs.
4. **Based on the passage, which of the following can be reasonably inferred about India's ethanol-blending policy?**
  - A. While ethanol-blending can bring economic savings and reduce oil imports, it may create competing demands between food security and industrial interests in times of scarcity.
  - B. India's ethanol program is entirely modeled on Brazil's approach, with no significant differences in raw material sources or implementation.
  - C. Ethanol blending in India will fully eliminate the need for petroleum imports, making the country self-sufficient in liquid fuels.
  - D. The primary obstacle to ethanol blending in India is the lack of technical know-how for producing ethanol-compatible vehicles.
5. **Fill in the blank with the most context-appropriate option from the passage:**

"Once the ethanol economy is fully established, however, it may be tough to prioritise food stocks over the interests of stakeholders in case of shortages and \_\_\_\_\_."

  - A. surpluses
  - B. breakthroughs
  - C. efficiencies
  - D. imbalances
6. **Select the option that expresses the given sentence in reported speech.**

The manager said, 'We have been monitoring the performance of each team member very closely over the last few months, and we will be conducting a review next week.'

- A. The manager said that they had been monitoring the performance of each team member very closely over the last few months, and they would be conducting a review the following week.
- B. The manager said that they have been monitoring the performance of each team member very closely over the last few months, and they would be conducting a review the following week.
- C. The manager said that they had been monitoring the performance of each team member very closely over the last few months, and they will be conducting a review the following week.
- D. The manager said that they had been monitoring the performance of each team member very closely over the last few months, and they would be conducting a review next week.
7. **Arrange into a coherent paragraph:**
- A. The ubiquity of push notifications, autoplay features, and infinite-scroll interfaces has remodeled the very architecture of attention, turning deliberate focus into a scarce resource.
- B. As platforms compete for eyeballs, designers optimize features that maximize short-term engagement metrics rather than long-term well-being.
- C. This shift has consequences far beyond individual distraction: it reshapes civic discourse, learning habits, and even how we form memories.
- D. If societies are to preserve meaningful concentration, there must be deliberate choices at regulatory, corporate, and personal levels to redesign digital environments.
- E. Historically, technological innovations have altered daily routines and social norms, but the current transformation affects internal cognitive economy itself.
- A. B A E C D
- B. A B E C D
- C. E B A C D
- D. E A B C D
8. **Direction: Select the option out of four in which there is a grammatical error.**
- A. The committee, after holding several rounds of intense deliberations over the past three weeks and consulting with experts from different universities, has finally decided to postpone the release of the revised syllabus until further notice.
- B. The group of environmental activists, who have been campaigning tirelessly against illegal deforestation in the region for more than five years now, were honoured with a national award for their relentless dedication last month.
- C. The chief guest, along with his entire delegation of international diplomats and trade representatives, were invited to participate in the roundtable discussions on global economic policies scheduled for next Tuesday.
- D. The research team, having completed all stages of fieldwork and data collection in the most challenging terrains of the Himalayan region, is now in the process of compiling and analysing the final report for publication.
9. **In each of the following questions, a part of the sentence is printed in bold. Below the sentence are given alternatives to the bold part, at (A), (B), (C), and (D). Choose the alternative which improves the bold part in the context of the sentence. If no improvement is required, your answer is (D).**

Despite the fact that the committee **has decided to postpone** the implementation of the new policy until the following financial year, several departments have already begun restructuring their operational frameworks in anticipation.

- A. has decided to postpone
- B. decided to postponed
- C. has decided to be postponed
- D. No improvement

10. **Direction: In the following question, each sentence has a blank space. Match the sentences in Column A with the most appropriate words in Column B so that the overall meaning remains logical and grammatically correct. Each word from Column B can be used only once.**

Column A (Sentences):

- 1. The scientist's new theory managed to \_\_\_ long-standing beliefs about the origin of the universe.
- 2. The manager had to \_\_\_ several employees for their consistent tardiness.
- 3. The charity event was organized to \_\_\_ funds for disaster relief.
- 4. The teacher tried to \_\_\_ the importance of critical thinking among students.

Column B (Words):

- a. reprimand
- b. challenge
- c. instill
- d. raise

- A. 1-a, 2-d, 3-c, 4-b
- B. 1-c, 2-b, 3-a, 4-d
- C. 1-d, 2-c, 3-b, 4-a
- D. 1-b, 2-a, 3-d, 4-c

11. **The following sentence has been split into four segments. Identify the segment that contains a grammatical error.**

Unless you will submit all the required documents along with the duly filled application form before the closing date, your candidature for the scholarship will not be considered by the selection committee.

- A. Unless you will submit all the required documents
- B. along with the duly filled application form
- C. before the closing date
- D. your candidature for the scholarship will not be considered by the selection committee

12. **In each of the following questions, a part of the sentence is printed in bold. Below the sentence are given alternatives to the bold part, at (A), (B), (C), and (D). Choose the alternative which improves the bold part in the context of the sentence. If no improvement is required, your answer is (D).**

By the time the rescue team reached the stranded mountaineers, they **were suffering from extreme dehydration for over thirty hours**, making their condition critical.

- A. had suffered from extreme dehydration for over thirty hours
- B. have been suffering from extreme dehydration for over thirty hours
- C. had been suffering from extreme dehydration for over thirty hours
- D. No improvement



**13. Arrange into a coherent paragraph:**

- A. The rapid expansion of megacities often outpaces municipal capacity, creating sprawling informal settlements that supply essential labor and services.
- B. These economies, although precarious and under-regulated, are flexible engines of survival and innovation for millions who migrate in search of opportunity.
- C. Yet, mainstream planning approaches frequently stigmatize or ignore informal workers, which deepens social exclusion and reduces resilience to shocks.
- D. Recognizing the productive role of informal systems can allow policymakers to design inclusive infrastructure, microfinance, and legal frameworks that protect livelihoods.
- E. As cities continue to grow, the tension between formal urban development and informal survival strategies becomes a defining challenge for equitable governance.

- A. A B E C D
- B. B A C E D
- C. A E B C D
- D. E A B C D

**14. Choose the most appropriate reported speech form of the following sentence:**

Rita asked her friend, 'Did you manage to submit the assignment before the deadline yesterday?'

- A. Rita asked her friend whether she had managed to submit the assignment before the deadline the previous day.
- B. Rita asked her friend whether she had managed to submit the assignment before the deadline yesterday.
- C. Rita asked her friend whether she managed to submit the assignment before the deadline the previous day.
- D. Rita asked her friend whether she managed to submit the assignment before the deadline yesterday.

**15. Direction: In the following paragraph, there are three blanks that must be filled with verbs in the same grammatical form. Select the option that arranges the correct words in the correct order.**

In the wake of the financial crisis, the government sought to \_\_\_ economic growth by introducing new policies, to \_\_\_ investor confidence through transparent reforms, and to \_\_\_ innovation in key industries by offering research grants and tax incentives. The combined effort was aimed at creating a stable environment where businesses could flourish, capital could circulate freely, and technology could advance without unnecessary barriers.

- A. accelerate – restore – foster
- B. foster – accelerate – restore
- C. restore – foster – accelerate
- D. accelerate – foster – restore

**16. In the following sentence, a word is given in brackets. Select the appropriate word from the options to fill in the blank so that it is the closest synonym of the word given in brackets**

She maintained a \_\_\_\_\_ (TEMPERATE) tone throughout the debate, never raising her voice or losing her composure.

- A. Brittle
- B. Moderate



- C. Mottled  
D. Zealous
17. **The following sentence has been split into four segments. Identify the segment that contains a grammatical error.**  
He has been working tirelessly on the project since the past six months, ensuring that every aspect meets the quality standards set by the client.  
A. He has been working tirelessly on the project  
B. since the past six months  
C. ensuring that every aspect meets the quality standards  
D. set by the client
18. **Read the following description carefully and choose the correct one-word substitution of 'Something' that best describes the condition being portrayed**  
Someone who engages in the practice of lending money to individuals or businesses at excessively and unreasonably high rates of interest—often in an illegal, unethical, and exploitative manner, typically targeting those in urgent need of funds—is known as what?  
A. Banker  
B. Creditor  
C. Usurer  
D. Investor
19. **Choose the most appropriate reported speech form of the following sentence:**  
The chief said to the workers, 'You must complete this project within the next three weeks, or the company will have to impose penalties.'  
A. The chief told the workers that they had to complete that project within the next three weeks, or the company would have to impose penalties.  
B. The chief told the workers that they must complete that project within the following three weeks, or the company would have to impose penalties.  
C. The chief told the workers that they must complete that project within the next three weeks, or the company would have to impose penalties.  
D. The chief told the workers that they had to complete that project within the following three weeks, or the company would have to impose penalties.
20. **Arrange into a coherent paragraph:**  
A. When complex scientific findings are reduced to simplistic headlines or misinterpreted through partisan lenses, public trust can erode quickly.  
B. Effective science communication therefore requires not only accurate information but also transparency about uncertainty, methodology, and value judgments.  
C. The spreading of partial or sensationalized reports — amplified by social media — creates fertile ground for skepticism and polarized responses.  
D. Rebuilding confidence involves sustained engagement, two-way dialogue with communities, and institutional practices that privilege openness over rhetorical persuasion.  
E. Scientists and communicators must acknowledge that facts alone rarely change minds; context, narrative, and listening are equally important.  
A. A C E B D  
B. C A E B D  
C. C E A B D

D. E A C B D

**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.**

Amidst widespread expectation and hope, the \_\_\_\_\_ (1) \_\_\_\_\_ Tamil Nadu State Education Policy 2025 has been \_\_\_\_\_ (2) \_\_\_\_\_ by the government, only for school education, and in a \_\_\_\_\_ (3) \_\_\_\_\_ manner. Being the first of its kind in terms of \_\_\_\_\_ (4) \_\_\_\_\_ inferior content and structure, the policy document lacks the body of knowledge that constitutes a public policy, as well as the universally accepted conventions, customs, and norms that are historically followed in policy formulation.

The irony is that, in a transparent digital world, the policymakers boldly claim that this policy does not reflect NEP 2020, even though the themes and ideas on which its recommendations are based are truly the essence of NEP 2020. Both are similar in their \_\_\_\_\_ (5) \_\_\_\_\_ on the centralisation of curriculum, teaching, and learning, and end-to-end control of educational functions, right from curriculum design through instruction to examination.

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

- A. short-sighted
- B. much-hyped
- C. deep-rooted
- D. high-handed

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

- A. unveiled
- B. concealed
- C. veiled
- D. shrouded

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

- A. comprehensive
- B. wholesale
- C. all-encompassing
- D. piecemeal

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

- A. It's
- B. its
- C. their
- D. their's

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

- A. minimization
- B. disregard
- C. defy
- D. emphasis

## Answer

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

[\[Practice Exercise\]](#)

## EXPLANATION

### 1. A) **Cautiously analytical**

The author acknowledges both benefits and drawbacks of ethanol blending in India, highlighting economic, environmental, and technical considerations while warning about possible risks - a careful and analytical stance.

B: Incorrect - the passage is not blindly promoting ethanol; it discusses drawbacks and risks in detail.

C: Incorrect - there is no humor or sarcasm; the tone is factual and serious.

D: Incorrect - the author takes a clear evaluative stance, not detached neutrality.

### 2. B) **To substitute costly petroleum imports and save substantial foreign exchange for India.**

The passage clearly states that the “clinging argument” for India is import substitution and lower price, with the government claiming \$10 billion can be saved annually. While carbon neutrality and environmental benefits are mentioned, these are not presented as the main driver for India’s policy.

A: Reducing carbon emissions and following Brazil’s lead is discussed, but it’s not the primary driver for India; it is secondary to economic savings.

C: Compliance with standards like BS 2 and E20 is a technical requirement, not the core reason for promotion.

D: The passage never states a full petrol replacement goal in the next decade; rather, it focuses on up to 20% blending for now.

### 3. C) **Because priority might shift from maintaining adequate food grain stocks to serving ethanol stakeholders during shortages.**

The passage warns that once the ethanol economy is fully established, it may be “tough to prioritise food stocks over the interests of stakeholders” during shortages and imbalances. This is the direct link to food security concerns.

A: The passage says India uses C-heavy molasses not used for sugar making, so sugar production is not fully stopped.

C: Ethanol’s corrosive impact is mentioned for fuel handling systems, not food storage silos.

D: The focus is on increasing maize productivity domestically; full import dependence is not mentioned.

### 4. A) **While ethanol-blending can bring economic savings and reduce oil imports, it may create competing demands between food security and industrial interests in times of scarcity.**

B: Although India is expected to come up with E27 similar to Brazil, the passage clearly says India relies on different feedstocks (molasses, broken rice, maize) — so it is not “entirely modeled” on Brazil.

C: The passage mentions ethanol reduces imports but also notes import of farm inputs (like fertilizers) that still cause forex outgo; thus, self-sufficiency is not guaranteed.

D: The passage says technology for ethanol-compatible vehicles already exists (BS 2 and newer norms); the main issues are transparency, compatibility with older vehicles, and pricing — not a lack of know-how.

5. D) **imbalances**

The passage explicitly states: "...it may be tough to prioritise food stocks over the interests of stakeholders in case of shortages and imbalances." The term imbalances fits perfectly as it refers to uneven supply-demand conditions that could challenge food security.

A: "Surpluses" would mean excess availability, which does not align with the problem context (shortages are the concern).

B: "Breakthroughs" suggests positive technological or production advances, not a challenge alongside shortages.

C: "Efficiencies" is unrelated; the issue is not operational efficiency but resource allocation.

6. A) The manager said that they had been monitoring the performance of each team member very closely over the last few months, and they would be conducting a review the following week.

- Rule 1: Present perfect continuous (have been monitoring) in past reporting changes to past perfect continuous (had been monitoring).

- Rule 2: Future (will) in past reporting becomes would.

- Rule 3: Time reference "next week" changes to "the following week".

**Elimination:**

- Correct — all changes applied.

- Wrong — "have been" not changed to "had been".

- Wrong — "will" not changed to "would".

- Wrong — "next week" not changed to "the following week".

7. D) **E A B C D**

E starts because it introduces the subject "technological innovations," telling us what has altered social norms. It sets the historical context for the paragraph.

A follows E because it provides a specific, current example ("The ubiquity of push notifications...") of the "current transformation" mentioned in E. It builds directly on E's idea by showing how this transformation manifests.

B follows A because it explains the cause ("As platforms compete for eyeballs...") behind the phenomenon described in A ("ubiquity... remodeled the very architecture of attention"). The subject "platforms" and "designers" are the agents responsible for creating A's situation.

C follows B because it starts with "This shift," which directly refers back to the combined effect described in A (remodeling attention architecture) and its cause in B (platform competition/designer optimization). It then introduces the consequences ("reshapes civic discourse...") of this shift.

B, A के बाद logically fit होता है क्योंकि यह बताता है कि A में described situation ("ubiquity... remodeled attention") क्यों हुई - "platforms compete" और "designers optimize" के कारण। यह A के effect का cause बताता है।

E sentence की शुरुआत करता है क्योंकि यह subject "technological innovations" को introduce करता है, जो बताता है कि किसने (what has) social norms को altered किया। यह paragraph का historical context set करता है।

A, E के बाद आता है क्योंकि यह E में mentioned "current transformation" का specific modern example देता है ("push notifications, autoplay...")। यह E के general statement को specific details से expand करता है।

B, A के बाद logically fit होता है क्योंकि यह बताता है कि A में described situation ("ubiquity... remodeled attention") क्यों हुई - "platforms compete" और "designers optimize" के कारण। यह A के effect का cause बताता है।

C, B के बाद आता है क्योंकि pronoun "This shift" A और B में describe किए गए digital attention के परिवर्तन को clearly refer करता है। फिर यह इस shift के broader "consequences" को introduce करता है।

D sentence को complete करता है क्योंकि यह C में outlined problems के response के रूप में solution ("deliberate choices... redesign") को introduce करता है। यह E, A, B, C द्वारा develop किए गए problem का logical conclusion प्रस्तुत करता है।

8. C) '**were invited**' के बदले '**was invited**' का प्रयोग होगा क्योंकि 'The chief guest, along with his entire delegation...' में मुख्य subject 'The chief guest' singular है। 'Along with' phrase subject को plural नहीं बनाता। इसलिए verb को singular होना चाहिए। सही वाक्य— The chief guest, along with his entire delegation of international diplomats and trade representatives, was invited to participate...

- '**was invited**' will be used instead of '**were invited**' because in the sentence "The chief guest, along with his entire delegation..." the main subject 'The chief guest' is singular. The phrase 'along with' does not make the subject plural. Therefore, the verb should be singular. Correct sentence— The chief guest, along with his entire delegation of international diplomats and trade representatives, was invited to participate...

9. A) '**has decided to postponed**' के बदले '**has decided to postpone**' का प्रयोग होगा क्योंकि 'to' के बाद हमेशा Verb का base form (V1) आता है, न कि past form (V2)। यहाँ 'to postponed' गलत है, सही रूप 'to postpone' है।

- Instead of '**has decided to postponed**', we use '**has decided to postpone**' because after 'to', the verb must be in its base form (V1), not in past form (V2). So 'to postponed' is incorrect; correct is 'to postpone'.

10. D) In sentence 1, the phrase "managed to \_\_\_ long-standing beliefs" logically fits with challenge (चुनौती देना), as the new theory questions old ideas.

In sentence 2, "\_\_\_ several employees for their consistent tardiness" is correctly completed by reprimand (डांटना / फटकारना), meaning to scold or criticize officially.

In sentence 3, "organized to \_\_\_ funds" fits with raise (पैसा इकट्ठा करना), which means to collect money for a cause.

In sentence 4, "tried to \_\_\_\_ the importance" aligns with instill (रोपित करना), meaning to gradually introduce an idea or value in someone's mind. Other combinations would create illogical or grammatically incorrect sentences.

11. A) Conditional adverbial clause ('Unless...') में future tense का प्रयोग नहीं होता, भले ही मुख्य वाक्य में future हो। यहां 'will submit' गलत है; इसके स्थान पर present simple 'submit' का प्रयोग होगा।

Correct: Unless you submit all the required documents along with the duly filled application form before the closing date, your candidature for the scholarship will not be considered by the selection committee.

- In conditional adverbial clauses introduced by 'Unless', 'If', 'When', 'Before', 'After', the simple present tense is used to refer to future time, not 'will + verb'.

12. C) 'were suffering from extreme dehydration for over thirty hours' के बदले 'had been suffering from extreme dehydration for over thirty hours' का प्रयोग होगा क्योंकि यहाँ 'by the time' + Past Indefinite ('reached') दिया है और इसके पहले की continuous action को व्यक्त करने के लिए Past Perfect Continuous का प्रयोग होता है।

- Instead of 'were suffering...', we use 'had been suffering...' because with 'by the time' + Past Indefinite ('reached'), a continuing action that began earlier and was still ongoing up to that point should be expressed in Past Perfect Continuous tense.

13. C) **A E B C D**

It introduces the subject "The rapid expansion of megacities", establishing the main topic of the paragraph - megacity expansion and its effects

It directly connects to the subject "The rapid expansion of megacities" and its consequence "sprawling informal settlements" introduced in A. It uses the connector "As" to establish time/context

It elaborates on the key concept "informal survival strategies" introduced in E. It uses the pronoun "These" which clearly refers back to "informal survival strategies" in E

It presents a contrasting perspective ("Yet") on the "informal workers" and their situation described in B. The connector "Yet" introduces a problem in contrast to the positive aspect "flexible engines" in B

It presents the solution to the problem described in C ("stigmatize or ignore", "deepens social exclusion"). The connector "Recognizing" introduces a positive action contrasting the neglect in C, and the verb "can allow" indicates the possibility of the solution

In Hindi:

A: यह subject "The rapid expansion of megacities" को introduce करता है, जो paragraph के main topic (मेगासिटीज़ के विस्तार और उसके प्रभाव) को स्थापित करता है।

यह A में introduce हुए subject "The rapid expansion of megacities" और उसके परिणाम ("sprawling informal settlements") से directly जुड़ता है। Connector "As" का प्रयोग करता है जो time/context establish करता है

यह E में introduce हुए key concept "informal survival strategies" को आगे बढ़ाता है और उसकी विस्तृत व्याख्या करता है। Pronoun "These" का प्रयोग करता है जो E के "informal survival strategies" को clearly refer करता है।

यह B में describe किए गए "informal workers" और उनकी स्थिति ("precarious and under-regulated") पर एक contrasting perspective ("Yet") प्रस्तुत करता है। Connector "Yet" B के positive aspect ("flexible engines") के विपरीत एक problem introduce करता है।

यह C में बताई गई problem ("stigmatize or ignore", "deepens social exclusion") का solution प्रस्तुत करता है। Connector "Recognizing" C में बताई गई neglect के विपरीत एक सकारात्मक action को introduce करता है और verb "can allow" solution की possibility बताता है।

14. A) Rita asked her friend whether she had managed to submit the assignment before the deadline the previous day.

- Rule 1: In reported speech with a past simple question (Did you manage), the tense changes to past perfect → had managed.
- Rule 2: "Yesterday" changes to "the previous day" in indirect speech.
- Rule 3: Yes/No questions change to if/whether format, and question order becomes statement order (subject before verb).
- Elimination:
- Correct — Did → had managed, yesterday → the previous day.
- Wrong — "yesterday" not changed.
- Wrong — tense not changed to past perfect.
- Wrong — tense and time not changed.

15. A) **accelerate – restore – foster**

The verbs must be in their base form to match the infinitive structure "to + verb" in all three blanks. Accelerate (तेज़ करना) fits with "economic growth" as the government wants to speed it up; restore (पुनःस्थापित करना) is correct with "investor confidence" as it implies regaining trust; foster (प्रोत्साहित करना) is appropriate for "innovation" because it means to encourage development. Other options misplace the verbs, creating illogical or awkward meaning in context.

16. B) **Temperate** (adjective) - showing moderation or self-restraint. संयमी

**Synonym; Moderate** (adjective) – Balanced, avoiding extremes. संतुलित / मध्यम

- **Brittle** – Easily broken. भंगुर
- **Mottled** – Marked with spots or smears of color. चितकबरा
- **Zealous** – Intensely passionate. उत्साही

17. B) **'Since'** समय की शुरुआत (point of time) बताता है, जबकि 'past six months' अवधि (period of time) है। यहां for the past six months सही होगा। 'Since' + duration गलत है; 'Since' के बाद exact starting point (जैसे since January, since 2020) आता है।

Correct: He has been working tirelessly on the project for the past six months, ensuring that every aspect meets the quality standards set by the client.



- 'Since' is used with a specific point in time, whereas 'for' is used with a duration.
18. C) **Usurer** (noun) – A person who lends money at unreasonably high rates of interest. सूदखोर / अत्यधिक ब्याज पर धन देने वाला व्यक्ति
- **Banker** (noun) – A person who manages or owns a bank. बैंकर
  - **Creditor** (noun) – A person to whom money is owed. लेनदार
  - **Investor** (noun) – A person who puts money into a business to earn profit. निवेशक
19. D) The chief told the workers that they had to complete that project within the following three weeks, or the company would have to impose penalties.
- Rule 1: In indirect speech, when the reporting verb ("said") is in the past tense, modal verbs like must change to had to, unless the meaning is about universal truth or necessity without time reference. Here, it is an instruction tied to a specific time → so must → had to.
  - Rule 2: Time expressions change — next becomes following (or “coming”) in reported speech.
  - Rule 3: The comma after or separates two clauses; the second clause “the company will have to impose penalties” becomes would have to impose penalties (future-in-past).

Elimination:

- Wrong — “next” not changed to “following”.
  - Wrong — “must” not changed to “had to” (time-specific instruction).
  - Wrong — keeps “must” and “next” incorrectly.
  - Correct — All changes applied: must → had to, next → following, will → would.
20. B) **C A E B D**
- C starts the paragraph by introducing the subject "The spreading of partial or sensationalized reports", which establishes the core problem (amplified by social media).
- A follows C because it begins with the subordinating conjunction "When", linking directly to C's subject. It expands the consequence: "When findings are reduced... trust erodes" (A) is the direct result of "spreading reports" (C).
- E comes after A as it introduces the new subject "Scientists and communicators", who must respond to A's consequence (eroded trust). The verb "must acknowledge" (E) addresses the problem defined in A.
- B follows E through the transitional adverb "therefore", showing B's requirements are the logical outcome of E's acknowledgment. E's focus on "context, narrative, listening" (E) leads to B's "transparency" (B).
- D concludes with the gerund "Rebuilding confidence", which is the next step after B's requirements. The verb "involves" (D) details actionable solutions to B's call for transparency.
- In Hindi:
- C पहले आता है क्योंकि यह subject "The spreading of reports" introduce करता है, जो paragraph का central issue (मुख्य समस्या) सेट करता है।

A, C के बाद आता है क्योंकि यह conjunction "When" से शुरू होता है, जो C की situation को expand करता है और उसका result (नतीजा) बताता है: "जब जटिल निष्कर्षों को सरल बनाया जाता है, तो public trust कम हो जाती है"।

E, A के बाद fit होता है क्योंकि यह new subject "Scientists and communicators" लाता है, जो A की problem को address करते हैं। Verb "must acknowledge" E को A से जोड़ता है, क्योंकि eroded trust (A) के बाद experts की जिम्मेदारी (E) आती है।

B, E के बाद आता है adverb "therefore" की वजह से, जो E की बात (facts + context की जरूरत) का solution (समाधान) देता है: "इसलिए effective communication में transparency जरूरी है"।

D अंत में आता है क्योंकि यह gerund "Rebuilding confidence" से शुरू होता है, जो B की requirements के बाद का action (कार्य) दिखाता है। Verb "involves" D को B के साथ grammatically complete करता है।

21. B) '**Much-hyped**' का उपयोग होगा क्योंकि इसका अर्थ है "जिसके बारे में बहुत अधिक प्रचार या चर्चा हुई हो"। वाक्य में "widespread expectation and hope" यानी व्यापक उम्मीद और आशा का उल्लेख है, जो दर्शाता है कि नीति के आने से पहले ही उसका खूब प्रचार-प्रसार और चर्चा हो चुकी थी, इसलिए 'much-hyped' सही है। जबकि 'Short-sighted' का अर्थ है दूरदृष्टि की कमी, 'Deep-rooted' का अर्थ है गहराई से स्थापित, और 'High-handed' का अर्थ है मनमाना या अत्याचारी रवैया अपनाना, जो इस संदर्भ में उपयुक्त नहीं हैं।

'**Much-hyped**' will be used because it means "something that has been heavily publicised or discussed." The sentence mentions "widespread expectation and hope," indicating that the policy had already attracted much attention before its release, making 'much-hyped' the correct choice. Whereas 'Short-sighted' means lacking foresight, 'Deep-rooted' means firmly established, and 'High-handed' means overbearing or domineering — none of which fit this context.

22. A) '**Unveiled**' का उपयोग होगा क्योंकि "unveil" का अर्थ है किसी चीज़ को आधिकारिक रूप से प्रस्तुत या घोषित करना। वाक्य में बताया गया है कि सरकार ने तमिलनाडु स्टेट एजुकेशन पॉलिसी 2025 को जारी किया है, इसलिए 'unveiled' सही है। जबकि 'Concealed' का अर्थ है छिपाना, 'Veiled' का अर्थ है आंशिक रूप से छिपाना या ढकना, और 'Shrouded' का अर्थ है पूरी तरह ढकना या छिपाना — ये सभी जारी करने या प्रस्तुत करने के विपरीत हैं।

'**Unveiled**' will be used because it means to officially present or announce something. The sentence states that the Tamil Nadu State Education Policy 2025 has been released by the government, so 'unveiled' fits perfectly. Whereas 'Concealed' means hidden, 'Veiled' means partially hidden or disguised, and 'Shrouded' means completely covered or obscured — all of which are opposite in meaning to the intended sense.

23. D) '**Piecemeal**' का उपयोग होगा क्योंकि "piecemeal" का अर्थ है किसी कार्य को टुकड़ों में या चरणों में करना, न कि एक साथ पूरा करना। वाक्य में बताया गया है कि नीति केवल स्कूल शिक्षा के लिए और एक "\_\_\_ manner" में जारी की गई है, जो दर्शाता है कि इसे आंशिक रूप से लागू किया गया है, इसलिए 'piecemeal' सही है। जबकि 'Comprehensive' का अर्थ है पूर्ण

और विस्तृत, 'Wholesale' का अर्थ है बड़े पैमाने पर या एक साथ, और 'All-encompassing' का अर्थ है सब कुछ शामिल करने वाला — ये तीनों आंशिक या टुकड़ों में होने के विपरीत हैं।

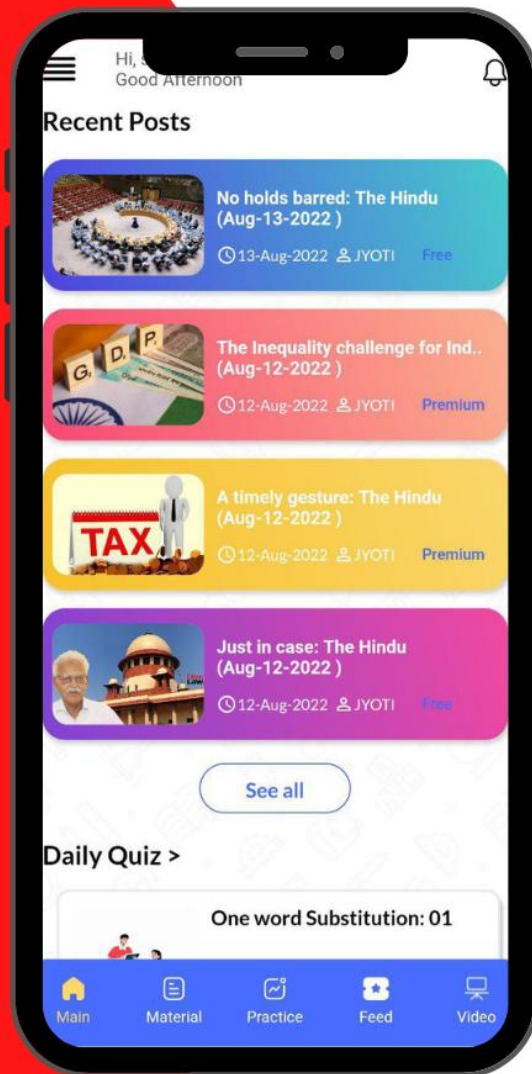
'Piecemeal' will be used because it means done in parts or stages rather than all at once. The sentence states that the policy is only for school education and released in a certain manner, implying it's partial or fragmented, making 'piecemeal' correct. Whereas 'Comprehensive' means complete and detailed, 'Wholesale' means on a large scale or all at once, and 'All-encompassing' means including everything — all opposite to the intended meaning.

24. B) **'Its'** का उपयोग होगा क्योंकि "its" एक possessive determiner है जो किसी वस्तु, संस्था या एकवचन subject की स्वामित्व (possession) दर्शाता है। वाक्य में subject "the first of its kind" है, जो singular है और यह inferior content और structure का मालिकाना दिखा रहा है, इसलिए 'its' सही है। जबकि 'It's' "it is" या "it has" का संक्षिप्त रूप है, जो यहाँ अर्थ और व्याकरण दोनों में गलत है। 'Their' plural subject के लिए possessive determiner है, और 'their's' एक गलत वर्तनी (incorrect form) है।

'Its' will be used because it is a possessive determiner that shows ownership for a singular noun or entity. The sentence says "the first of its kind in terms of inferior content and structure," where the subject is singular and we are showing possession, making 'its' correct. Whereas 'It's' is a contraction of "it is" or "it has" (not suitable here), 'Their' is used for plural subjects, and 'their's' is an incorrect spelling of 'theirs'.

25. D) **'Emphasis'** का उपयोग होगा क्योंकि "emphasis" का अर्थ है किसी विषय या बिंदु पर विशेष ध्यान या महत्व देना। वाक्य में कहा गया है कि दोनों नीतियाँ पाठ्यक्रम, शिक्षण और सीखने के केंद्रीकरण पर समान रूप से ध्यान देती हैं, इसलिए 'emphasis' सही है। जबकि 'Minimization' का अर्थ है किसी चीज़ को कम करना, 'Disregard' का अर्थ है अनदेखा करना, और 'Defy' का अर्थ है विरोध करना या अवहेलना करना — ये तीनों इस संदर्भ में उपयुक्त नहीं हैं।

'Emphasis' will be used because it means special focus or importance given to something. The sentence mentions that both policies are similar in focusing on centralisation of curriculum, teaching, and learning, making 'emphasis' the correct choice. Whereas 'Minimization' means reducing something, 'Disregard' means ignoring, and 'Defy' means resisting or disobeying — none fit the intended meaning here.



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