Compound effect: On digital arrest scams

Southeast Asian scam factories demand a **coordinated** response

The Supreme Court's **call** for a **comprehensive** inquiry into the **proliferating menace** of digital scams **reflects** the **alarming** scale at which Indian citizens are being **defrauded**. The **Bench's** particular **focus** on 'digital arrest' scams — where fraudsters **impersonate** law enforcement officials to **extort** money — **underscores** the **sophistication** and **brazenness** of these operations. What **distinguishes** the current wave of digital fraud from **conventional** cybercrime is its **industrial** scale and cross-border **architecture**. A **sprawling network** of "scam compounds" **operates** from **conflict-torn** regions and special economic zones across Southeast Asia, particularly in Myanmar, where state control is **minimal** and where, disturbingly, **regime complicity** appears **evident**. The **mechanics** of this modern-day **slavery** racket **are chilling**. Victims are **lured** through fraudulent job advertisements promising attractive salaries and perks, **often** via Bangkok, in **exploitation** of visa-free regimes. From there, they are trafficked across borders, primarily into Myanmar's regions controlled by Border Guard Forces allied with the military **junta**. These compounds function as digital **sweatshops** where **trafficked** individuals are **coerced** through violence, torture, and sexual harassment to **perpetrate elaborate** scams, including "**pig butchering**", a sophisticated combination of romance and cryptocurrency investment fraud. Myanmar's **civil war** has created ideal conditions for these operations to **flourish**. The junta's 2021 **coup** and subsequent conflict **emboldened** the **ethnic militias**, re-branded as Border Guard Forces, who found **lucrative** revenue streams in hosting scam centres that could be "taxed" to fund military operations.

Proceeds are **laundered** through "**mules**" and **dubious** financial institutions such as Cambodia's Huione Pay before being converted into cryptocurrency, making tracing and recovery nearly impossible. Global monitors have identified Chinese-organised crime **syndicates** as the **kingpins orchestrating** these transnational networks. India faces a dual crisis: **thousands** of its citizens **are** trafficked into forced scam labour under **brutal** conditions, while thousands more **at home fall victim to** the very frauds these **captives** are forced to perpetrate. This demands a **multi-pronged** response. **The Reserve Bank of India**, along with Union and State governments, **must** launch **extensive** public awareness campaigns about these scams while **strengthening** cybercrime infrastructure and policing capabilities. India must **leverage** diplomatic channels to **forge** a coordinated regional response. Working with China, Thailand, Vietnam, and other affected nations, India should **exert** maximum pressure on the Myanmar junta and Cambodia's regime to **dismantle** these operations. The United Nations must also be **mobilised** to recognise this for what it truly is: a modern **manifestation** of **slavery** that demands urgent international intervention. **[Practice Exercise]**

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

Vocabulary

1. **Compound effect** (noun) – the cumulative impact of multiple factors working together. संयुक्त प्रभाव

2. **Coordinated** (adjective) – organized, synchronized, collaborative, joint, unified समन्वित

3. **Call** (noun) – demand, appeal, request, plea, summons मांग

4. **Comprehensive** (adjective) – thorough, complete, exhaustive, all-inclusive, extensive व्यापक

5. **Proliferating** (adjective) – multiplying, spreading rapidly, growing, escalating, mushrooming तेजी से फैलता हुआ

6. **Menace** (noun) – threat, danger, hazard, peril, risk खतरा

7. **Reflect** (verb) – indicate, show, demonstrate, reveal, represent दर्शाना

8. **Alarming** (adjective) – worrying, disturbing, frightening, distressing, shocking चिंताजनक

9. **Defraud** (verb) – cheat, swindle, deceive, trick, dupe ठगना

10. **Bench** (noun) – a court of law or a panel of judges. न्यायपीठ

11. **Impersonate** (verb) – pretend to be, imitate, pose as, masquerade as, mimic रूप धारण करना

12. **Extort** (verb) – force, coerce, blackmail, squeeze, wrest जबरन वसूली करना

13. **Underscore** (verb) – emphasize, highlight, stress, underline, accentuate जोर देना

14. **Sophistication** (noun) – complexity, advancement, intricacy, elaborateness, refinement परिष्कृति

15. **Brazenness** (noun) – boldness, audacity, shamelessness, impudence, cheek बेशर्मी

16. **Distinguish** (verb) – differentiate, set apart, separate, tell apart, discern अंतर करना

17. **Conventional** (adjective) – traditional, standard, normal, usual, ordinary पारंपरिक

18. **Industrial** (adjective) – large-scale, mass, organized, systematic, commercial औद्योगिक

19. **Architecture** (noun) – structure, framework, design, organization, setup ढांचा

20. **Sprawling** (adjective) – extensive, widespread, vast, far-reaching, rambling फैला हुआ

21. **Conflict-torn** (adjective) – war-ravaged, strife-ridden, divided, troubled, unstable संघर्षग्रस्त

22. **Minimal** (adjective) – very little, negligible, token, bare, slightest न्यूनतम

23. **Regime** (noun) – government, administration, rule, authority, leadership शासन

24. **Complicity** (noun) – involvement, collusion, conspiracy, collaboration, connivance सहापराधिता

25. **Evident** (adjective) – clear, obvious, apparent, plain, noticeable स्पष्ट

26. **Slavery** (noun) – forced labour, bondage, servitude, enslavement, subjugation गुलामी

27. **Chilling** (adjective) – frightening, terrifying, horrifying, alarming, shocking स्तब्ध कर देने वाला

28. **Lure** (verb) – attract, entice, tempt, seduce, bait फुसलाना

29. **Often** (adverb) – frequently, repeatedly, regularly, commonly, habitually अक्सर

30. **Exploitation** (noun) – abuse, misuse, manipulation, taking advantage, victimization शोषण

31. **Junta** (noun) – military government, faction, cabal, clique, regime सैन्य शासन

32. **Sweatshops** (noun) – workplaces with poor conditions and exploitation. शोषणकारी कारखाने

33. **Trafficked** (adjective) – traded illegally, smuggled, moved illicitly, dealt तस्करी किया हुआ

34. **Coerce** (verb) – force, compel, pressure, bully, intimidate मजबूर करना

35. **Perpetrate** (verb) – commit, carry out, execute, perform, inflict अंजाम देना

36. **Elaborate** (adjective) – complex, detailed, intricate, sophisticated, involved जटिल

37. **Pig butchering** (noun) – a type of long-term financial scam. एक प्रकार का वित्तीय घोटाला

38. **Civil war** (noun) – internal conflict, war between citizens, internal strife गृहयुद्ध

39. **Flourish** (verb) – thrive, prosper, grow, boom, succeed फलना-फूलना

40. **Coup** (noun) – takeover, seizure of power, overthrow, putsch, rebellion तख्तापलट

41. **Embolden** (verb) – encourage, hearten, strengthen, empower, invigorate प्रोत्साहित करना

42. **Ethnic** (adjective) – racial, cultural, tribal, communal, indigenous जातीय

43. **Militia** (noun) – paramilitary force, irregular army, guerrilla group, fighters नागरिक सेना

44. **Lucrative** (adjective) – profitable, money-making, rewarding, gainful, paying लाभदायक

45. **Proceeds** (noun) – profits, earnings, income, revenue, returns आय

46. **Launder** (verb) – clean illegally obtained money, legitimize, conceal, hide मनी लॉन्ड्रिंग करना

47. **Mule** (noun) – a person used to transfer money illegally. गुप्त धन वाहक

48. **Dubious** (adjective) – suspicious, questionable, untrustworthy, shady, suspect संदिग्ध

49. **Syndicate** (noun) – cartel, gang, ring, network, organization संघ

50. **Kingpin** (noun) – leader, chief, mastermind, head, boss सरगना

51. **Orchestrate** (verb) – organize, arrange, coordinate, mastermind, stage-manage संयोजित करना

52. **Brutal** (adjective) – cruel, savage, vicious, harsh, severe क्रूर

53. **At home** (phrase) – within the country, domestically, internally देश के भीतर

54. **Fall victim** (phrase) – to be harmed or affected by something. शिकार होना

55. **Captive** (noun) – prisoner, hostage, detainee, internee बंदी

56. **Multi-pronged** (adjective) – having multiple components, multifaceted, comprehensive, varied बहुआयामी

57. **Extensive** (adjective) – widespread, comprehensive, wide-ranging, broad, vast व्यापक

58. **Strengthen** (verb) – reinforce, fortify, bolster, enhance, consolidate मजबूत करना

59. **Leverage** (verb) – utilize, use, employ, exploit, make use of लाभ उठाना

60. **Forge** (verb) – create, build, form, establish, develop बनाना

61. **Exert** (verb) – apply, use, exercise, wield, bring to bear डालना

62. **Dismantle** (verb) – take apart, break up, demolish, disassemble, destroy विघटित करना

63. **Mobilise** (verb) – organize, rally, assemble, prepare, activate गोलबंद करना

64. **Manifestation** (noun) – display, demonstration, expression, indication, sign अभिव्यक्ति

65. **Slavery** (noun) – forced labour, bondage, servitude, enslavement, subjugation गुलामी

Summary of the Editorial

1. The Supreme Court of India has called for a comprehensive investigation into the growing menace of digital scams defrauding Indian citizens.
2. A major focus is on "digital arrest" scams, where fraudsters impersonate law enforcement officers to extort money from victims.
3. These scams represent a new, industrial-scale form of cybercrime with complex cross-border networks.
4. Large "scam compounds" operate mainly from Southeast Asia, particularly in Myanmar, where state control is weak.
5. Many of these centres are allegedly run with complicity of local regimes and armed groups.
6. Job seekers are lured with fake advertisements promising high-paying jobs abroad, often routed through Bangkok.
7. After arrival, victims are trafficked across borders, especially into Myanmar's conflict zones, controlled by Border Guard Forces allied with the junta.
8. These victims are forced to work in digital sweatshops, enduring violence, torture, and sexual harassment.
9. They are compelled to execute scams such as "pig butchering", which combines romance and cryptocurrency fraud.
10. The Myanmar civil war and post-2021 coup instability have created fertile ground for these criminal networks to thrive.
11. Scam profits are laundered through intermediaries ("money mules") and shadow financial systems like Cambodia's Huione Pay, then converted into cryptocurrency.
12. Chinese crime syndicates are believed to be the main organisers behind these transnational scam operations.
13. India faces a dual crisis: citizens are both enslaved abroad to run scams and defrauded at home by them.
14. The editorial urges multi-pronged action — stronger public awareness, cyber-policing, and international cooperation.
15. It calls for global intervention, urging India, ASEAN countries, and the UN to treat this as a form of modern slavery demanding urgent response.

Practice Exercise: SSC Pattern Based

1. **According to the passage, what is the primary factor that distinguishes the current wave of digital fraud from conventional cybercrime?**   **[Editorial page]**
   A. Its use of romance scams and cryptocurrency.
   B. Its industrial scale and cross-border architecture.
   C. The fact that it is orchestrated by Chinese crime syndicates.
   D. Its use of "digital arrest" tactics by impersonating officials.

2. **The passage suggests that the proliferation of scam compounds in Myanmar is directly facilitated by which of the following conditions?**
   A. Widespread public awareness of digital scams.
   B. The presence of visa-free travel regimes in Southeast Asia.
   C. Minimal state control and the complicity of Border Guard Forces.
   D. Strong international pressure on the Myanmar junta.

3. **Based on the passage, what is the suggested two-pronged nature of the crisis faced by India?**
   A. A diplomatic crisis with Myanmar and a financial crisis due to laundered money.
   B. A crisis of citizens being trafficked into forced labour and a crisis of citizens at home being defrauded by them.
   C. A military conflict with ethnic militias and a domestic policing crisis.
   D. A crisis in public awareness and a crisis in cryptocurrency regulation.

4. **According to the passage, what is the primary role of entities like Cambodia's Huione Pay in the structure of these digital scams?**
   A. To create fraudulent job advertisements that lure potential victims.
   B. To function as a diplomatic channel for applying pressure on regimes.
   C. To act as a mechanism for laundering the proceeds from the scams.
   D. To provide the cryptocurrency used in the "pig butchering" frauds.

5. **The author of the passage most strongly advocates for which of the following international actions?**
   A. Imposing strict economic sanctions on the entire Southeast Asian region.
   B. Encouraging all nations to unilaterally shut down cryptocurrency exchanges.
   C. Providing military support to the ethnic militias in Myanmar.
   D. Mobilizing the United Nations to recognize this as a form of modern slavery.

6. **The following sentence has been split into four segments. Identify the segment that contains a grammatical error.**
   The players were practicing for an hour / when the coach came / and asked them to stop.
   A. The players were practicing for an hour
   B. no error
   C. and asked them to stop
   D. when the coach came

7. **Sentences of a paragraph are given below in jumbled order. Arrange the sentences in the correct order to form a meaningful and coherent paragraph.**
   P) Among the states, Haryana's unemployment rate stands at a staggering 37.4%, while it is 28.5% in Rajasthan and 20.8% in Delhi.
   Q) That the unemployment rate in India surged to 8.3% in December 2022, the highest in 16 months, should be a cause for concern among the economic policy-makers.

R) According to data published by the Mumbai-based Centre for Monitoring Indian Economy (CMIE), the unemployment rate had fallen to 6.4% in September — which was attributed to hiring around the holiday and festive season — but it rose steadily after that, to 7.8% in October and 8% in November.

S) This news, coupled with the warning by the International Monetary Fund (IMF) that a third of the world would be hit by recession in 2023, presents a sobering prognosis for the immediate future.

A. RSPQ
B. QPRS
C. QRPS
D. RQPS

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

A) Investor sentiment suffered following the release of a report by New York-based Hindenburg Research — an investor research firm that positions itself as an investigator-activist — which alleged that the Adani Group had engaged in 'a brazen stock manipulation and accounting fraud scheme over the course of decades.'

B) Even as it lost tens of billions of dollars in valuation, the Adani Group denied the accusations, calling them 'selective misinformation and stale, baseless and discredited allegations', and 'a calculated attack on India.'

C) The turmoil in the stock markets, largely caused by the sell-off of the Adani Group shares since late last week, has brought into sharp focus India's regulatory framework, apart from the necessity of robust accounting practices.

D) In the past, analysts have pointed at large investments in the Adani Group by entities such as the LIC and several public sector banks.

E) The report also raised questions over the group's high debt levels and accused it of using shell companies based in tax havens.

A. DECAB
B. CBDEA
C. CABED
D. CBEDA

9. **Select the option that expresses the given sentence in passive voice.**
My son learns his lessons every day
A. His lessons got learnt every day by my son.
B. His lessons is learnt by my son every day.
C. His lessons do learn every day by my son.
D. His lessons are learnt by my son every day

10. **Select the most appropriate meaning of the highlighted idiom.**
That's all she wrote
A. There is nothing more to be said
B. One-sided story
C. An unreal and imaginary story
D. Limited information

11. **Select the option that expresses the given sentence in active voice**

I was invited by my aunt.
A. My aunt invited me.
B. My aunt will invite me.
C. My aunt has invited me.
D. My aunt is inviting me.

12. **Select the most appropriate option to fill in the blank with the synonym of the underlined word.**

The designer came up with a **fascinating** idea. Even the professionals found it _____ .
A. irritating
B. annoying
C. crafty
D. captivating

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

All the actors played their roles very well in the _____ .
A. manse
B. marks
C. mosque
D. masque

14. **Select the most appropriate ANTONYM of the word tasty from the given sentence:**

My cordial, affectionate and kind grandmother used to make tasty pickles for us as we did not like bland ones.
A. kind
B. cordial
C. bland
D. affectionate

15. **Select the most appropriate meaning of the highlighted idiom**

My friend was playing the devil's advocate in the discussion.
A. One who is composed at all times
B. One who pits the culprit against the lawyer
C. One who argues against something just for the sake of arguing
D. One who is good at judgement

16. **Select the correct spelling of the underlined word.**

The historian arranged all the events in a **cronalogical** order.
A. chronological
B. coronalogical
C. chhronlogical
D. chronollagicol

17. **Select the most appropriate option to fill in the blank as synonym for the underlined word**

The **bitterness** he has harboured is not good. This _____ will harm him.
A. storm
B. hangar
C. danger
D. rancour

18. **Select the INCORRECTLY spelt word.**

A. Calibrate

B. Accelarate

C. Proliferate

D. Insinuate

19. **The following sentence has been divided into parts. One of them may contain an error. Select the part that contains the error from the given options. If you don't find any error, mark 'No error' as your answer.**

Children were prohibited to attend / the military parade in which / deadly weapons were displayed.

A. Children were prohibited to attend

B. deadly weapons were displayed

C. the military parade in which

D. No error

20. **Select the most appropriate adverb to fill in the blank**

Ramees works _____ to get through the entrance exam.

A. different

B. early

C. hard

D. important

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

Answers

1. B   2. C   3.B   4. C   5. D   6.A   7. C   8. C   9.D   10.A   11.A   12.D

13. D   14.C   15.C   16.A   17.D   18.B   19.A   20.C   21.B   22.A   23.D   24.B

25. D   **[Practice Exercise]**

Explanations

1. B) **Its industrial scale and cross-border architecture.**
   - The passage explicitly states, "What distinguishes the current wave of digital fraud from conventional cybercrime is its industrial scale and cross-border architecture." While options A, C, and D are all mentioned in the passage as elements of the scam ecosystem, they are presented as characteristics, not the primary distinguishing factor.

2. C) **Minimal state control and the complicity of Border Guard Forces.**
   - The text links the scam compounds to "conflict-torn regions" where "state control is minimal" and where "regime complicity appears evident." It further explains that Border Guard Forces, allied with the junta, host these centers for revenue. Option B is a method used to lure victims, not a condition facilitating the compounds' existence. Options A and D are presented as desired solutions, not facilitating conditions.

3. B) **A crisis of citizens being trafficked into forced labour and a crisis of citizens at home being defrauded by them**.
   - The passage clearly states: "India faces a dual crisis: thousands of its citizens are trafficked into forced scam labour under brutal conditions, while thousands more at home fall victim to the very frauds these captives are forced to perpetrate." This directly captures the two interconnected victim groups. The other options, while touching on related issues mentioned in the text (like diplomacy, policing, and awareness), do not accurately describe the specific "dual crisis" as defined by the author.

4. C**) To act as a mechanism for laundering the proceeds from the scams**.
   - The passage states, "Proceeds are laundered through 'mules' and dubious financial institutions such as Cambodia's Huione Pay before being converted into cryptocurrency." This clearly identifies its role in the money laundering process. While cryptocurrency is mentioned in the context of the "pig butchering" scam (Option D), Huione Pay is specified as a step before the funds are converted to crypto. Options A and B are unrelated to the function of this financial entity.

5. D) **Mobilizing the United Nations to recognize this as a form of modern slavery.**
   - The passage concludes by explicitly calling for the UN to be mobilized, stating, "The United Nations must also be mobilised to recognise this for what it truly is: a modern manifestation of slavery that demands urgent international intervention." This is a direct and strong advocacy point.

6. A) The sentence provided uses "practicing," which is the American English spelling. In American English, both the noun and verb forms are spelled "practice." So, SSC follow British English strictly. We have to replace 'Practicing' with 'Practising'.
   - दिए गए वाक्य में "practicing" का उपयोग किया गया है, जो American english की spelling है। American english में, noun और verb दोनों के रूप में "practice" का उपयोग किया

जाता है। तो, SSC पूरी तरह से british english का पालन करता है। हमें 'Practicing' को 'Practising' से बदलना होगा।

7. C) **QRPS**
    * Q -> R: Q states: "...unemployment rate in India surged to 8.3% in December 2022..." R continues with: "According to data published by the Mumbai-based Centre for Monitoring Indian Economy (CMIE), the unemployment rate had fallen to 6.4% in September... but it rose steadily after that, to 7.8% in October and 8% in November."
    * R -> S: R ends by highlighting the unemployment rate statistics, and S introduces the international perspective and the overall negative prognosis, making a seamless transition from national to global concerns.
    * R mentions the rising unemployment rates in the last few months of 2022.
    * S starts with: "This news, coupled with the warning by the International Monetary Fund (IMF)... presents a sobering prognosis for the immediate future." "This news" in S refers to the data mentioned in R.
    * S -> P: After discussing the global perspective, P brings the focus back to specific statistics about unemployment in various Indian states. S talks about the IMF's warning and the global situation. P presents detailed unemployment data for different Indian states, which is a narrowing down from the general global overview.

8. C) **CABED**
    * C: This sentence introduces the topic - the turmoil in the stock markets due to the sell-off of the Adani Group shares.
    * A: Provides a reason for this turmoil - the release of a report alleging Adani Group's engagement in stock manipulation and fraud. Note the use of the word "which" that links the two parts of the sentence together.
    * B: This sentence is a response to the allegations mentioned in "A." It addresses how the Adani Group reacted to the report's claims
    * E: "E" further elaborates on the content of the report, which began in "A." It provides more specifics about the allegations.
    * D: "D" provides historical context, showing that there have been concerns or discussions regarding the Adani Group's financial practices before the current situation.

9. D) **His lessons are learnt by my son every day**
    Active से Passive Voice में बदलने के लिए, Active वाक्य का Object Passive वाक्य का Subject बन जाता है। Verb को Active से Passive में बदलते समय सही Tense का प्रयोग किया जाता है। Active वाक्य में **"My son"** Subject है, **"learns"** Verb (Present Simple) है और **"his lessons"** Object है। Passive में बदलने पर Object "His lessons" Subject बन गया है, Verb को **"are learnt"** (Present Simple Passive) में बदला गया है और **"by my son"** के रूप में प्रयोग किया गया है।
    * To change a sentence from Active to Passive Voice, the object of the active sentence becomes the subject of the passive sentence. The verb is transformed from the active form to the passive form, ensuring correct tense usage. In this case, "My son" (Subject), "learns" (Verb in Present Simple), and "his lessons" (Object) from the active voice have been transformed into "His lessons" (Subject), "are learnt" (Passive Verb in Present Simple), and "by my son".

10. A) **That's all she wrote** (phrase) – There is nothing more to be said कहने को और कुछ नहीं है

11. A) **My aunt invited me**.

Active से Passive Voice में बदलने के लिए, Active वाक्य का Object Passive वाक्य का Subject बन जाता है। Verb को Active से Passive में बदलते समय सही Tense का प्रयोग किया जाता है। Active वाक्य में "My aunt" (Subject), "invited" (Verb in Simple Past) और "me" (Object) है। Passive में बदलने पर Object "I" (Subject) बन गया है, Verb को "was invited" (Past Simple Passive) में बदला गया है और "by my aunt" के रूप में प्रयोग किया गया है।

- To change a sentence from Active to Passive Voice, the object of the active sentence becomes the subject of the passive sentence. The verb is transformed from the active form to the passive form, ensuring correct tense usage. In this case, "My aunt" (Subject), "invited" (Verb in Simple Past), and "me" (Object) from the active voice have been transformed into "I" (Subject), "was invited" (Passive Verb in Simple Past), and "by my aunt".

12. D) **Fascinating** (adjective) – Captivating, charming, attractive, enthralling, mesmerisig, interesting आकर्षक

- **Irritating** (adjective) – Exasperating, Irksome, infuriating, frustrating, annoying परेशान
- **Annoying** (adjective) – Irritating, infuriating, bothersome, exasperating, aggravating कष्टप्रद
- **Crafty** (adjective) – Cunning, sneaky, shrewd, devious, astute, deceitful चालबाज़

13. D) **'Masque'** का प्रयोग होगा क्योंकि 'masque' एक प्रकार का नाटक होता है जिसमें अभिनेता अपनी भूमिका निभाते हैं। दिए गए वाक्य में, अभिनेताओं के भूमिका निभाने का जिक्र किया गया है, इसलिए हम इसके पहले 'masque' का उपयोग करेंगे।

- **'Masque'** should be used because a 'masque' is a type of play in which actors perform their roles. In the given sentence, the performance of the actors is mentioned, so we use 'masque' in the blank.

14. C) **Tasty** (adjective) – Delicious, appetizing, succulent, mouthwatering स्वादिष्ट

ANTONYM - **Bland** (adjective) – Insipid, tasteless, mild, Flavorless स्वादहीन

- **Cordial** (adjective) – Pleasant, affable, genial हार्दिक
- **Affectionate** (adjective) – Loving, warm, friendly, kind, caring स्नेही

15. C) **Be playing the devil's advocate** (phrase) – One who argues against something just for the sake of arguing

16. A) The correct spelling of cronalogical is '**chronological'** which means '(of a record of events) following the order in which they occurred.' – कालानुक्रमिक

17. D) **Bitterness** (noun) – Resentment, acrimony, unpleasantness, anger, rancor कटुता

- **Hangar** (noun) – a large building with an extensive floor area, typically for housing aircraft. विमान घर

18. B) The correct spelling of 'Accelarate' is **Accelerate** which means 'Hurry, hasten, quicken, rush' जल्दी करना

19. A) **'Attend'** के बजाय 'from attending' का प्रयोग होना चाहिए था क्योंकि 'prohibit' के साथ हम 'from + verb-ing' का प्रयोग करते हैं। इसलिए, "Children were prohibited to attend" में त्रुटि है।

- 'From attending' should have been used instead of 'to attend' because with 'prohibit', we use 'from + verb-ing'. Therefore, the error is in "Children were prohibited to attend".

20. C) 'Hard' का प्रयोग होगा क्योंकि "hard" का प्रयोग तब किया जाता है जब किसी की मेहनत या प्रयास को दर्शाना हो। दिए गए वाक्य में, Ramees प्रवेश परीक्षा में पास होने के लिए मेहनत करता है, इसलिए हम "hard" का उपयोग करेंगे।

  - 'Hard' should be used because "hard" indicates the effort or diligence of someone. In the given sentence, Ramees is putting effort into passing the entrance exam, so we use "hard".

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.
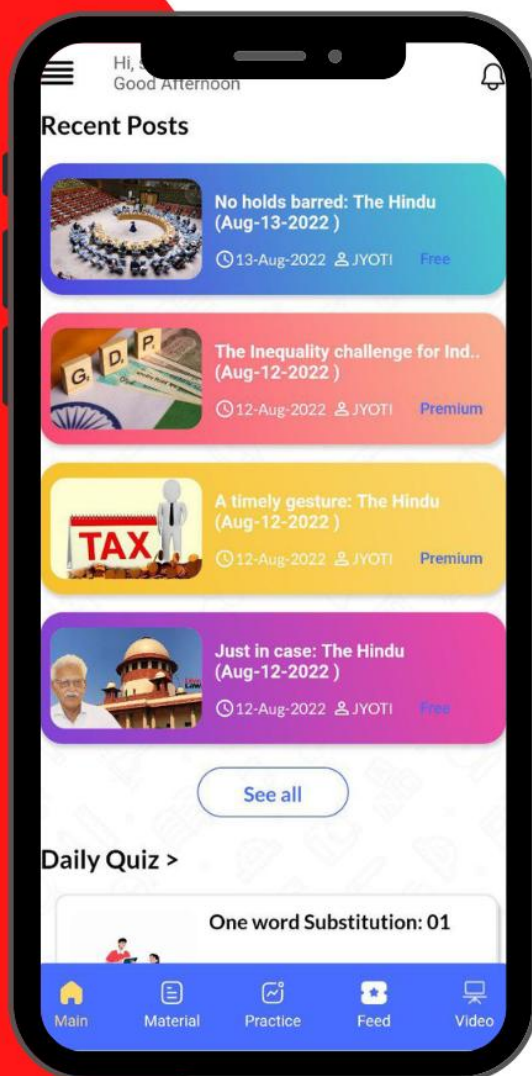
24. B) **'Its'** का उपयोग होगा क्योंकि "its" एक possessive determiner है जो किसी वस्तु, संस्था या एकवचन subject की स्वामित्व (possession) दर्शाता है। वाक्य में subject "the first of its kind" है, जो singular है और यह inferior content और structure का मालिकाना दिखा रहा है, इसलिए 'its' सही है। जबकि 'It's' "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.