

Farmers' pulse: On India and its demand for pulses

Only **structural** reforms in agriculture sector can ensure food security

India manages its **prodigious** demand for pulses using a mix of import policy, price **stabilisation** and conditional MSP **procurement**. Imports are the most sensitive because a single central decision can immediately lower household spending when supply is tight, at the expense of hurting farmers, and knowing that markets cannot always absorb 'extra' supply. So, when the U.S. said that its trade deal with India **obligated** India to purchase pulses from American suppliers, it **implied** that the government had agreed to **committing** imports against farmers' interests — a politically **fraught stance** in India since the 2020-21 farm law protests and which might see a revival now. India's pulse output has **hovered** around 2.5 crore tonnes in recent years while demand is estimated to be three crore tonnes; imports fill the gap. Pulses **account for** roughly a quarter of non-cereal protein **intake** and support five crore farmers and their families. In the absence of a **reliable** MSP **regime** as for rice and wheat, however, farmers face organised neglect due to weak **procurement** mechanisms, the risks of **rain-fed** cultivation, and **yields** lower than international competitors. In 2019-24, government **procurement** under the Price Support Scheme **fluctuated** between 2.9% and 12.4% of production. Many States also have inadequate procurement centres, forcing farmers to sell to private traders **regardless of** the official MSP. **As a result**, farmers are **incentivised** to underinvest in pulses, **leading to a vicious cycle**.

India recently announced ambitious initiatives to solve this problem, an example being the October 2025 self-sufficiency Mission, with a ₹11,440 crore **outlay**, targeting 310 lakh hectares of cultivation and 350 lakh tonnes of production by 2030-31. But farmers remain **sceptical** since older promises have yet to **materialise**. All this is why the initial **apparent** inclusion of pulses in the U.S. documents, describing what India would open to American agri-imports, **hit a raw nerve** among India's farmers. Opening the market to U.S. pulses would further depress domestic prices and directly **contradict** the government's new Mission. **Breaking** this cycle **would** require more than removing objectionable words from an agreement, including **addressing** the procurement infrastructure deficit, providing genuine MSP guarantees, investing in productivity improvements for rain-fed areas where pulses are grown, and creating market systems that **explicitly** reward farmers who choose to cultivate pulses. Until such structural reforms materialise, however, pulse farmers will continue to occupy a **precarious** position in India's agricultural economy and India will continue to depend on imports to **meet** its demand, **perpetuating** both food security **vulnerabilities** and political **sensitivity** around any trade agreement that appears to **favour** foreign producers.

[Practice Exercise]

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

Vocabulary

1. **Pulse** (noun) – the central point of energy and organization in an area or activity. नब्ज
2. **Structural** (adjective) – fundamental, constitutional, inherent, organic, systemic संरचनात्मक
3. **Prodigious** (adjective) – colossal, immense, mammoth, vast, gargantuan बहुत अधिक
4. **Stabilisation** (noun) – equalization, balancing, adjustment, fixation, steadiness स्थिरीकरण
5. **Procurement** (noun) – acquisition, attainment, sourcing, collection, requisitioning खरीद
6. **Obligate** (verb) – compel, bind, constrain, force, require मजबूर करना
7. **Imply** (verb) – suggest, insinuate, intimate, hint, signify संकेत देना
8. **Commit** (verb) – pledge, dedicate, devote, bind, promise वादा करना/सोंपना
9. **Fraught** (adjective) – anxious, worried, distressed, tense, filled तनावपूर्ण/भरा हुआ
10. **Stance** (noun) – posture, position, attitude, viewpoint, standpoint दृष्टिकोण
11. **Hover** (verb) – linger, drift, flutter, hang, remain near मंडराना
12. **Account for** (phrasal verb) – to form a particular amount or part of something हिस्सा होना
13. **Intake** (noun) – consumption, ingestion, absorption, input, uptake खपत
14. **Reliable** (adjective) – dependable, trustworthy, steadfast, authentic, credible विश्वसनीय
15. **Regime** (noun) – system, arrangement, scheme, order, government व्यवस्था
16. **Rain-fed** (adjective) – dependent on rainfall for water and growth वर्षा-आधारित
17. **Yield** (noun) – output, production, crop, harvest, profit पैदावार
18. **Fluctuate** (verb) – waver, oscillate, vacillate, vary, swing उतार-चढ़ाव होना
19. **Regardless of** (phrase) – without being affected by any other events or conditions की परवाह किए बिना
20. **As a result** (phrase) – because of something that has happened consequently परिणामस्वरूप
21. **Incentivise** (verb) – encourage, motivate, stimulate, entice, provoke प्रोत्साहित करना
22. **Lead to** (phrasal verb) – to result in a particular situation or event के कारण बनना

23. **Vicious cycle** (noun) – a sequence of reciprocal cause and effect in which two or more elements intensify and aggravate each other **कुचक्र**

24. **Outlay** (noun) – expenditure, spending, cost, disbursement, investment **व्यय**

25. **Sceptical** (adjective) – cynical, doubtful, dubious, suspicious, incredulous **संदेहास्पद**

26. **Materialise** (verb) – happen, occur, emerge, manifest, appear **साकार होना**

27. **Apparent** (adjective) – obvious, evident, manifest, visible, ostensible **स्पष्ट**

28. **Hit a raw nerve** (idiom) – to provoke a strong reaction by referring to a sensitive topic **टुखती रग पर हाथ रखना**

29. **Contradict** (verb) – deny, refute, dispute, gainsay, oppose **खंडन करना**

30. **Address** (verb) – tackle, handle, confront, approach, attend to **समाधान करना**

31. **Explicitly** (adverb) – clearly, specifically, precisely, overtly, categorically **स्पष्ट रूप से**

32. **Precarious** (adjective) – perilous, hazardous, risky, uncertain, insecure **अनिश्चित**

33. **Meet** (verb) – fulfill, satisfy, match, achieve, answer **पूरा करना**

34. **Perpetuate** (verb) – preserve, maintain, sustain, prolong, continue **बनाए रखना**

35. **Vulnerability** (noun) – weakness, susceptibility, fragility, exposure, defenselessness **कमजोरी**

36. **Sensitivity** (noun) – awareness, responsiveness, delicacy, volatility, susceptibility **संवेदनशीलता**

37. **Favour** (verb) – support, prefer, promote, aid, side with **पक्ष लेना**

Summary of the Editorial

1. India meets its high demand for pulses through imports, price stabilisation measures, and limited MSP-based procurement.
2. Imports are the most sensitive tool because they can quickly reduce consumer prices but hurt domestic farmers.
3. A single import decision by the Centre can flood markets when surplus cannot be absorbed.
4. The U.S. claim that India is obligated to buy American pulses under a trade deal triggered political concern.
5. Such commitments are risky after the 2020–21 farm law protests, which heightened farmer distrust.
6. India produces about 2.5 crore tonnes of pulses annually, while demand is around 3 crore tonnes.
7. Imports are therefore essential to bridge the persistent production–demand gap.
8. Pulses provide nearly one-fourth of non-cereal protein intake in India.
9. Around five crore farmers and their families depend on pulse cultivation for livelihoods.
10. Unlike rice and wheat, pulses lack a reliable and effective MSP procurement system.
11. Farmers face risks from rain-fed cultivation, low yields, and weak government procurement.
12. Between 2019 and 2024, pulse procurement under the Price Support Scheme remained very low and inconsistent.
13. Inadequate procurement centres force farmers to sell below MSP to private traders.
14. This discourages investment in pulse farming, creating a vicious cycle of low production.
15. Without deep structural reforms—strong procurement, real MSP guarantees, productivity investment, and farmer incentives—India will remain import-dependent and politically vulnerable on pulse trade.

Practice Exercise: SSC Pattern Based

1. **Which option best captures the core policy contradiction highlighted in the passage?**
 - A. Import commitments reduce consumer prices but undermine domestic pulse production incentives
 - B. Import commitments increase export revenue but strengthen farmer confidence nationwide
 - C. Import commitments improve procurement coverage while stabilising rain-fed agricultural yields
 - D. Import commitments expand MSP assurance and reduce political sensitivities simultaneously
2. **Which sequence best explains the vicious cycle affecting pulse farmers, as argued by the author?**
 - A. Increased rainfall improves output reducing political opposition and trade concerns
 - B. Higher imports boost yields encouraging farmers and reducing procurement obligations
 - C. Strong MSP raises production eliminating imports and stabilising farmer incomes
 - D. Weak procurement discourages investment causing lower yields and continued import dependence
3. **What type of pronoun is the word “which” in the sentence:**
 “...a politically fraught stance in India since the 2020-21 farm law protests and which might see a revival now.”
 - A. Relative pronoun introducing descriptive clause
 - B. Demonstrative pronoun indicating specific distant object
 - C. Interrogative pronoun used for asking question
 - D. Indefinite pronoun referring vague unknown entity
4. **Identify the sentence with correct subject–verb agreement.**
 - A. Imports fills the gap between demand
 - B. India’s pulse output has hovered around tonnes
 - C. Pulses accounts for quarter protein intake
 - D. Farmers faces organised neglect nationwide
5. **Choose the correct antonym of the word “prodigious” as used in the passage.**
 - A. precarious
 - B. enormous
 - C. unremarkable
 - D. vulnerability
6. **Select the most appropriate MEANING of the word “Stodgy.”**
 - A. Dual and uninhibited; lacking opportunity or equipment
 - B. Dire and unimpaired; lacking objectivity or experiment
 - C. Deaf and uninstructed; lacking optimality or adjustment
 - D. Dull and uninspired; lacking originality or excitement
7. **Select the most appropriate SYNONYM of the word “Lambast.”**
 - A. Castigate
 - B. Capitulate
 - C. Captivate
 - D. Calibrate
8. **Select the most appropriate MEANING of the phrasal verb “Cater to.”**

- A. To Obviate, preclude, or prevent a potential hazard.
- B. To Oblige, accommodate, or gratify a specific requirement.
- C. To Orchestrate, coordinate, or organize a complex maneuver.
- D. To Obliterate, destroy, or expunge a historical record.

9. **Fill in the blank with the most appropriate idiom.**
"Every large organization has a specific vulnerability that acts as its _____ if left unaddressed."

- A. Albatross around
- B. Apple of
- C. Achilles heel
- D. Axe to grind

10. **Select the most appropriate ANTONYM of the word "Embody."**

- A. Exhume
- B. Exclude
- C. Exhort
- D. Exult

11. **Select the most appropriate ANTONYM of the word "Dilemma."**

- A. Resurgence
- B. Resentment
- C. Resolution
- D. Restitution

12. **When someone used the fictitious name instead of his own name especially in writing is called?**

- A. Pseudonym
- B. Manuscript
- C. Omniscient
- D. Ambidextrous

13. **What does the term property inherited from one's father or ancestors is called?**

- A. Patrimony
- B. Manuscript
- C. Forgery
- D. Obsolete

14. **Find the correct spelling of a word describing disloyal betrayal.**

- A. Perfidy
- B. Perphidy
- C. Perfedee
- D. Perfody

15. **Spot the correct spelling of a vine-pest genus.**

- A. phylloxera
- B. Phylloxerae
- C. Philoxera
- D. Phyloxera

16. **Fill in the Blanks**

The precarious financial situation of the firm may _____ the board to seek an emergency bailout.

- A. Condone
- B. Compel
- C. Conflate
- D. Consign

17. Choose the most appropriate word to fill in the blank.

As the corporate scandal unfolded, the top-tier executives resigned _____, leaving the board of directors in a state of absolute pandemonium.

- A. En route
- B. Ex gratia
- C. Et cetera
- D. En masse

18. Read the following sentences to find whether there is any error in any part :

I could not recall when she has told me about her affair with Gopal

- A. I could not recall
- B. when she has told me
- C. about her
- D. affair with Gopal

19. Read the following sentences to find whether there is any error in any part :

Four and four always made eight cannot be questioned by anyone.

- A. Four and four
- B. always made eight
- C. cannot
- D. be questioned by anyone

20. Read the following sentences to find whether there is any error in any part :

She hopes to become an engineer after she will complete her education.

- A. She hopes to
- B. become an engineer
- C. after she will complete
- D. her education

Comprehension

Space enthusiasts (1) _____ in for a treat at the end of this month as six planets will appear close together in the night sky. The phenomenon, known as a planet parade or planetary alignment, occurs when at least four or five planets can be seen altogether, according to NASA.

On 28 February, (2) _____ will have the chance to spot Mercury, Venus, Jupiter, Saturn, Uranus and Neptune aligned closely across the sky – making this a rare planetary display.

They happen because the planets (3) _____ the sun in roughly the same flat plane, known as the ecliptic plane. Although each planet travels (4) _____ a different speed and distance, there are times when several of them appear to line up from Earth's perspective. The alignment is purely a visual effect since in reality, the planets remain anywhere from millions to billions of kilometres apart. On 27 February 2025, seven planets including Mercury, Venus, Mars, Jupiter, Saturn, Uranus and Neptune lined up in a rare display that will not (5) _____ again until 2040.

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

- A. are
- B. were
- C. have been
- D. had been

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

- A. astronomer
- B. stargazers
- C. cosmologist
- D. spectators

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

- A. orbit
- B. gravitate
- C. rotate
- D. move

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

- A. at
- B. by
- C. with
- D. through

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

- A. see
- B. seeing
- C. seen
- D. be seen

Answers

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

[\[Practice Exercise\]](#)

Explanations

1. A) **Import commitments reduce consumer prices but undermine domestic pulse production incentives**

A is correct because the passage stresses that imports lower prices for consumers but discourage farmers, worsening underinvestment.

B is incorrect since exports are not discussed, nor is farmer confidence improved.

C is incorrect because procurement coverage is weak and yields remain vulnerable.

D is incorrect as MSP assurance is inadequate and political sensitivity actually increases.

2. D) **Weak procurement discourages investment causing lower yields and continued import dependence**

D is correct because weak procurement leads to underinvestment, low productivity, and reliance on imports.

A is incorrect as rainfall variability remains a risk, not a solution.

B is incorrect since imports depress prices rather than boosting yields.

C is incorrect because MSP is neither strong nor universally assured.

3. A) **Relative pronoun introducing descriptive clause**

A is correct because “which” introduces a relative clause adding extra information.

B is incorrect as demonstrative pronouns point directly to nouns.

C is incorrect since no question is being asked.

D is incorrect because the reference is specific, not vague.

4. B) **India's pulse output has hovered around tonnes**

B is correct because the singular subject “output” agrees with “has hovered.”

A is incorrect since plural “imports” needs “fill.”

C is incorrect as plural “pulses” needs “account.”

D is incorrect because plural “farmers” needs “face.”

5. C) **unremarkable**

Prodigious means very large. Since prodigious suggests something extraordinary or remarkably large, unremarkable suggests the opposite — something ordinary or not significant.

unremarkable is correct because it conveys the opposite sense of something extraordinary or remarkably large.

6. D) **Stodgy** (adjective) – dull and uninspired; lacking originality or excitement. उबाऊ

7. A) **Lambast** (verb) – To criticize someone or something harshly; to berate. (कड़ी आलोचना करना)

Synonym: **Castigate** (verb) – To reprimand someone severely; to punish or criticize. (फटकारना / दंड देना)

- **Capitulate** (verb): To cease to resist an opponent or an unwelcome demand; surrender. (आत्मसमर्पण करना)

- **Captivate** (verb): To attract and hold the interest and attention of; charm. (मुख्य करना)
- **Calibrate** (verb): To adjust or mark (a gauge or instrument) so that it can be used for accurate measurement. (जाँचना)

8. B) **Cater to** (phrasal verb) – To provide what is needed or desired by a particular person or group. (जरूरतों को पूरा करना)

- To **Oblige**, accommodate, or gratify a specific requirement.

9. C) **Achilles heel** (idiom) – A small but fatal weakness in spite of overall strength; a vulnerable point. (कमज़ोर कड़ी या दुखती रग)

The sentence talks about a specific vulnerability or weak point that can cause serious trouble if not fixed. So, Achilles heel fits perfectly.

- **Albatross around** (idiom): Referring to a heavy burden that becomes an ongoing curse or obstacle. (गले की फांस)
- **Apple of** (idiom): Referring to a person or thing that is greatly cherished or loved above all others. (आंख का तारा)
- **Axe to grind** (idiom): Referring to a private or selfish reason for being involved in a particular situation. (अपना स्वार्थ सिद्ध करना)

10. B) **Embody** (verb) – To include or contain as part of a whole; to represent a quality or idea in physical form. (शामिल करना)

Antonym: **Exclude** (verb) – To deny someone or something access to a place, group, or privilege; to leave out. (बाहर करना)

- **Exhume** (verb): To dig out something (especially a corpse) from the ground. (खोदकर निकालना)
- **Exhort** (verb): To strongly encourage or urge someone to do something. (प्रोत्साहित करना)
- **Exult** (verb): To show or feel triumphant elation or jubilation. (हर्षित होना)

11. C) **Dilemma** (noun) – A situation in which a difficult choice has to be made between two or more alternatives, especially equally undesirable ones. (दुविधा)

Antonym: **Resolution** (noun) – A firm decision to do or not to do something; the action of solving a problem or dispute. (समाधान / संकल्प)

- **Resurgence** (noun): An increase or revival after a period of little activity, popularity, or occurrence. (पुनरुत्थान)
- **Resentment** (noun): Bitter indignation at having been treated unfairly. (नाराज़गी)
- **Restitution** (noun): The restoration of something lost or stolen to its proper owner. (वापसी / क्षतिपूर्ति)

12. A) **Pseudonym** (noun) – a fictitious or assumed name used by an author instead of their real name उपनाम / कलम नाम

- **Manuscript** (noun) – a handwritten or unpublished document. पांडुलिपि
- **Omniscient** (adjective) – having infinite awareness or knowledge. सर्वज्ञ
- **Ambidextrous** (adjective) – able to use both hands equally well. उभयदक्ष

13. A) **Patrimony** (noun) – property inherited from one's father or ancestors पैतृक संपत्ति

- **Manuscript** (noun) – a handwritten or unpublished document. पांडुलिपि
- **Forgery** (noun) – the act of producing a fake document or object. जालसाजी
- **Obsolete** (adjective) – no longer in use. अप्रचलित

14. A) **Perfidy** – The correct spelling of 'Perfidy' is 'Perfidy', which means disloyal betrayal or breach of trust
विश्वासघात, गद्दारी।

15. A) **phylloxera** – The correct spelling of 'phylloxera' is 'phylloxera', which refers to a genus of vine-pest insects that attack grapevines
अंगूर की बेलों को नुकसान पहुँचाने वाले कीटों का वंश।

16. B) **Compel** (verb) – To force or oblige someone to do something. (मजबूर करना)
Here, the precarious financial situation can force the board to seek an emergency bailout, so the usage is exact.

- **Condone** (verb): To accept and allow (behavior that is considered morally wrong or offensive) to continue. (माफ करना)
- **Conflate** (verb): To combine two or more texts, ideas, or sets of information into one. (मिला देना)
- **Consign** (verb): To deliver something to a person's custody, typically in order for it to be sold. (सौंपना)

17. D) **En masse** (adverb) – In a group; all together. (सामूहिक रूप से)

Fits perfectly with multiple top-tier executives resigning together, causing chaos on the board.

- **En route** (adverb): During the course of a journey; on the way. (रास्ते में)
- **Ex gratia** (adjective/adverb): (of a payment) done from a sense of moral obligation rather than because of any legal requirement. (अनुग्रह के रूप में)
- **Et cetera** (adverb): Used at the end of a list to indicate that further, similar items are included. (इत्यादि)

18. B) "has told" के बदले "had told" का प्रयोग होगा क्योंकि Main clause में Verb "could not recall" Past में है, इसलिए Reported/Embedded clause में Past से पहले की घटना दिखाने हेतु Past Perfect (had + V3) का प्रयोग होता है।

- "had told" will be used instead of "has told" because the Main verb "could not recall" is in Past, so the earlier action in the Reported clause must take Past Perfect (had + V3) to show prior time

19. B) 'made' के स्थान पर 'makes' का प्रयोग होगा क्योंकि यहाँ एक universal / mathematical fact व्यक्त किया गया है और ऐसे तथ्यों को बताने के लिए Simple Present Tense का प्रयोग होता है; जैसे— Two and two makes four.

- 'makes' will be used instead of 'made' because it states a universal / mathematical fact, and such facts are expressed in Simple Present Tense; Like— Two and two makes four.

20. C) इस वाक्य में गलती भाग (C) "will complete" में है, क्योंकि after के बाद future idea होने पर भी will का प्रयोग नहीं किया जाता। यहाँ अर्थ यह है कि शिक्षा पूरी हो जाने के बाद वह इंजीनियर बनना चाहती है, इसलिए सही tense present perfect होगा, न कि future tense। सही वाक्य होगा: "She hopes to become an engineer after she has completed her education." इसलिए option C सही उत्तर है।

- The error is in part (C) “will complete”. After time expressions like after, before, when, and while, we do not normally use will even if the meaning refers to the future. Here, the completion of education will happen before the hope of becoming an engineer, so the correct tense is present perfect. The sentence should read: “She hopes to become an engineer after she has completed her education.” Therefore, the incorrect part is option C.

21. A) **Are' will be used** क्योंकि sentence present time में future event की announcement कर रहा है:

“Space enthusiasts are in for a treat at the end of this month...”. यहाँ writer अभी बता रहा है कि महीने के अंत में कुछ विशेष होने वाला है। English grammar में जब कोई निश्चित या scheduled future event बताया जाता है, तो present tense का प्रयोग किया जाता है। यह structure वर्तमान स्थिति को दर्शाता है कि लोग “अब” एक आने वाली घटना के लिए तैयार हैं। ‘Were’ और ‘had been’ past tense हैं, जो घटना को पहले ही घटित दिखाएँगे। ‘Have been’ present perfect है, जो past से अब तक की continuity दिखाता है, जबकि यहाँ ऐसी कोई continuity नहीं है।

- Are' will be used because the sentence presents a current announcement about an upcoming event: “Space enthusiasts are in for a treat at the end of this month...”. The speaker is informing readers now about something that is going to happen soon. In English grammar, present tense is often used to describe fixed or certain future events, especially when making announcements. The structure shows a present condition that leads into a near-future experience. ‘Were’ and ‘had been’ are past tense forms and shift the timeline incorrectly into the past. ‘Have been’ is present perfect and suggests an action that started earlier and continues, which does not match the meaning here.

22. B) **B) Stargazers' will be used** क्योंकि sentence उन लोगों की बात कर रहा है जो आसमान में ग्रहों को देखने का अवसर पाएँगे: “will have the chance to spot Mercury, Venus...”. Context सामान्य sky-watchers का है, न कि केवल professionals का। ‘Astronomers’ और ‘cosmologists’ वैज्ञानिक होते हैं जो research करते हैं; यह शब्द meaning को सीमित कर देंगे। ‘Spectators’ बहुत general है और किसी भी event के दर्शकों के लिए उपयोग होता है, जबकि यहाँ specifically sky देखने वालों की बात है।

- Stargazers' will be used because the sentence refers to general people who watch the night sky: “will have the chance to spot Mercury, Venus, Jupiter...”. The context is about public viewing of a rare planetary alignment. ‘Astronomers’ and ‘cosmologists’ refer to trained scientists and researchers, which makes the meaning too technical and limited. The sentence does not restrict the opportunity to professionals. ‘Spectators’ is too broad and does not specifically relate to observing celestial objects. Since the context clearly indicates people who look at stars and planets for interest.

23. A) **Orbit' will be used** क्योंकि planets sun के चारों ओर एक निश्चित path में घूमते हैं और यही alignment का कारण है: “They happen because the planets orbit the sun...”. ‘Orbit’ का अर्थ है किसी बड़े celestial body के चारों ओर gravitational force के कारण निर्धारित मार्ग में घूमना। ‘Rotate’ का अर्थ है अपनी axis पर घूमना, जो अलग प्रकार की गति है। ‘Gravitate’ का अर्थ है किसी वस्तु की ओर आकर्षित होना, जो यहाँ सही structure नहीं बनाता। ‘Move’ बहुत सामान्य शब्द है और scientific explanation को स्पष्ट नहीं करता।

- Orbit' will be used because it precisely describes the motion of planets around the sun: “They happen because the planets orbit the sun in roughly the same flat plane...”. The sentence explains the scientific reason behind planetary alignment. ‘Orbit’ means to

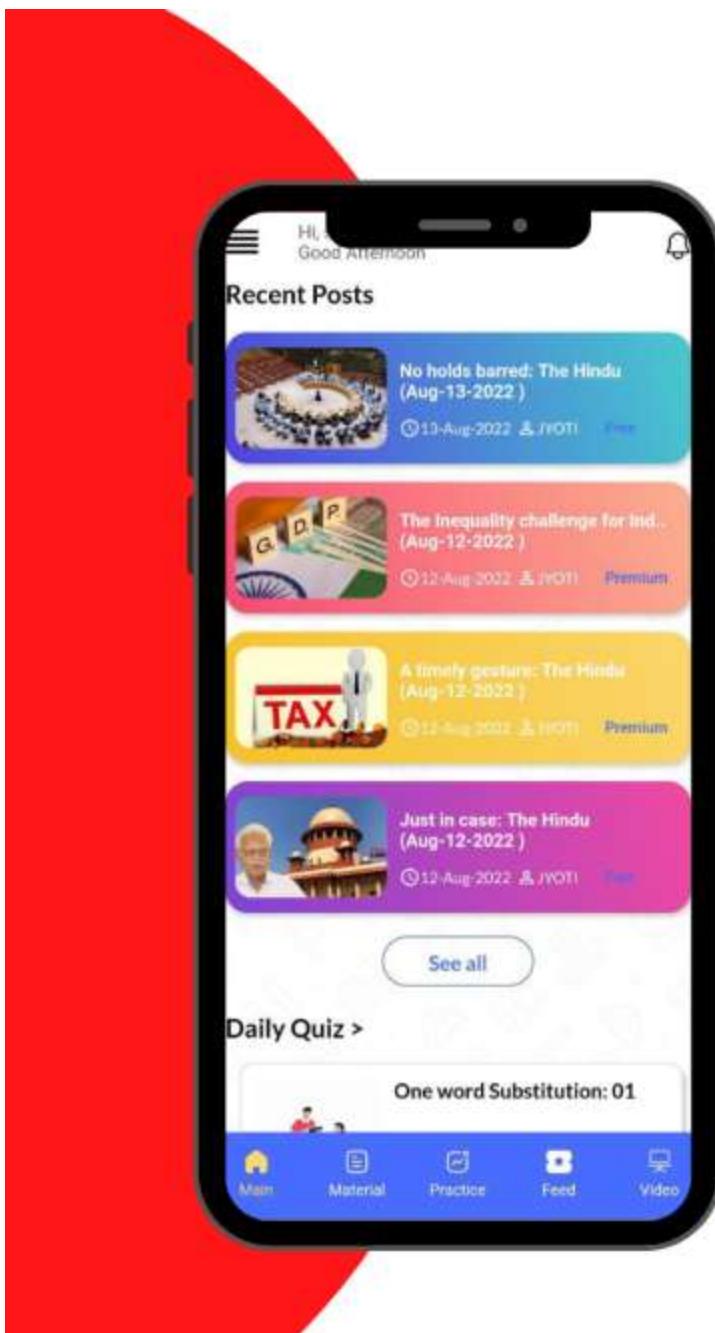
move around a celestial body in a fixed path due to gravitational force, which directly explains the phenomenon. ‘Rotate’ refers to spinning on one’s own axis, which is a different type of motion and does not explain alignment. ‘Gravitate’ means to move toward something due to attraction, but it does not describe continuous revolution in a path. ‘Move’ is too general and does not provide scientific clarity.

24. A) **At'** will be used क्योंकि speed के साथ standard grammatical structure “at + speed” होता है: “each planet travels at a different speed...”. English में हम कहते हैं “at 60 km per hour,” “at high speed,” आदि। ‘By’ method या means दिखाता है (by bus, by train), ‘with’ accompaniment या possession दिखाता है (with force, with friends), और ‘through’ किसी माध्यम के भीतर movement दर्शाता है (through the tunnel)। इनमें से कोई भी speed के साथ grammatical pairing नहीं बनाता।

- At' will be used because speed is grammatically expressed using the preposition “at.” The sentence states: “Although each planet travels at a different speed and distance...”. In English, the correct structure is “at + speed,” such as “at high speed” or “at 50 km per hour.” ‘By’ is generally used to indicate method or means, such as “by car.” ‘With’ indicates accompaniment or possession. ‘Through’ indicates movement across or within a space. None of these form a correct grammatical structure with speed.

25. D) **Be seen'** will be used क्योंकि sentence future passive voice की माँग करता है: “will not be seen again until 2040.” यहाँ subject (rare planetary display) action perform नहीं कर रहा, बल्कि लोग उसे देखेंगे। जब subject action receive करता है, तब passive voice प्रयोग होती है। Future passive structure है: will + be + past participle. यहाँ ‘seen’ past participle है और ‘be’ auxiliary verb है। ‘See’ active form है और meaning बदल देगा। ‘Seeing’ gerund या present participle है, जो ‘will not’ के बाद नहीं आ सकता। ‘Seen’ अकेले incomplete है क्योंकि auxiliary verb नहीं है।

- Be seen' will be used because the sentence requires a future passive construction: “will not be seen again until 2040.” In this sentence, the subject (the rare planetary display) is not performing the action; instead, it is the object of observation. When the subject receives the action, passive voice is required. The correct future passive structure is: will + be + past participle. Here, ‘seen’ is the past participle of ‘see,’ and ‘be’ functions as the auxiliary verb. ‘See’ would create an active construction and change the meaning. ‘Seeing’ is a present participle and cannot follow ‘will not’ in this structure. ‘Seen’ alone is incomplete without the auxiliary verb ‘be.



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