

Small fish: On Operation Trident

While carriers of **narcotics** are caught in the net, big sharks operate freely

Operation Trident, a multi-agency **crackdown on** an international **syndicate** operating across the India-Myanmar-Bangladesh corridor, **marks** a significant step-up in the government's campaign against drug **trafficking**. The **Union Home Minister**, Amit Shah, **has** set December 31, 2029, as the deadline to **eradicate** drug networks across the country. The October 23 **raids**, which **led to** 18 people being arrested, **were** based on NCB investigations **following** the arrest of an **alleged** Myanmar-based **kingpin** in Delhi this May. However, the **dismantling** of the entire network would **require** identification of all suppliers in Myanmar and their successful **prosecution**. The government's **strategy**, involving States and Union Territories, over 40 Ministries, central agencies and the pharmaceutical sector, **is outlined** in the Vision Document on Drug Control (2026-2029), launched by Mr. Shah at the Narco-Coordination Centre meeting on June 26, 2026. It **envisages dismantling** 100 major **cartels** and improving **prosecution outcomes**. The broad strategy **reflects** the **complexity** of the problem and signals a more focused approach. Data for 2025 also show an increase of over 50% in arrests and a nearly 53% rise in cases registered under the Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances (NDPS) Act compared with 2024.

However, the government's action-plan will depend on **consistent** implementation and efficient **coordination** among agencies, and **striking** at the real brains behind it all. In several cases, foreign-based **key operatives** still remain at large and big sharks **often** do not fall in the net. The 2021 Mundra port **case** in Gujarat, involving the **seizure** of about 3,000 kg of heroin, **is a case in point wherein** the principal Afghanistan-based suppliers have yet to be brought to book. Also, the **quantity** of drugs **seized** does not, by itself, **indicate** whether drug availability or consumption has declined. Punjab remains a **prominent** example of the continuing public health challenges associated with drug abuse. The **alleged** drug-related **killings** of anti-drug **activists** in Mansa and Gurdaspur, along with the alleged death by suicide of a father in Sangrur who had raised concerns about the easy availability of synthetic drugs in his locality, **underscore** the human cost of the problem. These incidents also raise questions about the protection of those who speak out against drug trafficking and networks. These concerns **lend** urgency to the objective of dismantling entire networks and **apprehending** the "big sharks", rather than **concentrating disproportionately** on individual carriers. The key is to identify the **ultimate** beneficiaries by **meticulously following** the money trail and ensuring their **conviction**. **[Practice Exercise]**

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

Vocabulary

1. **Small fish** (noun) - insignificant people or minor players in a larger organization छोटी मछलियां (या छोटे मोहरे)
2. **Narcotic** (noun) - drug, opiate, painkiller, medication, substance नशीला पदार्थ
3. **Caught in the net** (phrase) - to be captured or trapped by the authorities जाल में फंसना
4. **Big shark** (noun) - powerful, important, or influential people in an illicit network बड़े मगरमच्छ
5. **Trident** (noun) - spear, pitchfork, harpoon, prong, lance त्रिशूल
6. **Crackdown on** (phrase) - severe measures to restrict illegal or unacceptable behavior कड़ी कार्रवाई करना
7. **Syndicate** (noun) - cartel, organization, ring, association, group गिरोह
8. **Mark** (verb) - signify, indicate, represent, denote, symbolize दर्शाना
9. **Trafficking** (noun) - smuggling, dealing, trading, peddling, bootlegging तस्करी
10. **Eradicate** (verb) - eliminate, destroy, remove, obliterate, abolish जड़ से मिटाना
11. **Raid** (noun) - attack, assault, strike, foray, swoop छापा
12. **Lead to** (phrasal verb) - to cause something to happen का कारण बनना
13. **Following** (preposition) - after, subsequent to, succeeding, post, behind के बाद
14. **Alleged** (adjective) - claimed, asserted, supposed, purported, suspected कथित
15. **Kingpin** (noun) - leader, boss, chief, mastermind, head सरगना
16. **Dismantle** (verb) - disassemble, demolish, destroy, deconstruct, shatter नष्ट करना (या विघटित करना)
17. **Prosecution** (noun) - indictment, trial, litigation, proceeding, lawsuit मुकदमा
18. **Outline** (verb) - draft, sketch, summarize, trace, detail रूपरेखा तैयार करना
19. **Envisage** (verb) - foresee, predict, anticipate, visualize, imagine परिकल्पना करना
20. **Dismantle** (verb) - disassemble, demolish, destroy, deconstruct, shatter नष्ट करना (या विघटित करना)
21. **Cartel** (noun) - syndicate, ring, monopoly, consortium, trust गिरोह
22. **Prosecution** (noun) - indictment, trial, litigation, proceeding, lawsuit मुकदमा
23. **Outcome** (noun) - result, consequence, effect, conclusion, aftermath परिणाम
24. **Reflect** (verb) - indicate, show, display, demonstrate, reveal दर्शाना
25. **Complexity** (noun) - complication, intricacy, difficulty, involvement, convolution जटिलता
26. **Consistent** (adjective) - steady, stable, constant, regular, uniform निरंतर
27. **Coordination** (noun) - collaboration, cooperation, organization, synchronization, teamwork समन्वय

28. **Strike** (verb) - hit, attack, assault, pound, smite प्रहार करना
29. **Key** (adjective) - crucial, vital, essential, major, important प्रमुख
30. **Operative** (noun) - agent, spy, worker, employee, representative कार्यकर्ता
31. **At large** (phrase) - escaped or not yet captured by the authorities पकड़ से बाहर
32. **Often** (adverb) - frequently, regularly, repeatedly, usually, habitually अक्सर
33. **Seizure** (noun) - confiscation, capture, appropriation, taking, grabbing जब्ती
34. **A case in point** (phrase) - a clear example of the problem or situation being discussed एक सटीक उदाहरण
35. **Wherein** (conjunction) - in which, where, during which, in what, whereby जिसमें
36. **Bring to book** (phrase) - to punish someone and make them account for their behavior सजा दिलाना
37. **Seize** (verb) - confiscate, capture, snatch, grab, apprehend जब्त करना
38. **By itself** (phrase) - automatically or without anything else अपने आप में
39. **Prominent** (adjective) - noticeable, conspicuous, obvious, striking, leading प्रमुख
40. **Associated with** (phrasal verb) - connected to or related to something से जुड़ा हुआ
41. **Alleged** (adjective) - claimed, asserted, supposed, purported, suspected कथित
42. **Activist** (noun) - campaigner, advocate, champion, protester, militant कार्यकर्ता
43. **Underscore** (verb) - highlight, emphasize, stress, underline, accentuate जोर देना
44. **Speak out** (phrasal verb) - to publicly express one's opinions or concerns खुलकर बोलना
45. **Lend** (verb) - give, provide, impart, add, bestow प्रदान करना
46. **Apprehend** (verb) - arrest, catch, capture, seize, detain गिरफ्तार करना
47. **Concentrate** (verb) - focus, center, fix, direct, consolidate ध्यान केंद्रित करना
48. **Disproportionately** (adverb) - unevenly, unequally, excessively, unreasonably, inordinately असंगत रूप से
49. **Ultimate** (adjective) - final, eventual, concluding, last, supreme अंतिम
50. **Meticulously** (adverb) - carefully, thoroughly, rigorously, scrupulously, diligently बारीकी से
51. **Follow** (verb) - track, trail, pursue, trace, shadow पीछा करना
52. **Money trail** (noun) - a series of financial transactions that can be investigated पैसों का सुराग
53. **Conviction** (noun) - sentence, judgment, condemnation, ruling, decision दोषसिद्धि

Summary of the Editorial

1. **Operation Trident Launched:** A multi-agency crackdown targeted an international drug syndicate operating across the India-Myanmar-Bangladesh corridor.
2. **2029 Eradication Goal:** Union Home Minister Amit Shah set December 31, 2029, as the national deadline to completely eradicate drug networks.
3. **October 23 Raids:** Investigations by the Narcotics Control Bureau (NCB) following a Myanmar-based kingpin's arrest in Delhi led to 18 arrests during these raids.
4. **Requirement for Success:** Full dismantling of the syndicate depends on successfully identifying and prosecuting all Myanmar-based suppliers.
5. **Vision Document (2026–2029):** Launched on June 26, 2026, at the Narco-Coordination Centre meeting, this document outlines the government's multi-stakeholder strategy.
6. **Broad Stakeholder Integration:** The national strategy involves States, Union Territories, over 40 Ministries, central agencies, and the pharmaceutical industry.
7. **Targeting Major Cartels:** A key objective under the Vision Document is to dismantle 100 major drug cartels and improve legal prosecution outcomes.
8. **Spike in Enforcements (2025):** Data shows a >50% rise in arrests and a ~53% increase in NDPS Act cases registered in 2025 compared to 2024.
9. **Implementation Challenges:** Long-term success relies on consistent inter-agency coordination and targeting key operatives rather than lower-level carriers.
10. **Foreign Operatives at Large:** Foreign-based "big sharks" frequently evade capture; for instance, key Afghan suppliers from the 2021 Mundra port seizure (3,000 kg heroin) remain at large.
11. **Seizures vs. Impact:** High volume drug seizures do not necessarily signal a drop in actual drug availability or public consumption.
12. **Ongoing Public Health Crisis:** Punjab continues to face severe public health and social challenges tied to persistent drug abuse.
13. **Threats to Activists:** Alleged killings of anti-drug activists in Mansa and Gurdaspur highlight the severe risks faced by those speaking out against cartels.
14. **Human Cost Illustrated:** A suicide in Sangrur by a father concerned over local synthetic drug availability underscores the human toll of the crisis.
15. **Focus on Money Trails:** Effective eradication requires following financial trails to expose ultimate beneficiaries and ensure their conviction, moving beyond mere street-level arrests.

Practice Exercise: SSC Pattern Based

1. **Why does the author argue that the complete eradication of the syndicate targeted in Operation Trident remains incomplete?** [Editorial page]
 - A. Dismantling the full criminal syndicate requires tracing all source suppliers in Myanmar and securing their successful legal prosecution.
 - B. Inter-agency coordination across forty central ministries failed to implement the enforcement targets established in the Vision Document.
 - C. Central investigative agencies focused on apprehending foreign ringleaders while granting procedural immunity to lower-level cross-border couriers.
 - D. The Narco-Coordination Centre failed to incorporate state enforcement departments into the multi-agency crackdown conducted during October.
2. **According to the passage, what specific multi-year targets are outlined in the Vision Document on Drug Control?**
 - A. Confiscating three thousand kilograms of illicit heroin annually across western seaports by the end of 2026.
 - B. Neutralizing one hundred major trafficking cartels and enhancing judicial prosecution results by the end of 2029.
 - C. Increasing statutory arrest rates by over fifty percent annually across forty administrative ministries by late 2025.
 - D. Registering fifty-three percent more illicit contraband cases across regional border corridors before the upcoming December deadline.
3. **What does the comparison between 2024 and 2025 enforcement data illustrate according to the passage?**
 - A. The national campaign achieved its 2029 target of neutralizing one hundred foreign-based illicit supply cartels.
 - B. Operational coordination among forty ministries succeeded in eliminating the availability of synthetic drugs in neighborhoods.
 - C. Intercepted contraband quantities at western maritime ports dropped sharply following high-level bilateral extradition agreements with suppliers.
 - D. Enforcement activity expanded significantly in terms of registered cases and detentions under national narcotics statutes.
4. **How did the arrest of a foreign-based operative in Delhi this May influence subsequent enforcement actions?**
 - A. It led to the immediate extradition and prosecution of all major narcotics suppliers based across Myanmar.
 - B. It prompted the Union Home Minister to advance the national drug eradication deadline to June 2026.
 - C. It enabled the Narcotics Control Bureau to uncover the network and execute multi-agency raids on October 23.
 - D. It caused the immediate closure of illicit synthetic drug distribution routes operating throughout rural districts of Punjab.
5. **Which phrase best summarizes the core theme of the passage?**
 - A. Technological advancements in maritime container scanning at commercial ports

- B. Transcending courier interdictions through financial investigations and syndicate dismantling
- C. Legislative revisions governing the statutory powers of central ministries
- D. Historical evaluation of opium cultivation trends across South Asian corridors
6. **Select the most appropriate synonym of the underlined word in the following sentence.**
I still cherish those little pranks and naughty tricks that we did during our school days.
- A. sinful
- B. tractable
- C. impish
- D. Nasty
7. **Direction: Rearrange the following five sentences (A, B, C, D, and E) in the proper sequence to form a meaningful, logical, and coherent paragraph. Each part contains strictly one sentence, taken verbatim from the text without any alteration or omission.**
- A. After all, this very area is where 12 Lancastrians were accused of witchcraft in 1612, leading to one of England's deadliest witch trials.
- B. But as I reach the top of the 557m-high (1,8270ft) muddy escarpment in England's east Lancashire region, I mostly feel exhausted.
- C. Ever since, Pendle Hill's surrounding villages and ancient forests have been considered haunted.
- D. According to local legend, visitors to Pendle Hill are supposed to feel inexplicable feelings of anger, panic or dread.
- E. Yet, surrounded by the thick mist that often envelops the summit, it's impossible to deny a sense of unease.
- A. A-D-B-E-C
- B. B-D-E-A-C
- C. C-B-D-E-A
- D. D-B-E-A-C
8. **Select the option that best expresses the meaning of the given phrasal verb.**
Mark out
- A. To treat as unimportant and dismiss quickly.
- B. To be consistent with or align with something.
- C. To be selected or designated for a specific purpose.
- D. To change the story or perspective of an event.
9. **Select the most appropriate ANTONYM of the given word.**
Compatible
- A. Immaculate
- B. Helpful
- C. Energetic
- D. Inconsistent
10. **Select the option that can be used as a one-word substitute for the underlined words.**
Whatever topic I discussed with the sage, it seemed that he knew everything.
- A. was omniscient
- B. was abnormal
- C. was excellent

- D. was a psychologist
11. **Identify the misspelt word.**
- A. Sesquipedalian
 - B. Antedeluvian
 - C. Cacophony
 - D. Triskaidekaphobia
12. **Read the sentence carefully and select the synonym of the underlined word from the given alternatives.**
- As the effect of anaesthesia dissipated the patient regained consciousness.
- A. Enhanced
 - B. Heightened
 - C. Returned
 - D. Disappeared
13. **Identify the part containing a grammatical or structural error:**
- The teacher advised to listen attentively.
- A. advised
 - B. The teacher
 - C. No error
 - D. to listen attentively
14. **Choose the correct meaning of the idiom:**
- Throw cold water on
- A. Encourage a plan
 - B. Make something successful
 - C. Discourage an idea
 - D. Celebrate a success
15. **Select the correct passive form of the given sentence.**
- "He will submit the report by Friday."
- A. The report will be submitted by him by Friday.
 - B. The report will have been submitted by him.
 - C. The report submitted by him by Friday.
 - D. The report is submitted by him by Friday.
16. **In the following sentence, a part of the sentence is bolded. Choose the correct alternative that best improves the bolded part.**
- The new fiscal amendments have had a significant affect on the purchasing power of the middle class during this period of deflation.
- A. has had a significant affect
 - B. have significant affected
 - C. have had a significant effect
 - D. had significant effect
17. **Direction: In the following question, the first and the last sentences of the passage are numbered S1 and S6. The rest of the passage is split into four parts and named A, B, C, and D. Each part contains strictly one sentence, taken verbatim from the text without any alteration or omission. Rearrange these four parts to form a meaningful, logical, and coherent passage.**

- S1. Producer and real estate giant Anand Pandit, 63, recently completed an incredible 333 km cycling trip across the Netherlands in just seven days.
- A. This year's cycling retreat took me through the Netherlands, across seven destinations and countless kilometres of trails.
- B. Every year, I take this time to step away from work, technology and routine.
- C. "Seven days without the usual noise can give you a different perspective.
- D. But the distance travelled was never really the point.
- S6. To spend time with myself, meet people outside my usual world and simply let my thoughts settle.
- A. A-C-D-B
- B. C-A-D-B
- C. D-B-C-A
- D. B-D-A-C
18. **Choose the correct direct speech form of the following sentence.**
He said that this had been in the box
- A. He said, "This was in the box."
- B. He said, "This had in the box."
- C. He said that, "It is in the box."
- D. He said, "That have in the box."
19. **Choose the most suitable preposition from the given options to fill in the blank in the following sentence.**
The incident caused a rift _____ the two best friends.
- A. among
- B. between
- C. for
- D. in
20. **Select the most appropriate ANTONYM of the given word.**
Reluctantly
- A. Unwillingly
- B. Smartly
- C. Fairly
- D. Zealously

Read the cloze passage and answer the following questions:

Sage Suka describes how Rukmini, the princess of Vidarbha (Kundinapura), is an incarnation of Mahalakshmi, who fell in love with Lord Krishna from her childhood purely by hearing tales of Krishna's virtues (gunas), beauty, and wisdom, said Tirukkudanthai Dr. Venkatesh in a discourse. Rukmini is the daughter of King Bhishmaka, and she had five brothers. Bhishmaka approved of Krishna, but her elder brother Rukmi allied with Kamsa and Jarasandha and (1) vehemently opposed the match. Rukmi arranged a forced marriage to his friend Shishupala, king of Cedhi kingdom and Lord Krishna's cousin. As wedding preparations began and Shishupala arrived, Rukmini realised she had no family support to stop the wedding and refused to accept anyone other than Krishna. She secretly entrusted an elderly and (2) trustworthy person with a confidential letter, instructing him to deliver it quickly to Krishna and rescue her.

In cantos 12 and 13 of Swami Vedanta Desika's Yadavabhyudayam, the narrative of Rukmini's letter (Rukmini Patrika) and her subsequent rescue by Lord Krishna _____(3) presented through grand poetic imagery, philosophical allegories, and devotion (bhakti). In her letter, she asks why a jackal should steal a lion's prey, comparing Krishna to a lion and Shishupala _____(5) a jackal. Rukmini's letter embodies the concepts of complete surrender: Anukulya-Sankalpa — resolving to cling only to the Divine; Karpanya — acknowledging one's own helplessness without divine aid; and Maha-Vishvasa — absolute faith that the Lord will come to rescue. Upon receiving the message, Krishna immediately set off for Vidarbha in His chariot, arrived near the temple, defeated the opposing forces, and spared Rukmi's life upon Rukmini's plea. He then _____(4) her away to Dwaraka, where the grand wedding of Lord Krishna and Rukmini took place.

21. The word "vehemently" in the passage is closest in meaning to: (1)
- A. lukewarmly
 - B. apathetically
 - C. impassionately
 - D. fervently
22. Select the word that is the most appropriate antonym of "trustworthy" as used in the passage: (2)
- A. staunch
 - B. perfidious
 - C. veracious
 - D. incorruptible
23. Choose the correct auxiliary verb to fill in the blank: (3)
- A. are
 - B. were
 - C. is
 - D. being
24. Choose the correct form of the verb to fill in the blank: (4)
- A. whisking
 - B. whisks
 - C. whisk
 - D. whisked
25. Select the correct preposition to complete the sentence: (5)
- A. to
 - B. with
 - C. against
 - D. for

Answers

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

[\[Practice Exercise\]](#)

Explanations

1. A) **Dismantling the full criminal syndicate requires tracing all source suppliers in Myanmar and securing their successful legal prosecution.**

The option says the syndicate cannot be fully wiped out until every supplier in Myanmar is traced and successfully prosecuted. The passage says the October 23 raids led to 18 arrests, but “the dismantling of the entire network would require identification of all suppliers in Myanmar and their successful prosecution.” So the work is incomplete because the suppliers are still to be identified and convicted, hence correct.

- Option B: Incorrect The option says coordination among forty central ministries failed to deliver the Vision Document’s targets. The passage says the strategy involves over 40 Ministries, States, Union Territories and agencies, and only says its success will depend on consistent implementation and coordination in future. It does not say coordination has already failed, and the Vision Document covers 2026-2029, so its targets are still ahead, hence incorrect.
- Option C: Incorrect The option says agencies chased foreign ringleaders while giving couriers immunity. The passage says the opposite: big sharks often escape while carriers are caught, and the author wants focus on networks rather than “individual carriers”. No immunity is mentioned for anyone, hence incorrect.
- Option D: Incorrect The option says the Narco-Coordination Centre failed to include state enforcement departments in the October crackdown. The passage says the strategy involves States and Union Territories, and the raids were a multi-agency operation based on NCB investigations. It never says states were left out, hence incorrect.

2. B) **Neutralizing one hundred major trafficking cartels and enhancing judicial prosecution results by the end of 2029.**

The option says the Vision Document aims to dismantle one hundred major cartels and improve prosecution results by the end of 2029. The passage says the Vision Document on Drug Control (2026-2029) “envisages dismantling 100 major cartels and improving prosecution outcomes”. It also says the Home Minister has set December 31, 2029, as the deadline to eradicate drug networks. The option matches both points, hence correct.

- Option A: Incorrect The option says the Vision Document targets seizing three thousand kilograms of heroin every year at western seaports by the end of 2026. The passage mentions about 3,000 kg of heroin only as the quantity seized in the 2021 Mundra port case, which is a past example of big suppliers escaping. It is not a target in the Vision Document, hence incorrect.
- Option C: Incorrect The option says the document targets a yearly rise of over fifty percent in arrests across forty ministries by late 2025. The passage gives the over 50% rise in arrests as a statistic for 2025 compared with 2024, which is a result already

recorded and not a future target. The 40 ministries are mentioned only as part of the strategy's coordination, hence incorrect.

- Option D: Incorrect The option says the document targets registering fifty-three percent more contraband cases before the December deadline. The passage gives the nearly 53% rise in NDPS Act cases as 2025 data compared with 2024. It is a past figure and not a target set in the Vision Document, hence incorrect.

3. **D) Enforcement activity expanded significantly in terms of registered cases and detentions under national narcotics statutes.**

The option says enforcement grew significantly in registered cases and arrests under the narcotics law. The passage says data for 2025 show an increase of over 50% in arrests and a nearly 53% rise in cases registered under the NDPS Act compared with 2024. The option describes exactly this, hence correct.

- Option A: Incorrect The option says the 2024-2025 comparison shows the campaign has already reached its 2029 target of neutralizing one hundred cartels. The passage says the Vision Document only "envisages dismantling 100 major cartels", which is a goal for the period up to 2029. The 2025 data speaks only of arrests and registered cases, not of cartels being dismantled. So the target has not been shown as achieved, hence incorrect.
- Option B: Incorrect The option says coordination among forty ministries has removed the availability of synthetic drugs in neighbourhoods. The passage says the opposite. It points to a father in Sangrur who raised concerns about the easy availability of synthetic drugs in his locality, and says seizures alone do not show whether availability or consumption has fallen. The 2025 data does not prove that availability has been eliminated, hence incorrect.
- Option C: Incorrect The option says seizures at western ports fell sharply after extradition agreements with suppliers. The passage gives no data on falling seizures and mentions no extradition agreements. The Mundra port case is cited only to show that the main Afghanistan-based suppliers have still not been brought to book, hence incorrect.

4. **C) It enabled the Narcotics Control Bureau to uncover the network and execute multi-agency raids on October 23.**

The option says the arrest helped the NCB uncover the network and carry out multi-agency raids on October 23. The passage says the October 23 raids, which led to 18 arrests, "were based on NCB investigations following the arrest of an alleged Myanmar-based kingpin in Delhi this May." So the arrest led to the investigations and then to the raids, hence correct.

- Option A: Incorrect The option says the May arrest led to the immediate extradition and prosecution of all major suppliers in Myanmar. The passage says the opposite: dismantling the whole network would still require identifying all suppliers in Myanmar and successfully prosecuting them. So this work is yet to be done, and no extradition is mentioned, hence incorrect.
- Option B: Incorrect The option says the arrest made the Home Minister move the eradication deadline forward to June 2026. The passage says the deadline is December 31, 2029. June 26, 2026 is only the date on which the Vision Document was launched at

the Narco-Coordination Centre meeting. Nothing links the deadline to the May arrest, hence incorrect.

- Option D: Incorrect The option says the arrest closed synthetic drug routes across rural Punjab at once. The passage says Punjab still faces serious drug problems, and that synthetic drugs remain easily available in places like Sangrur. It does not link the Delhi arrest to Punjab's routes, hence incorrect.

5. B) **Transcending courier interdictions through financial investigations and syndicate dismantling.**

The option says the theme is moving beyond catching couriers towards following the money and breaking up whole syndicates. The passage title says carriers are caught while "big sharks" operate freely. The author says efforts should focus on "dismantling entire networks and apprehending the big sharks, rather than concentrating disproportionately on individual carriers". It ends by saying the key is to follow the money trail and ensure convictions of the ultimate beneficiaries. The option covers this whole argument, hence correct.

- Option A: Incorrect The option says the passage is about better technology for scanning containers at commercial ports. The passage mentions the Mundra port only as an example of a case where the main Afghanistan-based suppliers have still not been brought to book. It says nothing about scanning technology or port equipment, hence incorrect.
- Option C: Incorrect The option says the passage is about changes in law that govern the powers of central ministries. The passage speaks of a Vision Document and coordination among ministries, but it does not discuss any new law or change in the statutory powers of ministries. The NDPS Act is mentioned only for case data, hence incorrect.
- Option D: Incorrect The option says the passage is a historical study of opium cultivation in South Asia. The passage is about current enforcement, including Operation Trident, the 2029 deadline and recent data. It does not discuss opium cultivation or its history, hence incorrect.

6. C) Cherish (verb) – Hold something dear, value highly, treasure, hold dear. प्यार करना
Synonym: **Impish** (adjective) – Mischievous, naughty, playful, cheeky, prankish. शरारती

- **Sinful** (adjective) – Immoral, wrongful, wicked, evil. पापी
- **Tractable** (adjective) – Manageable, compliant, obedient, amenable. समझदार
- **Nasty** (adjective) – Unpleasant, dirty, filthy, vile. घिनौना

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

Explanation:

Hindi Explanation:

- Sentence D पैराग्राफ की शुरुआत करेगा क्योंकि यह मुख्य विषय—Pendle Hill—और उससे जुड़ी स्थानीय किंवदंती (क्रोध, घबराहट या भय की अकारण भावनाएं) का परिचय देता है।
- Sentence B Sentence D के ठीक बाद आएगा और D-B का सीधा कंट्रास्ट पेयर बनाएगा। Conjunction "But" किंवदंती में वर्णित डर के विपरीत लेखक के वास्तविक जमीनी अनुभव को रखता है कि 557 मीटर ऊंचे ढलान पर पहुँचने के बाद उसे डर के बजाय केवल अत्यधिक थकान महसूस होती है।

- Sentence E Sentence B को फॉलो करेगा और B-E का दूसरा कंट्रास्ट पेयर बनाएगा। एडवर्ब "Yet" थकान के बाद माहौल के बदलाव को दर्शाता है कि चोटी को घेरने वाले घने कोहरे के बीच बेचैनी (unease) की भावना को नकारना असंभव है।
- Sentence A Sentence E के ठीक बाद आएगा और E-A का cause-and-effect pair बनाएगा। वाक्यांश "After all" उस बेचैनी का ऐतिहासिक कारण प्रस्तुत करता है—1612 में इसी क्षेत्र के 12 लोगों पर जादू-टोने (witchcraft) का आरोप लगा था, जो इंग्लैंड के सबसे घातक ट्रायल्स में से एक बना।
- Sentence C Sentence A के बाद आकर पैराग्राफ को पूरा करेगा। वाक्यांश "Ever since" 1612 के उस मुकदमे के बाद से वर्तमान तक की स्थिति को जोड़ता है कि तब से पेंडल हिल के आसपास के गाँवों और प्राचीन जंगलों को भूतिया (haunted) माना जाता रहा है।

English Explanation:

- Sentence D serves as the topic sentence, introducing the geographical setting (Pendle Hill) alongside the folklore alleging that visitors experience sudden anger, panic, or dread.
 - Sentence B directly follows Sentence D to establish an immediate contrast (D-B), using the conjunction "But" to deflate the dramatic supernatural expectation with the mundane physical reality of feeling completely exhausted upon summiting the escarpment.
 - Sentence E follows Sentence B to create a second, nuanced pivot (B-E), using "Yet" to describe how the heavy summit mist ultimately triggers an unmistakable sense of unease after all.
 - Sentence A forms an essential explanatory link with Sentence E (E-A), employing the connective phrase "After all" to justify the eerie atmosphere by detailing the historical 1612 witchcraft accusations and deadly trials.
 - Sentence C logically completes the passage after Sentence A, using the temporal continuity marker "Ever since" to trace the enduring supernatural reputation of the surrounding villages and forests back to those historic trials.
8. C) Mark out (phrasal verb) – selected or designated for a specific purpose. (चिह्नित किया गया / विशेष उद्देश्य के लिए चुनना)
9. D) **Compatible** (adjective) – Able to exist or work together, harmonious. अनुकूल
Antonym: **Inconsistent** (adjective) – Not in agreement, clashing. असंगत
- **Immaculate** (adjective) – Perfectly clean, spotless. बेदाग
 - **Helpful** (adjective) – Useful, supportive. सहायक
 - **Energetic** (adjective) – Active, lively. ऊर्जावान
10. A) **Omniscient** (adjective) – Knowing everything. सर्वज्ञ
- **Abnormal** (adjective) – Different from what is normal. असामान्य
 - **Excellent** (adjective) – Extremely good. उत्कृष्ट
 - **A psychologist** (noun) – A person who studies the human mind. मनोवैज्ञानिक
11. B) The correct spelling of 'Antedeluvean' is '**Antediluvian**' which means "belonging to the time before the biblical Flood; extremely old-fashioned" अति प्राचीन, दकियानूसी।
12. D) **Dissipated** (verb) – To cause to spread out to the point of vanishing; disperse, scatter, dispel. गायब हो जाना

Synonym: **Disappeared** (verb) – To cease to be visible; vanish, fade, evaporate. गायब होना

- **Enhanced** (verb) – Intensify, increase, or further improve the quality, value, or extent of. बढ़ाना
- **Heightened** (verb) – To make or become more intense; intensify, boost, escalate. बढ़ाना
- **Returned** (verb) – To come or go back to a place or person; come back, go back, reappear. वापस आना

13. C) No error

14. C) **Throw cold water on** (idiom) – Discourage an idea (to be negative or unenthusiastic about a plan) हतोत्साहित करना, पानी फेर देना

15. A) The report will be submitted by him by Friday.

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 use किया जाता है। Active वाक्य में "He" Subject है, "will submit" Verb (Future Simple) है और "the report" Object है। Passive में बदलने पर Object "The report" Subject बन गया है, Verb को "will be submitted" (Future Simple Passive) में बदला गया और "by him" के रूप में use किया गया। समय "by Friday" Passive वाक्य में वही रहता 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, "He" (Subject), "will submit" (Verb in Future Simple), and "the report" (Object) from the active voice have been transformed into "The report" (Subject), "will be submitted" (Passive Verb in Future Simple), and "by him", with "by Friday" remaining the same.

16. C) 'have had a significant affect' के बदले 'have had a significant effect' का प्रयोग होगा क्योंकि 'a significant' (article + adjective) के बाद Noun आता है; 'effect' noun है (प्रभाव), जबकि 'affect' मुख्यतः verb है (प्रभावित करना)। Subject 'amendments' plural है, इसलिए 'have had' सही है; जैसे— The medicine had an immediate effect. / The weather affects our mood.

- 'have had a significant effect' will be used instead of 'have had a significant affect' because a noun is needed after 'a significant'; 'effect' is the noun (result, influence), while 'affect' is mainly a verb (to influence). The plural subject 'amendments' correctly takes 'have had'; Like— The medicine had an immediate effect. / The weather affects our mood.

17. B) C-A-D-B

Explanation:

Hindi Explanation:

- Sentence C S1 के तुरंत बाद आएगा और S1-C का सीधा संबंध बनाएगा। S1 में आनंद पंडित के सात दिनों में पूरे किए गए 333 किमी के साइकिल सफर का उल्लेख है। Sentence C सीधे उनके उद्धरण (quote) की शुरुआत करता है कि सामान्य शोर-शराबे के बिना बिताए गए सात दिन एक अलग दृष्टिकोण दे सकते हैं।
- Sentence A Sentence C को फॉलो करेगा। सात दिनों के प्रभाव के बाद Sentence A इस वर्ष के सफर के दायरे का उल्लेख करता है— "This year's cycling retreat took me through the Netherlands, across seven destinations and countless kilometres of trails."

- Sentence D Sentence A के ठीक बाद आया और A-D का कंट्रास्ट पेयर बनाया। Conjunction "But" दूरी और गंतव्यों की संख्या के ठीक बाद यह स्पष्ट करता है कि तय की गई दूरी कभी भी मुख्य उद्देश्य नहीं थी।
- Sentence B Sentence D के बाद आया और D-B का संबंध बनाया। यह स्पष्ट करने के बाद कि दूरी महत्वपूर्ण नहीं थी, Sentence B यात्रा का असली उद्देश्य प्रस्तुत करता है—काम, तकनीक और दिनचर्या से दूर जाना। इसके बाद S6 ("To spend time with myself...") इंफिनिटिव "To" के ज़रिए सीधे Sentence B के उद्देश्य को आगे बढ़ाते हुए गद्यांश को पूरा करता है।

English Explanation:

- Sentence C directly follows S1, pivoting from the third-person journalistic premise (the 63-year-old producer's 7-day, 333 km ride) into Anand Pandit's first-person reflection on the perspective gained from seven days away from daily noise.
- Sentence A follows Sentence C, detailing the physical expanse of the journey—spanning the Netherlands across seven destinations and extensive trail networks.
- Sentence D follows Sentence A to establish an essential contrast (A-D), using the conjunction "But" to emphasize that the physical kilometers logged were not the primary objective.
- Sentence B follows Sentence D, revealing the genuine purpose of the annual trip: deliberately disconnecting from professional duties, technology, and routine. Finally, S6 seamlessly extends the infinitive purpose phrase initiated in Sentence B ("To spend time with myself..."), bringing the passage to a logical close.

18. A) **He said, "This was in the box."**

Direct Speech में बदलने के लिए, reported speech का verb tense backshift को ध्यान में रखते हुए सही रूप में लाना होता है। Active वाक्य में "this had been in the box" (Past Perfect) है, इसलिए Direct Speech में इसे "This was in the box" (Simple Past) में बदला जाता है। इसलिए, सही विकल्प है: To change a sentence from reported speech to direct speech, the verb tense in the reported sentence should be correctly adjusted considering backshift. Here, "this had been in the box" (Past Perfect) in reported speech is transformed into "This was in the box" (Simple Past) in direct speech.

19. B) दो व्यक्तियों या वस्तुओं के बीच संबंध दिखाने के लिए "between" का प्रयोग होता है, जबकि दो से अधिक के लिए "among" का। यहाँ "the two best friends" अर्थात् दो व्यक्ति हैं, इसलिए "a rift between" (के बीच दरार) सही है। "for" और "in" इस संदर्भ में अर्थ नहीं देते।

"Between" is used to show a relationship involving two people or things, while "among" is used for more than two. Since "the two best friends" refers to two people, "a rift between" is correct. "For" and "in" do not fit the context.

20. D) **Reluctantly** (adverb) – Unwillingly, hesitantly. अनिच्छा से

Antonym: **Zealously** (adverb) – With great energy and enthusiasm, eagerly. उत्साहपूर्वक

- **Unwillingly** (adverb) – Reluctantly (a synonym). अनिच्छा से
- **Smartly** (adverb) – Cleverly, stylishly. चतुराई से
- **Fairly** (adverb) – Justly, reasonably. निष्पक्ष रूप से

21. D) **fervently**

The passage states that Rukmi strongly or fiercely opposed the match ("vehemently opposed"). The question asks for the closest synonym for "vehemently" (meaning in a strongly emotional or fierce manner). a) lukewarmly: means with little enthusiasm (antonym). b) apathetically: means showing no interest or emotion (antonym). c) impassionately: means without passion or emotion (antonym). d) fervently: means very enthusiastically or passionately, serving as the best synonym for "vehemently".

- In Hindi: यह sentence रुक्मी द्वारा विवाह का कड़ा या ज़ोरदार ("vehemently") विरोध करने को describe करता है। Question में "vehemently" (ज़ोरदार तरीके से / उग्रता से) का सबसे सटीक synonym पूछा गया है। a) lukewarmly: इसका meaning बिना उत्साह के (antonym) होता है। b) apathetically: इसका meaning उदासीनता से (antonym) होता है। c) impassionately: इसका meaning बिना भावना के (antonym) होता है। d) fervently: इसका meaning 'जोश के साथ या उग्रता से' (passionately/intensely) होता है, जो "vehemently" के अर्थ से perfectly match करता है।

22. B) perfidious

The passage mentions handing the letter to a reliable and dependable person ("trustworthy"). The question asks for the antonym of "trustworthy". a) staunch: means loyal and committed (synonym). b) perfidious: means deceitful and untrustworthy, serving as the exact high-register antonym for "trustworthy". c) veracious: means speaking or representing the truth (synonym). d) incorruptible: means not susceptible to corruption (synonym).

- In Hindi: यह sentence रुक्मिणी द्वारा एक विश्वसनीय या भरोसेमंद ("trustworthy") व्यक्ति को पत्र सौंपने को describe करता है। Question में "trustworthy" (भरोसेमंद) का direct antonym पूछा गया है। a) staunch: इसका meaning निष्ठावान (synonym) होता है। b) perfidious: इसका meaning 'धोखेबाज़ या विश्वासघाती' (deceitful) होता है, जो "trustworthy" का direct antonym है। c) veracious: इसका meaning सच्चा (synonym) होता है। d) incorruptible: इसका meaning ईमानदार (synonym) होता है।

23. C) is

The sentence describes how the story of the letter and rescue is depicted in the poem (the narrative of Rukmini's letter... and her subsequent rescue _____ presented). The main subject of the clause is the singular noun "narrative" (the story of the letter and the rescue). A singular subject discussing a literary fact requires a singular present tense auxiliary verb. a) are: is a plural verb. b) were: is a plural past tense verb. c) is: is the singular present auxiliary verb that correctly agrees with the singular subject "narrative" to form the passive voice ("is presented"). d) being: is a participle.

- In Hindi: यह sentence कविता में रुक्मिणी के पत्र और उनके उद्धार की कथा (story) को प्रस्तुत किए जाने को describe करता है। वाक्य का मुख्य subject "narrative" (कथा) एकवचन (singular) है (यह पत्र और उद्धार 'की' कथा है)। साहित्यिक तथ्यों को बताने के लिए present tense का use होता है, इसलिए singular auxiliary verb की आवश्यकता है। a) are और b) were: ये plural verbs हैं। c) is: यह singular auxiliary verb है जो subject "narrative" के साथ subject-verb agreement के नियमानुसार "the narrative is presented" की संरचना में perfectly fit होता है। d) being: यह participle है।

24. D) whisked

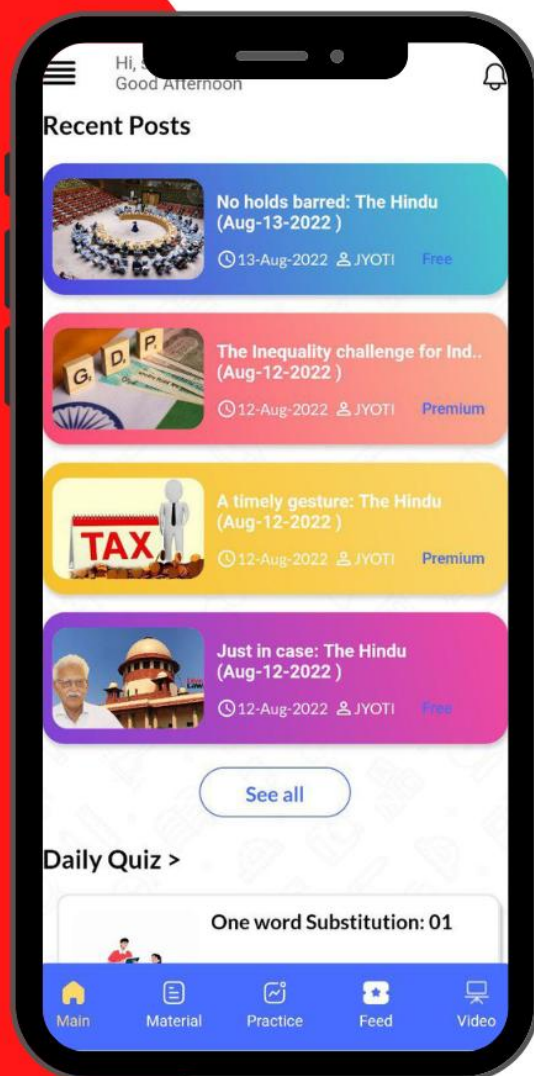
The sentence narrates a sequence of actions completed in the past (He then _____ her away). The preceding verbs in the sequence ("set off", "arrived", "defeated", "spared") are all in the simple past tense. To maintain parallel structure and tense consistency, the blank requires the past tense verb. a) whisking: is a present participle. b) whisks: is a singular present verb. c) whisk: is a base verb. d) whisked: is the simple past tense verb that perfectly aligns with the historical narrative sequence.

- In Hindi: यह sentence भगवान कृष्ण द्वारा रुक्मिणी को वहाँ से द्वाका ले जाने की घटना को describe करता है। इस घटनाक्रम में पहले आए सभी verbs ("set off", "arrived", "defeated") simple past tense में हैं। Parallelism (समानांतर संरचना) और tense की निरंतरता बनाए रखने के लिए यहाँ भी past tense verb की आवश्यकता है। a) whisking, b) whisks, और c) whisk: ये past tense नहीं हैं। d) whisked: यह simple past tense verb है जो narrative sequence के अनुसार perfectly fit होता है।

25. A) to

The sentence draws a parallel between two sets of figures (comparing Krishna to a lion and Shishupala _____ a jackal). The verb "comparing" establishes the structure "compare X to Y". To complete the second half of the parallel comparison, the same preposition is required. a) to: correctly completes the parallel structure ("comparing Krishna to a lion and Shishupala to a jackal"). b) with, c) against, d) for: are incorrect or break the established parallel phrasing of the sentence.

In Hindi: यह sentence कृष्ण की तुलना शेर से और शिशुपाल की तुलना सियार से करने को describe करता है। वाक्य की शुरुआत में "comparing Krishna to a lion" (कृष्ण की शेर से तुलना) का प्रयोग हुआ है। इसी समानांतर संरचना (parallel structure) को दूसरे भाग में पूरा करने के लिए समान preposition की आवश्यकता है। a) to: यह "Shishupala to a jackal" के रूप में parallel structure को पूर्ण करता है, जो context में perfectly fit होता है। b) with, c) against, और d) for: ये इस parallel structure को तोड़ते हैं।



Learn Vocabulary Through Reading Articles

English Madhyam