

The Hindu EDITORIAL ANALYSIS

5th March 2025

**PREPARE FOR BANK (PO/ CLERK), SSC,UPSC,
State PSC, CAT,CTET,RAILWAY EXAMS,CDS,
TET, NDA/AIRFORCE, NET and all Govt.
Exams**

1. Farsighted (दूरदर्शी)

- **Meaning:** Having the ability to anticipate future needs or developments.
- **Synonyms:** Visionary, forward-thinking, prescient
- **Antonyms:** Shortsighted, myopic, imprudent
- **Example:** The CEO's farsighted policies helped the company grow exponentially.

2. Exacerbated (बिगाड़ना , बढ़ाना)

- **Meaning:** Made a problem, bad situation, or negative feeling worse.
- **Synonyms:** Worsened, intensified, aggravated
- **Antonyms:** Alleviated, mitigated, improved
- **Example:** The ongoing conflict was exacerbated by the lack of communication between the parties.

3. Reckless (लापरवाह)

- **Meaning:** Acting without thinking about the consequences.
- **Synonyms:** Careless, irresponsible, impulsive
- **Antonyms:** Cautious, careful, prudent
- **Example:** His reckless driving resulted in a serious accident.

4. Perilous (खतरनाक)

- **Meaning:** Full of danger or risk.
- **Synonyms:** Hazardous, risky, treacherous
- **Antonyms:** Safe, secure, harmless
- **Example:** The climbers embarked on a perilous journey up the mountain.

5. Envable (ईर्षणीय)

- **Meaning:** Deserving admiration or envy.
- **Synonyms:** Desirable, admirable, praiseworthy
- **Antonyms:** Undesirable, unappealing, unattractive
- **Example:** She has an enviable talent for painting that many artists admire.

6. Inflammatory (उत्तेजक, भड़काऊ)

- **Meaning:** Intended to provoke strong emotions, often anger or violence.
- **Synonyms:** Provocative, incendiary, controversial
- **Antonyms:** Calming, soothing, neutral
- **Example:** The leader's inflammatory speech led to widespread protests.

7. Flak (आलोचना , हमला)

- **Meaning:** Strong criticism or opposition.
- **Synonyms:** Criticism, backlash, condemnation
- **Antonyms:** Praise, approval, commendation
- **Example:** The minister faced flak for his controversial remarks.

8. Vociferously (जोर-जोर से, प्रबलता से)

- **Meaning:** In a loud, forceful, or intense manner.
- **Synonyms:** Loudly, vehemently, stridently
- **Antonyms:** Quietly, softly, calmly
- **Example:** The activists vociferously protested against the new law.

9. Worrisome (चिंताजनक)

- **Meaning:** Causing concern or anxiety.
- **Synonyms:** Troubling, alarming, distressing
- **Antonyms:** Reassuring, comforting, calming
- **Example:** The rising unemployment rate is a worrisome issue for the economy.

10. Imputation (दोषारोपण)

- **Meaning:** An attribution of fault or responsibility, often implying blame.
- **Synonyms:** Accusation, allegation, attribution
- **Antonyms:** Exoneration, vindication, defense
- **Example:** The imputation of dishonesty damaged his reputation in the company.

VOCABULARY

One-word substitute:

1. The act of killing one's husband:

Mariticide

2. The act of killing one's parent or a close relative:

Parricide

3. The act of killing a king or ruler:

Regicide

4. The act of killing one's father:

Patricide

VOCABULARY

Phrasal Verbs:

1. Pick from

Meaning: To choose something from a group or set.

2. Choose out

Meaning: To select or choose from a larger group.

3. Narrow down

Meaning: To reduce the number of choices until a final decision is made.

4. Go for

Meaning: To choose or opt for something, often enthusiastically.

VOCABULARY

Idioms & Phrases

1. Thumbing one's nose

Meaning: to show contempt, disrespect towards someone

2. Put the best foot forward

Meaning: to try as hard as you can

3. Stick one's neck out

Meaning: to take a risk

VOCABULARY

4. Cook someone's goose

Meaning: Spoil other person's chances of success

5. A wild goose chase

Meaning: a foolish and hopeless search for or pursuit of something unattainable

Article for Reading

**Against domination:
On the U.S. attitude
towards space
programmes**

Just as Firefly Aerospace became the first private entity to soft-land a robotic lander on the moon on March 2, NASA acting administrator Janet Petro said “the way that we keep America first is by dominating in all the domains of space. And the domain ... we’re going to capture ... is going to be on the surface of the moon, and around the moon”. The comment was objectionable in its essence, but also carries a lesson for the rest of the spacefaring world. The U.S. space programme remains the wealthiest and most farsighted in modern history. But like U.S. President Donald Trump, she seems to have lost sight of the difference between leadership and domination. Just as the conduct of Mr. Trump and the U.S. Vice-President at the White House meeting with the Ukraine President clarified the U.S.’s self-serving priorities, so too does Ms. Petro’s comment reveal a nakedly aggressive streak in American policy — in this case, what the U.S. sees as its rightful place in humankind’s aspirations about space.

The moon and cislunar space, and the material and intellectual resources required to access them, are part of the Great Commons and they are already suffering the effects of a growing tide of protectionism worldwide, exacerbated by gaps between the evolution of law and the pace of innovation. Regulatory clarity is emerging very slowly and is often stunted. The U.S. Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) recently said that it cannot be held responsible for the fragments of a SpaceX rocket that fell over Poland because the FAA lost oversight once SpaceX had lost control of it. Given the bent of the FAA's and Ms. Petro's statements, there is no reason these commons will escape the U.S.'s reckless visions of domination without proactive decision-making. In the absence of the ability to defy its government's orders, NASA's position risks endangering international cooperation — an enviable edifice assembled over decades in the face of an expensive, perilous, time-consuming affair — in space flight, often with NASA input.

Irrespective of Ms. Petro's tenure at NASA, her words indicate that the helmsperson is not beyond being expected to further Mr. Trump's inflammatory rhetoric, if not agenda, in space and as well as on the ground. The cooperation must resist this. Given the Trump administration's attitudes towards other cooperative efforts, such as the fight against climate change, which demand internationalism over provincialism, it is imperative that national and supranational space bodies, including the Indian Space Research Organisation, come together to cultivate mechanisms to resist unilateral action in space, if not prevent it altogether.

Summary

The passage discusses NASA acting administrator Janet Petro's recent statement on the U.S. aiming to dominate space, particularly the moon. The author criticizes this approach, comparing it to the self-serving priorities of former U.S. President Donald Trump. The article argues that space should be treated as a "Great Commons" rather than a territory for dominance and highlights how regulatory gaps are exacerbating global protectionism. The passage warns that NASA's stance could harm international cooperation in space exploration, which has been built over decades. The author calls for global space agencies, including ISRO, to collaborate and resist unilateral and aggressive policies in space governance.

The tone of the passage is critical, cautionary, and assertive. The author disapproves of the U.S.'s approach to space dominance, warning against its potential consequences. The passage also carries a concerned and urgent tone, emphasizing the need for international cooperation to counter unilateral actions in space.

Reading Comprehension

Based on the above passage, answer the following questions:

Question 1:

What is the author's stance on the current state of space law and regulation?

- A) Space law is well-developed but ignored by powerful nations.**
- B) Space regulations are evolving too slowly compared to technological advancements.**
- C) The passage suggests that no legal framework exists for space governance.**
- D) NASA is the only organization with the authority to enforce space regulations.**
- E) None of the above**

Question 2:

Why does the author believe NASA's stance could harm international space cooperation?

- A) The passage suggests that aggressive U.S. policies may alienate other spacefaring nations.**
- B) It argues that NASA's growing budget surplus is creating resentment among other nations.**
- C) It claims that U.S. policy is aligned with Russian space policy, reducing global trust.**
- D) It states that NASA's technological setbacks are undermining international partnerships.**
- E) None of the above**

Question 3:

What does the passage suggest is the necessary response from the international community to U.S. space policies?

- A) Other nations must develop independent space programs to compete with the U.S.**
- B) Supranational space organizations must resist unilateral action and promote cooperation.**
- C) The passage advocates for an international boycott of NASA-led initiatives.**
- D) The author argues for a formal protest against the FAA's handling of the SpaceX incident.**
- E) None of the above**

Article for Skimming

Double trouble: On elections, the EPIC number and the voter

The integrity of the electoral system in India is dependent upon the confidence reposed in it by prospective voters and the participatory political parties. In recent years, the Election Commission of India (ECI) has drawn flak — from overblown to deserved reasons — from political parties and civil society activists concerned about trends in Indian democracy. A new complaint after recent State elections relates to the increased number of electors in the Assembly polls when compared to the numbers registered in the general election for the same year (2024). While a report in The Hindu found that such discrepancies in electorate registration were not unusual when compared to previous election cycles, the question (raised vociferously by the Opposition Congress) as to how a State such as Maharashtra registered an increase of 48 lakh voters in just six months since the general election has not been adequately answered by the ECI.

This along with the ECI's disclosure that the nature of registration allowed for different electors to have the same Electors Photo Identification Card (EPIC) number, has allowed Opposition parties, particularly the Trinamool Congress, to raise questions about the credibility of the registration process. What is worrisome is the possibility of electors voting across States. Prima facie, this discrepancy in EPIC numbers — which the ECI has averred that it will rectify by updating the numbers in its voter database to make them unique — is not problematic. Even if the EPIC number is shared by different voters, they can only vote with their verified ids. Yet, the larger problem, of a possibility of a voter having multiple EPIC numbers across different States, calls the process in question. For example, a migrant voter can vote in a particular State of residence and in his/her home State if elections are held in close succession as there is a good possibility of the duplicate EPIC number remaining in the database.

The most effective solution would be to link the Aadhaar number and biometric verification for voting. But this is still not foolproof. The Aadhaar's purpose is to identify residents, and not citizens, and would have to be supplemented by another proof for voting eligibility. Second, an Aadhaar number on electoral rolls could result in misuse such as profiling, and the ECI has to mask it when the rolls are made available to political parties. Besides, biometric verification for de-duplication should be supplemented with clear alternative identity verification as the former has the potential of excluding genuine voters because of technological failures. The ECI must be open to undertaking a clear de-duplication exercise that will allow a voter to have only one EPIC number and voter id, with the eligibility to vote only in their area of residence.

Question 4:

What does the passage suggest as a necessary measure to address voter duplication?

- A) Making Aadhaar verification mandatory for all voters before elections.**
- B) Introducing a robust de-duplication exercise to ensure unique EPIC numbers.**
- C) Allowing voters to register in multiple constituencies based on residence history.**
- D) Creating a centralized voter database controlled by the Supreme Court.**
- E) None of the above**

Question 5

Why does the passage argue against complete reliance on biometric verification for voting?

- A) Biometric systems are prone to being hacked by political parties.**
- B) The cost of implementing biometric verification is too high.**
- C) Biometric verification failures could lead to the exclusion of genuine voters.**
- D) Some voters refuse to provide biometric data due to privacy concerns.**
- E) None of the above**

Today's Descriptive Question

Precis Writing:

Original Text:

Rainwater harvesting is a sustainable method of collecting and storing rainwater for various uses, including irrigation, groundwater recharge, and domestic purposes. Given India's growing water scarcity and depleting groundwater levels, rainwater harvesting has emerged as an essential strategy for water conservation and management.

This technique involves collecting rainwater from rooftops, open grounds, and other surfaces and directing it into storage tanks, recharge pits, or underground reservoirs. It helps reduce dependence on freshwater sources, mitigate urban flooding, and improve water availability in drought-prone areas. Many Indian states have made rainwater harvesting mandatory in urban areas to address the severe water crisis.

The benefits of rainwater harvesting include reducing pressure on groundwater resources, improving soil moisture, and ensuring water security in rural and urban regions. Additionally, it is an environmentally friendly practice that helps in sustaining agriculture and reducing the impact of climate change. However, challenges such as lack of awareness, poor implementation, and maintenance issues hinder its widespread adoption. To maximize its impact, governments and communities must promote awareness, provide incentives, and implement strict regulations for effective rainwater harvesting systems.

Precis:

Rainwater harvesting is a sustainable water conservation technique that collects and stores rainwater for irrigation, groundwater recharge, and domestic use. It helps reduce water scarcity, prevent urban flooding, and sustain agriculture, making it vital for India's water security. While its benefits include lower groundwater dependency and improved water availability, challenges like lack of awareness and maintenance issues need to be addressed through better implementation and policy support.

- You are organizing a corporate event and want to invite an industry expert as a guest speaker. Write an email inviting them and explaining the event details.

To:@gmail.com

Subject: Invitation to Speak at [Event Name]

Dear [Expert's Name],

I hope you are doing well. We are organizing [Event Name] on [Date] at [Venue/Online Platform] and would love to have you as a guest speaker. Given your expertise in [their area of expertise], your insights would be invaluable to our audience.

The event will bring together [briefly mention the audience, e.g., professionals, industry leaders] to discuss [key topics]. Your session would be a great addition, and we would be happy to accommodate any preferences you may have.

Please let us know your availability, and we'd be happy to share more details. Looking forward to your positive response.

**Best regards,
[Your Name]
[Your Position]
[Company Name]**

Match the column

- | | |
|------------------------------|---|
| 1. Thumbing one's nose | A. to take a risk |
| 2. Put the best foot forward | B. Spoil other person's chances of success |
| 3. Stick one's neck out | C. to show contempt towards someone |
| 4. Cook someone's goose | D. a hopeless search for something unattainable |
| 5. A wild goose chase | E. to try as hard as you can |

Answer:

1-c

2-e

3-a

4-b

5-d

Vocabulary

1. Farsighted:
2. Exacerbated:
3. Reckless:
4. Perilous:
5. Envidable:
6. Inflammatory:
7. Flak:
8. Vociferously:
9. Worrisome:
10. Imputation:

RC ANS

1.

Ans: B

Explanation:

The passage states that space regulations "are already suffering the effects of a growing tide of protectionism worldwide, exacerbated by gaps between the evolution of law and the pace of innovation" This implies that legal frameworks are lagging behind technological developments.

Incorrect Options:

- A) Incorrect: The passage does not claim that space law is well-developed but rather that it is slow to emerge.
- C) Incorrect: The passage acknowledges the existence of space law but critiques its slow evolution.
- D) Incorrect: NASA does not have global regulatory authority over space laws.

2.

Ans: A

Explanation:

The passage states that "NASA's position risks endangering international cooperation" and warns that "there is no reason these commons will escape the U.S.'s reckless visions of domination". This suggests that the U.S.'s aggressive stance may push away potential allies.

Incorrect Options:

B) Incorrect: There is no mention of a NASA budget surplus.

C) Incorrect: The passage does not state that U.S. space policy aligns with Russia's.

D) Incorrect: The passage does not discuss technological setbacks.

3.

Ans: B

Explanation:

The passage states that "it is imperative that national and supranational space bodies, including the Indian Space Research Organisation, come together to cultivate mechanisms to resist unilateral action in space". This indicates the need for collective resistance and cooperative policymaking.

Incorrect Options:

A) Incorrect: The passage does not encourage nations to compete but rather to cooperate.

C) Incorrect: There is no mention of an international boycott of NASA.

D) Incorrect: While the FAA incident is mentioned, it is not central to the recommended response.

4.

Ans: B

Explanation:

The passage states that "The ECI must be open to undertaking a clear de-duplication exercise that will allow a voter to have only one EPIC number and voter id, with the eligibility to vote only in their area of residence." This suggests that eliminating duplicate entries in the voter database is the key solution.

Incorrect Options:

A) Incorrect: The passage acknowledges that Aadhaar alone is insufficient.

C) Incorrect: The passage warns against voters registering in multiple states.

D) Incorrect: There is no mention of Supreme Court involvement.

5.

Ans: C

Explanation:

The passage states that "biometric verification for de-duplication should be supplemented with clear alternative identity verification as the former has the potential of excluding genuine voters because of technological failures." This highlights the concern that technical issues could prevent legitimate voters from casting their votes.

Incorrect Options:

A) Incorrect: There is no mention of hacking by political parties.

B) Incorrect: Cost is not cited as a primary concern.

D) Incorrect: Privacy concerns are mentioned in relation to Aadhaar, not biometrics.

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