

# The Hindu EDITORIAL ANALYSIS

7th 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. Emphasise (ज़ोर देना)

- **Meaning:** To give special importance or attention to something.
- **Synonyms:** Stress, highlight, underline
- **Antonyms:** Downplay, ignore, overlook
- **Example:** The teacher emphasised the importance of regular practice for mastering mathematics.

## 2. Unrelenting (दृढ़)

- **Meaning:** Not yielding in strength, severity, or determination.
- **Synonyms:** Persistent, relentless, unwavering
- **Antonyms:** Lenient, yielding, flexible
- **Example:** The unrelenting heat of the desert made the journey extremely difficult.

### 3. Reiterate (दोहराना )

- **Meaning:** To say something again for emphasis or clarity.
- **Synonyms:** Repeat, restate, reaffirm
- **Antonyms:** Withdraw, retract, deny
- **Example:** The manager reiterated the company's commitment to customer satisfaction.

#### 4. Hat tip (संकेत देना)

- **Meaning:** A gesture or acknowledgment of recognition or respect.
- **Synonyms:** Nod, acknowledgment, tribute
- **Antonyms:** Disregard, neglect, indifference
- **Example:** The scientist gave a hat tip to his mentor for guiding him throughout his research.

## 5. Aggressive (आक्रामक)

- **Meaning:** Forceful, determined, and sometimes hostile.
- **Synonyms:** Assertive, forceful, combative
- **Antonyms:** Passive, gentle, mild
- **Example:** The company adopted an aggressive marketing strategy to dominate the market.

## 6. Reverberating (गूँजना)

- **Meaning:** Echoing or having a continuous impact.
- **Synonyms:** Resounding, echoing, vibrating
- **Antonyms:** Muffled, fading, silent
- **Example:** The consequences of the economic crisis were reverberating across the global markets.

## 7. Malapportionment (असमान वितरण)

- **Meaning:** Unequal distribution of representatives or seats in a legislative body.
- **Synonyms:** Disproportion, imbalance, inequality
- **Antonyms:** Proportion, balance, equality
- **Example:** The issue of malapportionment in the electoral system led to widespread protests.



## 8. Contentious (विवादास्पद )

- **Meaning:** Causing or likely to cause an argument or controversy.
- **Synonyms:** Controversial, debatable, disputable
- **Antonyms:** Uncontroversial, agreeable, undisputed
- **Example:** The new tax policy has become a contentious issue among political parties.

## 9. Apprehension (आशंका)

- **Meaning:** Anxiety or fear that something bad might happen.
- **Synonyms:** Anxiety, dread, fear
- **Antonyms:** Confidence, assurance, calmness
- **Example:** There was a sense of apprehension among the students before the final exam.

## 10. Federal (संघीय)

- **Meaning:** Related to a system of government where power is divided between a central authority and regional units.
- **Synonyms:** National, central, governmental
- **Antonyms:** Local, provincial, regional
- **Example:** The country follows a federal structure, giving autonomy to its states.

## VOCABULARY

### One-word substitute:

**1. A ruler who has absolute power:**

Autocrat

**2. A tightrope walker:**

Funambulist

**3. A dentist specializing in treating dental pulp and performing root canal therapy:**

Endodontist

**4. A doctor specializing in pregnancy, childbirth, and postpartum care:**

Obstetrician

# VOCABULARY

## Phrasal Verbs:

### 1. Phase in

Meaning: To gradually choose to incorporate something new.

### 2. Bow out of

Meaning: To choose to withdraw from something.

### 3. Dip into

Meaning: To choose to use a small part of a resource or reserve.

### 4. Hold back from

Meaning: To hesitate or choose not to pursue something immediately.

# VOCABULARY

## Idioms & Phrases

### 1. Snug as a bug in a rug

Meaning - in an extremely comfortable position or situation.

### 2. Step up your game

Meaning - to enhance performance, quality, skills, or talents.

### 3. Lose your marbles

Meaning - to become insane

## VOCABULARY

### **4. A bit obtuse**

Meaning - A little dull and stupid

### **5. Blue in the face**

Meaning - To be exhausted due to strain or anger

## Article for Reading

**Unsettling plans: On  
Trump's address to  
Congress and his  
policies**



**President Donald Trump used the bully pulpit of his first joint address to Congress to emphasise, among other priorities, his administration's intent to up the ante on the trade war that began with the U.S. slamming India, China, Canada and Mexico with tariffs of 25% or higher. Amidst walkouts by numerous Democratic lawmakers, he flagged his administration's 100 executive orders and 400 executive actions to date as proof of his "swift and unrelenting action", including on issues critical to American voters, such as reducing the cost of energy and "working tirelessly to end the savage conflict in Ukraine". Early on in the speech, Mr. Trump underscored the U.S.'s withdrawal from the Paris climate accords, WHO and the U.N. Human Rights Council, even as he reiterated his administration's commitment to the mantra of fossil fuel exploitation — "drill, baby, drill" — as the key approach to bringing down energy prices.**

He also railed against woke culture, specifically focusing on “getting men out of women’s sports,” as he had promised in his election campaign. In a hat tip to Elon Musk, the boss of the newly founded Department of Government Efficiency (DOGE), he claimed that the initiative had already “found hundreds of billions of dollars of fraud”. This was notwithstanding shockwaves reverberating across the world from funding cuts and firings at organisations such as USAID, involved in critical projects in numerous countries; and lawsuits aimed at blocking DOGE’s access to confidential government data. On the one hand, it is hardly surprising that Mr. Trump is pushing a conservative agenda, for example through his administration’s aggressive drive towards smaller government. On the other, there is a serious question of whether some of his second-term policies risk self-goals.

**Tariffs are a case in point, as independent economists have argued that higher import costs resulting from increased tariffs could lead importers to pass the economic burden onto consumers through higher prices, driving inflation, contrary to his economic promises. However, this warning has largely fallen on deaf ears among MAGA supporters. Similarly, there is a distinct possibility of the U.S. saving resources and materials of war if it “pauses” military support to Ukraine, yet this strategy does not apparently concern itself with the longer-term, possibly trans-Atlantic, consequences of signalling weakness of defence against Russian territorial ambitions looming over Europe. While the 2024 election revealed the depth of the partisan chasm between sections of American voters over crucial, emotive issues such as immigration, reproductive rights, and the economy, the tone and tenor of the second Trump administration does not instil confidence that this gap might be bridged in four years.**

## Summary

The passage discusses President Donald Trump's first joint address to Congress in his second term, where he emphasized his administration's priorities, including escalating the trade war with tariffs on India, China, Canada, and Mexico. He highlighted his administration's executive actions, withdrawal from global agreements (e.g., Paris Climate Accords, WHO, U.N. Human Rights Council), and commitment to fossil fuel exploitation. Trump also targeted progressive policies, particularly in gender-related sports issues, and praised Elon Musk's Department of Government Efficiency (DOGE) for uncovering financial fraud, despite controversy over funding cuts and legal challenges. The passage critiques Trump's conservative policies, questioning their long-term economic and geopolitical consequences, especially regarding tariffs and military support for Ukraine. Ultimately, it suggests that Trump's leadership deepens partisan divides rather than bridging them.

## **Tone:**

**The tone of the passage is critical and analytical, with a skeptical view of Trump's policies and their implications. The language suggests concern about economic and geopolitical consequences, portraying his administration's actions as potentially counterproductive.**

## **Reading Comprehension**

**Based on the above passage, answer the following questions:**

**Question 1:**

**Why does the passage suggest that Trump's strategy regarding Ukraine might be problematic?**

- (A) It fails to reduce military expenditures**
- (B) It could send a message of U.S. weakness to Russia and Europe**
- (C) It involves increasing funding for NATO**
- (D) It aims to escalate the conflict rather than end it**
- (E) It completely ignores Ukraine's role in U.S. foreign policy**

## **Question 2:**

**What contradiction does the passage highlight in Trump's economic policies?**

- (A) His push for fossil fuels while advocating for lower energy costs**
- (B) His support for lower government spending while increasing tariffs**
- (C) His focus on conservative values while cutting social welfare programs**
- (D) His drive to reduce inflation while implementing tariffs that might raise prices**
- (E) His efforts to strengthen international relations while withdrawing from global organizations**



**Question 3:**

**What does the passage suggest about Trump's stance on climate change initiatives?**

- (A) He strongly supports international climate agreements**
- (B) He is committed to fossil fuel exploitation as a key economic strategy**
- (C) He is pushing for stricter environmental regulations**
- (D) He believes renewable energy is the future of American economic dominance**
- (E) He has taken no definitive stance on environmental policies**

## Article for Skimming

**Tyranny of numbers:  
On States and the  
issue of delimitation**

**The call at an all-party meeting chaired by Tamil Nadu Chief Minister M.K. Stalin, in Chennai on Wednesday (March 5, 2025), to freeze the strength of the Lok Sabha and State Assemblies for 30 years beyond 2026 might seem like pushing away a pressing problem into the distant future. The challenges in 2056, when delimitation is eventually taken up, could be far more complex than those of the last exercise, conducted after the Delimitation Commission was set up in 2002. Even if the northern States bring down the fertility rate to replacement level by that time, the grouse of the southern States, that seat share as a proportion of the total strength of the Lok Sabha will come down, will still not find redress. Moreover, the imbalance in the number of electors across constituencies varies in each State. Between 2004 (the last general election before the 2008 delimitation) and 2024, the country's electorate has grown by approximately 45%.**

**In just over 15 years, there has been significant malapportionment in many constituencies. In Karnataka, Bangalore North has 3.2 million voters, while Udupi Chikmagalur, with an electorate of just under 1.6 million, has less than half that number. One solution, doubtless a partial one, could be to allow delimitation within each State, but not across the country. This would be in keeping with federal principles but might be unfair to large States that have seen a huge, disproportionate population jump over the last 50 years. The concerns of the southern States regarding a potential unfair outcome are valid. There is a risk of losing significant representation in the Lok Sabha if population strictly governs seat allocation. However, the Constitution recognises that apportionment should be done “so far as practicable”, allowing room for considerations beyond mere numbers. Mr. Stalin has expressed apprehension that if the 2026 Census data is used as the basis for delimitation, and Tamil Nadu’s seat share is reduced, it would lead to “indelible injustice”.**

**The all-party meeting rightly pointed out that Tamil Nadu is not opposed to delimitation per se, but that the process should not penalise progressive States (the entire southern region). Since delimitation has remained a contentious issue, the Union government should build a consensus on the terms of reference for the next Delimitation Commission. A transparent and inclusive approach can help restore the missing trust between the ruling party at the Centre and the non-BJP Opposition. Moreover, those advocating for an early delimitation should respect the Constitution's federal character and demonstrate flexibility in addressing regional concerns.**

**Question 4:**

**Why does the passage argue that Tamil Nadu is not opposed to delimitation itself?**

- (A) It only opposes the method of delimitation that penalizes progressive states**
- (B) It believes that northern states should be excluded from the process**
- (C) It supports an immediate and nationwide delimitation process**
- (D) It wants a complete overhaul of the representation system**
- (E) It favors reducing the number of constituencies nationwide**

**Question 5:**

**What argument does the passage make for ensuring flexibility in seat apportionment?**

- (A) The Constitution allows for considerations beyond just population numbers**
- (B) The country's electorate has not grown significantly in recent years**
- (C) Large states should automatically get more seats in the Lok Sabha**
- (D) The federal system should prioritize equal representation over population size**
- (E) Delimitation should not be based on the 2026 Census**

# Today's Descriptive Question

## Precis Writing:



## **Original Text:**

The future of work is undergoing rapid transformation, driven by technological advancements, automation, artificial intelligence (AI), and evolving workplace dynamics. The rise of remote work, the gig economy, and AI-driven automation is reshaping traditional job roles, requiring workers to adapt to new skills and digital competencies. Organizations are shifting towards hybrid work models, combining in-office and remote setups, promoting flexibility, productivity, and work-life balance. Automation and AI are replacing routine and repetitive tasks, leading to the displacement of certain jobs while creating demand for roles in data science, cybersecurity, digital marketing, and AI development. Upskilling and reskilling will be crucial for the workforce to remain relevant in this evolving job market. Additionally, soft skills like critical thinking, adaptability, and creativity will be highly valued alongside technical expertise.

**The future workplace will also see a greater emphasis on employee well-being, diversity, and sustainable work environments. Companies will leverage cloud computing, virtual collaboration tools, and blockchain technology to streamline operations. However, challenges such as job security, digital divide, and ethical concerns around AI must be addressed to ensure an inclusive and sustainable workforce. Governments, businesses, and educational institutions must collaborate to prepare the workforce for the digital future, ensuring equitable access to opportunities.**

## Precis:

The future of work is being reshaped by AI, automation, remote work, and the gig economy, requiring workers to adapt to new skills. Hybrid work models enhance flexibility and productivity, while AI creates job shifts, emphasizing digital skills. The focus on employee well-being, sustainability, and diversity will increase, along with the use of cloud and blockchain technologies. Challenges like job security and the digital divide need solutions through upskilling and policy support to ensure an inclusive and future-ready workforce.

- **You are a sales executive at an e-commerce company. Write an email to a customer confirming that their order has been shipped and providing tracking details.**

**To: .....@gmail.com**

**Subject: Your Order Has Been Shipped – Tracking Details Inside!**

**Dear [Customer's Name],**

**We are pleased to inform you that your order #[Order Number]  
has been shipped and is on its way to you!**

**Here are your tracking details:**

**Courier Service: [Courier Name]**

**Tracking Number: [Tracking Number]**

**Estimated Delivery Date: [Delivery Date]**

**You can track your shipment using the following link: [Tracking  
URL]**

**If you have any questions or need further assistance, feel free to reach out to us at [Customer Support Email] or [Customer Support Phone Number].**

**Thank you for shopping with [Company Name]! We appreciate your business and look forward to serving you again.**

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

## **Match the column**

- |                           |   |
|---------------------------|---|
| 1. Snug as a bug in a rug | A. A little dull and stupid               |
| 2. Step up your game      | B. To enhance performance                 |
| 3. Lose your marbles      | C. In comfortable position                |
| 4. A bit obtuse           | D. To be exhausted due to strain or anger |
| 5. Blue in the face       | E. To become insane                       |

**Answer:**

**1-c**

**2-b**

**3-e**

**4-a**

**5-d**



## **Vocabulary**

- 1. Emphasise:**
- 2. Unrelenting:**
- 3. Reiterate:**
- 4. Hat tip:**
- 5. Aggressive:**
- 6. Reverberating:**
- 7. Malapportionment:**
- 8. Contentious:**
- 9. Apprehension:**
- 10. Federal:**

1.

Ans: B

**Explanation:** The passage warns that while pausing military aid to Ukraine could save resources, it might have negative long-term consequences by signaling U.S. weakness: *"Yet this strategy does not apparently concern itself with the longer-term, possibly trans-Atlantic, consequences of signaling weakness of defense against Russian territorial ambitions looming over Europe."*

**Why the other options are incorrect:**

**(A) It fails to reduce military expenditures** → Incorrect because the passage acknowledges that stopping aid *could* save resources.

**(C) It involves increasing funding for NATO** → Incorrect because there is no mention of increased NATO funding.

**(D) It aims to escalate the conflict rather than end it** → Incorrect as the passage suggests a "pause" in military support, not escalation.

**(E) It completely ignores Ukraine's role in U.S. foreign policy** → Incorrect because the passage clearly discusses Ukraine's importance.

**Reference from passage:** *"Yet this strategy does not apparently concern itself with the longer-term, possibly trans-Atlantic, consequences of signaling weakness of defense against Russian territorial ambitions looming over Europe."*

2.

**Ans : D**

**Explanation:** The passage highlights how Trump's tariffs could backfire by increasing costs:

*"Higher import costs resulting from increased tariffs could lead importers to pass the economic burden onto consumers through higher prices, driving inflation, contrary to his economic promises."*

**Why the other options are incorrect:**

**(A) His push for fossil fuels while advocating for lower energy costs** → Not a contradiction; he argues that fossil fuel use will lower costs.

**(B) His support for lower government spending while increasing tariffs** → Tariffs are not government spending.

**(C) His focus on conservative values while cutting social welfare programs** → Not mentioned as a contradiction.

**(E) His efforts to strengthen international relations while withdrawing from global organizations** → While he withdrew, the passage doesn't say he *intended* to strengthen relations.

**Reference from passage:** *"Higher import costs resulting from increased tariffs could lead importers to pass the economic burden onto consumers through higher prices, driving inflation, contrary to his economic promises."*

3

Ans: B

Explanation: The passage states that Trump reaffirmed his commitment to “the mantra of fossil fuel exploitation—‘drill, baby, drill’—as the key approach to bringing down energy prices.” This shows that his policy prioritizes fossil fuels over climate-friendly initiatives.

Why the other options are incorrect:

(A) He strongly supports international climate agreements → Incorrect because he withdrew from the Paris Climate Accords ("Mr. Trump underscored the U.S.'s withdrawal from the Paris climate accords").

(C) He is pushing for stricter environmental regulations → Incorrect as his policies focus on reducing regulations, not increasing them.

(D) He believes renewable energy is the future of American economic dominance → Incorrect because the passage only mentions his preference for fossil fuels, not renewables.

(E) He has taken no definitive stance on environmental policies → Incorrect as his withdrawal from agreements and fossil fuel focus clearly show a stance.

Reference from passage: "Early on in the speech, Mr. Trump underscored the U.S.'s withdrawal from the Paris climate accords, WHO and the U.N. Human Rights Council, even as he reiterated his administration's commitment to the mantra of fossil fuel exploitation—‘drill, baby, drill’—as the key approach to bringing down energy prices."

4.

Ans: A

Explanation: The passage states: "The all-party meeting rightly pointed out that Tamil Nadu is not opposed to delimitation per se, but that the process should not penalise progressive States (the entire southern region)." This means Tamil Nadu supports the principle of delimitation but wants it done in a way that does not disproportionately reduce its representation.

Why the other options are incorrect:

(B) It believes that northern states should be excluded from the process → Incorrect as the passage does not advocate for excluding northern states.

(C) It supports an immediate and nationwide delimitation process → Incorrect since Tamil Nadu supports delaying delimitation, not expediting it.

(D) It wants a complete overhaul of the representation system → Incorrect as the passage suggests reforming, not overhauling, the system.

(E) It favors reducing the number of constituencies nationwide → Incorrect because Tamil Nadu's concern is about maintaining its seat share, not reducing constituencies.

Reference from passage: "Tamil Nadu is not opposed to delimitation per se, but that the process should not penalise progressive States."

5.

Ans: A

Explanation: The passage states: “However, the Constitution recognises that apportionment should be done ‘so far as practicable’, allowing room for considerations beyond mere numbers.” This means that while population is a factor, other principles—such as federal balance—must also be considered.

Why the other options are incorrect:

(B) The country’s electorate has not grown significantly in recent years → Incorrect as the passage explicitly states a 45% increase in electorate size.

(C) Large states should automatically get more seats in the Lok Sabha → Incorrect as the passage acknowledges this issue but does not advocate it as a solution.

(D) The federal system should prioritize equal representation over population size → Incorrect because the passage does not argue for absolute equality, just flexibility.

(E) Delimitation should not be based on the 2026 Census → Incorrect as the passage discusses concerns with it but does not outright reject its use.

Reference from passage: “The Constitution recognises that apportionment should be done ‘so far as practicable’, allowing room for considerations beyond mere numbers.”

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