

# The Hindu EDITORIAL ANALYSIS

11th 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. Inevitability (अनिवार्यता )**

- **Meaning:** The quality of being certain to happen; unavoidable nature.
- **Synonyms:** Certainty, necessity, unavoidability
- **Antonyms:** Uncertainty, improbability, doubt
- **Example:** The inevitability of technological advancements means that industries must constantly adapt to stay competitive.

## 2. Formidable (दुर्जेय)

- **Meaning:** Inspiring fear or respect through being impressively large, powerful, intense, or capable.
- **Synonyms:** Intimidating, powerful, daunting
- **Antonyms:** Weak, unimpressive, feeble
- **Example:** The defending champions remain a formidable opponent for any team in the tournament.

### 3. Gritty (साहसी)

- **Meaning:** Showing courage and determination despite difficulty.
- **Synonyms:** Tenacious, brave, resolute
- **Antonyms:** Cowardly, weak, timid
- **Example:** The soldier's gritty determination helped him survive the harsh conditions of war.

## 4. Sluggish (सुस्त)

- **Meaning:** Moving, operating, or reacting more slowly than usual.
- **Synonyms:** Lethargic, slow, inactive
- **Antonyms:** Energetic, swift, dynamic
- **Example:** The sluggish economy has made it difficult for businesses to expand.

## 5. Decisive (निर्णायक )

- **Meaning:** Settling an issue; producing a definite result.
- **Synonyms:** Conclusive, crucial, definite
- **Antonyms:** Indecisive, uncertain, hesitant
- **Example:** The captain's decisive leadership helped the team secure a last-minute victory.

## **6. Stifled (दबाया हुआ)**

- **Meaning:** Prevented or constrained from continuing or developing.
- **Synonyms:** Suppressed, restrained, smothered
- **Antonyms:** Encouraged, liberated, allowed
- **Example:** The strict policies stifled innovation within the organization.

## 7. Setback (झटका)

- **Meaning:** A reversal or slowing of progress.
- **Synonyms:** Hindrance, obstacle, defeat
- **Antonyms:** Progress, advancement, success
- **Example:** The sudden injury to their star player was a major setback for the team's championship hopes.



## 8. Prohibited (निषिद्ध)

- **Meaning:** Formally forbidden by law, rule, or authority.
- **Synonyms:** Banned, forbidden, restricted
- **Antonyms:** Allowed, permitted, authorized
- **Example:** Smoking is strictly prohibited in public places.

## 9. Astounding (आश्चर्यजनक )

- **Meaning:** Extremely surprising or impressive.
- **Synonyms:** Amazing, astonishing, breathtaking
- **Antonyms:** Ordinary, unimpressive, expected
- **Example:** His astounding performance in the competition left everyone speechless.

## 10. Adroitly (चतुराई से)

- **Meaning:** In a skillful or clever manner.
- **Synonyms:** Skillfully, adeptly, dexterously
- **Antonyms:** Clumsily, awkwardly, ineptly
- **Example:** The negotiator adroitly handled the complex trade discussions.

# VOCABULARY

## One-word substitute:

**1. A solution or remedy for all difficulties or diseases:**

**Panacea**

**2. A substance that induces insensitivity to pain:**

**Anesthetic**

**3. Decorative flags or streamers, typically used for celebrations:**

**Bunting**

**4. A person who pretends to have virtues, beliefs, or principles that they do not actually possess:**

**Hypocrite**

# VOCABULARY

## Phrasal Verbs:

### 1. Wrap up

Meaning: To finish or complete something.

### 2. Run into

Meaning: To meet by accident or unexpectedly

### 3. Map out

Meaning: To plan or design something in detail.

### 4. Drop off

Meaning: To decrease or decline; to deliver someone or something at a specific location.

# VOCABULARY

## Idioms & Phrases

### 1. On a roll like a runaway wheel

Meaning: Experiencing continuous success or momentum.

### 2. Roll in the dough

Meaning: Be very wealthy or make a lot of money.

### 3. State of the art

Meaning: The most advanced or sophisticated level of technology or design.

## VOCABULARY

### **4. A bunch of baloney**

**Meaning:** Nonsense or something not true.

### **5. Off the top of my head**

**Meaning:** Saying something without much thought or preparation.

## **Article for Reading**

**Limited-overs form:  
on cricket and the  
Indian team**



**India's latest triumph in the ICC Champions Trophy carried an air of inevitability. In Sunday's final, they overcame a gritty New Zealand side by four wickets with an over to spare. As fireworks lit up the Dubai sky and the 252-run target was chased down, the victory reaffirmed India's dominance in white ball cricket. Across 24 ICC tournament matches — including the 2023 ODI World Cup, the 2024 T20 World Cup, and the Champions Trophy — Rohit Sharma's men have secured 23 wins, an astounding 95.83% success rate. Stationed in Dubai for three weeks due to the Indian government's refusal to allow play in Pakistan, the official host, India benefited from a fixed venue and minimal travel fatigue. However, their success was not merely circumstantial — they executed their plans with precision. Group stage wins against Bangladesh, Pakistan, and New Zealand, followed by a semifinal triumph over Australia, set the stage for the final against the Black Caps.**

**Despite concerns about New Zealand's history of upsetting India — most notably in the 2019 World Cup semifinal — the Men in Blue handled the challenge adeptly. On a sluggish pitch, India's strategy of fielding four spinners proved decisive. Varun Chakaravathy, Ravindra Jadeja, Axar Patel, and Kuldeep Yadav stifled New Zealand's scoring, though Mitchell Santner's team still managed a competitive 251 for seven. In a high-stakes final, scoreboard pressure is always a factor, but Rohit's composed 76 set the tone, and India's deep batting line-up ensured a comfortable finish. While India has faced setbacks in Test cricket, including losses to New Zealand at home and Australia away, their limited-overs form remains formidable. The squad's depth is evident — Rishabh Pant was left out of the playing XI, while talents such as Suryakumar Yadav and Ishan Kishan did not even make the squad.**

**Contributions from Shreyas Iyer, K.L. Rahul, and Hardik Pandya underscored the collective effort, while Mohammed Shami's return offset the absence of the injured Jasprit Bumrah. Virat Kohli's consistency and Rohit's leadership suggest that retirement is not imminent for either stalwart, but selectors must look ahead to the 2027 ODI World Cup. Honest assessments and strategic planning will be crucial to ensuring India's sustained dominance in the years to come.**

## Summary

**India secured a triumphant victory in the ICC Champions Trophy, defeating New Zealand by four wickets in the final. This win reaffirmed India's dominance in white-ball cricket, boasting an exceptional 95.83% success rate across 24 ICC tournament matches. Despite being stationed in Dubai due to political restrictions, India executed their strategies effectively, particularly by utilizing four spinners to restrict New Zealand to 251/7. Rohit Sharma's composed 76 and India's deep batting lineup ensured a comfortable chase. While India has faced setbacks in Test cricket, their limited-overs form remains strong, with immense squad depth. Looking ahead, selectors must plan strategically for the 2027 ODI World Cup to maintain India's supremacy.**

## **Tone:**

**The tone of the passage is analytical, celebratory, and forward-looking. It highlights India's achievements while objectively assessing their performance and the need for future planning.**

## Reading Comprehension

Based on the above passage, answer the following questions:

**Question 1:**

**How did India counter New Zealand's challenge in the final?**

- A) By relying on a pace-heavy bowling attack.**
- B) By aggressively attacking in the first 10 overs.**
- C) By deploying a spin-heavy bowling strategy.**
- D) By restricting New Zealand to under 200 runs.**
- E) None of the above**

## **Question 2:**

**What key challenge does the passage suggest India's cricket team selectors must address for the future?**

- A) Transition planning for the 2027 ODI World Cup.**
- B) Finding a replacement for Rohit Sharma as an opener.**
- C) Overhauling the entire bowling unit.**
- D) Reducing reliance on spin-friendly pitches.**
- E) None of the above**



**Question 3:**

**Which aspect of India's recent cricket performances has been a concern despite their white-ball success?**

- A) Inconsistent T20 performances.**
- B) Struggles in Test cricket.**
- C) Poor fielding in ICC tournaments.**
- D) Dependence on only a few key players.**
- E) None of the above**

## **Article for Skimming**

**An India-U.S. trade  
agreement and the  
test of WTO laws**

**During Prime Minister Narendra Modi's brief working visit to the United States, on February 13, 2025, New Delhi and Washington agreed to negotiate the first stage of a mutually beneficial, multi-sector Bilateral Trade Agreement (BTA) by the fall of 2025. While economists are busy calculating tariffs and trade volumes, it is essential to examine this development through the lens of international trade law. A significant portion of international trade law is codified in the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT) and governed by the World Trade Organization (WTO). Since both the U.S. and India are members of the WTO, their bilateral trade dealings must align with the standards set by WTO law. This makes the proposed BTA between the two countries particularly important. Currently, the scope of the BTA is unclear. The U.S.-India Joint Leaders Statement, of February 13, only references a multi-sector BTA without providing specific details about its coverage.**

**It is important to note that this agreement is not labelled as a free trade agreement (FTA). However, the terminology is less significant than the actual content of the agreement. The WTO system operates on the most favoured nation (MFN) principle, which prohibits discrimination between trading partners. Therefore, an FTA that grants preferential access to certain countries violates the MFN rule, although countries can still establish FTAs under specific conditions. One of these conditions, outlined in Article XXIV.8(b) of the GATT, requires member countries to eliminate customs duties and other trade barriers on “substantially all the trade” within the FTA. Although the term “substantially all the trade” is not defined in the agreement, it is understood that the FTA should encompass a very high percentage of trade between the member countries. This requirement exists because FTAs are exceptions to the MFN principle, which is a cornerstone of the multilateral trading system. Therefore, these exceptions must be tightly controlled and not permitted lightly.**

**The proposed BTA between India and the U.S. must cover “substantially all trade” to be legally valid. It also needs to be notified to the WTO. Whether such an agreement will be economically beneficial for India is a topic of debate, with differing opinions. Legally speaking, if India and the U.S. reduce tariff rates on each other’s limited products, as part of some bilateral deal, without extending similar treatment to other countries, it would violate WTO law. One possible way for India and the U.S. to establish a BTA for select products without violating WTO laws is to notify the agreement as an ‘interim agreement’, leading to the formation of an FTA. Since countries cannot finalise FTAs overnight, Article XXIV of GATT permits them to sign ‘interim agreements’ that pave the way for an eventual FTA, subject to specific conditions.**

**Question 4:**

**Under what condition can India and the U.S. establish a BTA covering limited products without violating WTO rules?**

- A) By ensuring that at least 50% of total trade is covered under the agreement.**
- B) By notifying the agreement as an 'interim agreement' leading to an eventual FTA.**
- C) By securing exemptions from the WTO under a special economic agreement.**
- D) By limiting the agreement to agricultural goods only.**
- E) None of the above**

**Question 5:**

**What legal condition must a Free Trade Agreement (FTA) meet under GATT Article XXIV to be considered valid?**

- A) It must provide equal trade benefits to all WTO members.**
- B) It must be reviewed by the United Nations before being implemented.**
- C) It must eliminate tariffs and trade barriers on "substantially all trade" between the parties.**
- D) It must receive approval from at least two-thirds of WTO member states.**
- E) None of the above**

# **Today's Descriptive Question:**

## **Precis Writing.**

### **Original Text**

**The term "Silver Economy" refers to the economic opportunities associated with the aging population. As life expectancy increases and birth rates decline, many countries face a demographic shift toward an older population. This trend presents both challenges and opportunities for governments, businesses, and society at large. The silver economy is fueled by the purchasing power and specific needs of older adults, including healthcare, assistive technologies, housing, travel, and financial services. Globally, the spending power of the elderly is expected to grow, driving innovation in products and services tailored to their requirements.**



**For instance, advancements in telemedicine, age-friendly smart homes, and recreational activities are increasingly becoming popular among senior citizens. From a policy perspective, nations are focusing on creating inclusive environments that enable older individuals to remain active participants in society. Initiatives such as lifelong learning programs, senior employment policies, and social engagement activities aim to harness the potential of this demographic while improving their quality of life. Additionally, intergenerational collaboration—where younger and older generations share skills and resources—can foster a more harmonious society. However, challenges such as increased healthcare costs, pension sustainability, and social isolation among the elderly persist. Governments must strike a balance between leveraging the silver economy and addressing these issues to ensure equitable and inclusive growth. As the silver economy continues to expand, it highlights the importance of treating aging not as a burden but as an opportunity to build a more inclusive, innovative, and sustainable global economy.**

## Precis:

**The "Silver Economy" taps into the economic opportunities arising from an aging population. With growing life expectancy and declining birth rates, older adults significantly influence markets like healthcare, housing, and technology. Policies focusing on lifelong learning, senior employment, and social inclusion aim to harness their potential. However, challenges like rising healthcare costs and social isolation must be addressed. Viewing aging as an opportunity, the silver economy emphasizes innovation and inclusivity, transforming aging populations into valuable contributors to global growth.**

- You are the HR Manager of XYZ Pvt. Ltd. Write an email to a candidate, John Doe, informing him about his selection for the role of Marketing Executive and providing details of the joining process.

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

**Subject: Congratulations on Your Selection as Marketing Executive**

**Dear John Doe,**

**I hope this email finds you well. I am delighted to inform you that you have been selected for the role of Marketing Executive at XYZ Pvt. Ltd. after an impressive performance during the interview process. Congratulations on this achievement!**

**We are excited to have you join our team and contribute to our organization's success. Below are the details of the joining process:**

- 1. Joining Date: [Insert date, e.g., Monday, February 5, 2025]**
- 2. Reporting Time: [Insert time, e.g., 10:00 AM]**

**3. Reporting Location: [Insert office address, e.g., XYZ Pvt. Ltd., 123 Business Avenue, City, State, ZIP]**

**4. Documents to Carry:**

**A copy of this email for reference**

**Valid government-issued ID proof (original and photocopy)**

**Academic and professional certificates (originals and photocopies)**

**Two passport-sized photographs**

**Bank account details for salary processing**

**5. Contact Person: [Insert name and contact information of HR representative]**

**On your first day, you will undergo an induction session to familiarize yourself with our company policies, team structure, and work culture.**

**Please confirm your acceptance of this offer and your availability to join on the specified date by replying to this email at your earliest convenience. If you have any questions or require further assistance, feel free to reach out to us.**

**We are thrilled to welcome you to the XYZ Pvt. Ltd. family and look forward to a successful journey together!**

**Best regards,  
[Your Full Name]  
HR Manager  
XYZ Pvt. Ltd.**

## **Match the column**

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| <b>1. On a roll like a runaway wheel</b> | <b>A. Be very wealthy diligently</b>            |
| <b>2. Roll in the dough</b>              | <b>B. Nonsense or something not true</b>        |
| <b>3. State of the art</b>               | <b>C. Saying something without much thought</b> |
| <b>4. A bunch of baloney</b>             | <b>D. Experiencing continuous success</b>       |
| <b>5. Off the top of my head</b>         | <b>E. The most advanced technology</b>          |

## **Answer:**

**1-d**

**2-a**

**3-e**

**4-b**

**5-c**



## Vocabulary

1. Inevitability:
2. Formidable:
3. Gritty:
4. Sluggish:
5. Decisive:
6. Stifled:
7. Setback:
8. Prohibited:
9. Astounding:
10. Adroitly:

**Rc ans**

1.

**Ans: C**

**Explanation:**

**Reference from passage:**

"On a sluggish pitch, India's strategy of fielding four spinners proved decisive. Varun Chakaravathy, Ravindra Jadeja, Axar Patel, and Kuldeep Yadav stifled New Zealand's scoring."

India's decision to field four spinners—Varun Chakaravathy, Ravindra Jadeja, Axar Patel, and Kuldeep Yadav—helped stifle New Zealand's scoring on a sluggish pitch.

**Why the other options are incorrect:**

- (A) Incorrect: India relied more on spinners rather than pace.
- (B) Incorrect: There is no mention of an overly aggressive approach in the first 10 overs.
- (D) Incorrect: New Zealand managed to post 251 for seven, not under 200.

**2.**

**Ans: A**

**Explanation:**

**Reference from passage:**

"Virat Kohli's consistency and Rohit's leadership suggest that retirement is not imminent for either stalwart, but selectors must look ahead to the 2027 ODI World Cup. Honest assessments and strategic planning will be crucial to ensuring India's sustained dominance in the years to come."

The passage notes that while Virat Kohli and Rohit Sharma remain consistent, selectors must strategically plan for the future, especially with the 2027 ODI World Cup in mind.

**Why the other options are incorrect:**

- (B) Incorrect: Rohit Sharma's role as an opener is not identified as a key challenge.
- (C) Incorrect: The bowling unit performed well in the tournament and does not need an overhaul.
- (D) Incorrect: The passage does not suggest reducing reliance on spin-friendly pitches.

**3.**

**Ans: B**

**Explanation:**

**Reference from passage:**

"While India has faced setbacks in Test cricket, including losses to New Zealand at home and Australia away, their limited-overs form remains formidable."

While India has dominated in limited-overs cricket, the passage points out that they have faced Test losses to New Zealand at home and Australia away.

**Why the other options are incorrect:**

(A) Incorrect: The passage highlights T20 success, not inconsistency.

(C) Incorrect: There is no mention of fielding issues.

(D) Incorrect: India's depth suggests they are not overly reliant on a few players.

**4.**

**Ans: B**

**Explanation:**

**Reference from passage:**

"Since countries cannot finalise FTAs overnight, Article XXIV of GATT permits them to sign 'interim agreements' that pave the way for an eventual FTA, subject to specific conditions."

According to Article XXIV of GATT, countries can sign 'interim agreements' that serve as a step toward an eventual FTA, allowing them to temporarily reduce tariffs without violating WTO rules.

**Why the other options are incorrect:**

(A) Incorrect: There is no specific percentage threshold for trade coverage under a BTA.

(C) Incorrect: WTO does not provide broad exemptions for special economic agreements.

(D) Incorrect: Limiting the agreement to agricultural goods would not automatically make it WTO-compliant.

**5.**

**Ans: C**

**Explanation:**

**Reference from passage:**

"One of these conditions, outlined in Article XXIV.8(b) of the GATT, requires member countries to eliminate customs duties and other trade barriers on 'substantially all the trade' within the FTA."

According to Article XXIV.8(b) of GATT, an FTA must cover a high percentage of trade between participating nations. This condition exists to ensure that FTAs do not undermine the MFN principle.

**Why the other options are incorrect:**

- (A) Incorrect: FTAs provide preferential treatment, which is the opposite of equal benefits for all.
- (B) Incorrect: The United Nations does not review FTAs; the WTO does.
- (D) Incorrect: FTAs do not require a two-thirds majority approval from WTO members.

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