

# The Hindu EDITORIAL ANALYSIS

3rd June 2025

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

## 1. Unwarranted (अकारण )

- **Meaning:** Not justified or authorized; not deserved
- **Synonyms:** Unjustified, baseless, groundless
- **Antonyms:** Justified, valid, reasonable
- **Example:** The panic over the minor spike in cases is largely unwarranted, given the low fatality rate.

## 2. Obfuscation (जटिल बनाना/धुंधलापन)

- **Meaning:** The act of making something obscure, unclear, or unintelligible
- **Synonyms:** Confusion, ambiguity, concealment
- **Antonyms:** Clarity, transparency, lucidity
- **Example:** The deliberate obfuscation of COVID data during the last wave led to public mistrust.

### 3. Marooned (फंसा हुआ)

- **Meaning:** Left trapped and isolated in an inaccessible place, especially due to a natural disaster
- **Synonyms:** Stranded, abandoned, isolated
- **Antonyms:** Rescued, retrieved, connected
- **Example:** Tourists were marooned in North Sikkim after landslides blocked the main roads.

## 4. Incessant (लगातार )

- **Meaning:** Continuing without pause or interruption
- **Synonyms:** Unceasing, nonstop, relentless
- **Antonyms:** Intermittent, occasional, halted
- **Example:** Incessant rainfall over the past week has caused landslides across hilly areas.

## 5. Readiness (तैयारी / तत्परता )

- **Meaning:** The state of being fully prepared for something
- **Synonyms:** Preparedness, alertness, willingness
- **Antonyms:** Unpreparedness, hesitation, reluctance
- **Example:** Hospitals must maintain a state of readiness to manage any COVID surge.

## 6. Debilitating (कमज़ोर करने वाला)

- **Meaning:** Making someone very weak and infirm
- **Synonyms:** Crippling, weakening, exhausting
- **Antonyms:** Strengthening, invigorating, empowering
- **Example:** Panic is a debilitating force that often leads to poor decision-making.

## 7. Advent (आगमन)

- **Meaning:** The arrival of a notable person, thing, or event
- **Synonyms:** Arrival, onset, emergence
- **Antonyms:** Departure, end, conclusion
- **Example:** The advent of the monsoon was marked by both celebration and destruction.



## 8. Arterial (मुख्य मार्ग से संबंधित)

- **Meaning:** Relating to a main route, especially one that is vital for traffic or supply
- **Synonyms:** Main, vital, central
- **Antonyms:** Peripheral, secondary, minor
- **Example:** Landslides blocked arterial roads in North Sikkim, cutting off access to essential services.

## 9. Rankled (कष्ट देना)

- **Meaning:** To cause continuous irritation or resentment.
- **Synonyms:** Irritate, annoy, vex
- **Antonyms:** Soothe, comfort, calm
- **Example:** His unfair criticism rankled her for days after the meeting.

## 10. Gingerly (सावधानीपूर्वक )

- **Meaning:** In a careful or cautious manner, especially to avoid harm or danger
- **Synonyms:** Carefully, cautiously, delicately, warily
- **Antonyms:** Recklessly, carelessly, hastily, boldly
- **Example:** The rescue team moved gingerly through the debris to avoid triggering another landslide.

## VOCABULARY

### One-word substitute:

**1. Anger or annoyance provoked by what is perceived as unfair treatment:**

**Indignation**

**2. A loud, overbearing, or domineering woman; historically, it could also mean a strong or heroic woman:**

**Virago**

**3. An animal that walks on four legs:**

**Quadruped**

**4. The area near or surrounding a particular place; neighborhood:**

**Vicinity**

# VOCABULARY

## Phrasal Verbs

### 1. Cut down (on)

Meaning: To reduce the amount of something.

### 2. Bring up

Meaning: To mention a topic in conversation; to raise a child.

### 3. Fill out

Meaning: To complete a form or document.

### 4. Run out (of)

Meaning: To use all of something and have none left.

# VOCABULARY

## Idioms & Phrases

### 1. Crocodile tears

Meaning: False or insincere expressions of sorrow

### 2. A wild goose chase

Meaning: A futile or hopeless pursuit

### 3. A fish out of water

Meaning: To feel uncomfortable or out of place in a particular situation

## VOCABULARY

### **4. A snake in the grass**

**Meaning:** Someone who is deceitful or hides their true intentions

### **5. Curiosity killed the cat**

**Meaning:** Being too curious or inquisitive can lead to trouble or danger

## **Article for Reading**

**Readiness, not panic:  
On India and  
COVID-19**



**The lessons of the past should serve as a good guide, especially the learnings from three years of COVID-19. The country's COVID-19 dashboard has seen some activity in recent weeks, and the total number (since January 2025) of COVID cases is currently at 3961 (as on June 2, 2025, 8 a.m.), and the number of deaths recorded as 32. While a figure in 1000s seems a bit alarming, it is still a small number in a country with a population of over 1.4 billion. It is also important to take a look at the full picture. Not all States have had a day-on-day hike in numbers testing positive for COVID, and all hikes are still in the single or low double digits. Also, 2,188 people have been discharged since, underlining what experts have been saying as the curve rose this year: that the variants causing infection now are Omicron subvariants and that they are neither more transmissible nor do they cause worse disease than in the past.**

**While panic and anxiety might be unwarranted, a sense of caution and precautionary approach are advisable, particularly for those with vulnerabilities and co-morbid conditions. Experience from the pandemic is that people with other pre-existing co-morbidities are disproportionately affected by COVID-19 infection. Common comorbidities include hypertension, diabetes, cardiovascular diseases, obesity, and kidney diseases, and advancing age (post 60 years). People with these conditions must start masking up in public places, and hand wash regularly. Former World Health Organization Chief Scientist Soumya Swaminathan has said the recent immunity from the pandemic will stand in good stead, but again, to take possible precautions including giving boosters or vaccine shots, especially to the vulnerable. This is where the government must step in, as COVID vaccines or boosters are not available in most parts of the country, even urban centres.**

**India, a signatory to the World Health Organization Pandemic Agreement, must first ensure that stockpiles of vaccines and diagnostic kits are created and distributed across the country. Both public and private sector hospitals must ensure that health infrastructure — particularly the availability of medical oxygen, adequate beds and health-care personnel — is in a state of readiness. Another scenario that must be avoided at all costs is the deliberate obfuscation of data on true numbers on infections or deaths as during the pandemic. Instead, transparency and efficiency must guide both the Centre and the States, this time, irrespective of how the COVID curve behaves. But panic is not the same as preparedness: one is debilitating, the other is enabling.**

## Summary

**The passage emphasizes that while recent COVID-19 case numbers in India have slightly increased, they remain relatively low given the country's large population. Most infections are due to Omicron subvariants, which are not more severe or transmissible than before. The article urges caution, particularly for vulnerable individuals with pre-existing conditions, and stresses the need for continued preventive measures such as masking and hand hygiene. It calls on the government to ensure the availability of vaccines, boosters, and health infrastructure, while emphasizing the importance of transparency and preparedness over panic.**

## **Tone:**

**The tone is cautiously informative and advisory. It seeks to reassure readers while also urging vigilance and responsible governance.**

## Reading Comprehension

Based on the above passage, answer the following questions:

**Question 1:**

**What does the passage emphasize as a major infrastructural requirement for managing a potential resurgence of COVID-19?**

- A. Construction of new hospitals exclusively for COVID-19.**
- B. Deployment of mobile vaccination units in villages.**
- C. Ensuring availability of oxygen, beds, and medical personnel.**
- D. Installation of AI-powered surveillance to track symptoms.**
- E. None of the above**

## **Question 2:**

**According to the passage, what is a critical failure the government must avoid this time, based on past pandemic experience?**

- A. Underestimating vaccine side-effects.**
- B. Deliberate obfuscation of infection or death data.**
- C. Imposing nationwide lockdowns prematurely.**
- D. Allocating too many resources to rural clinics.**
- E. None of the above**



**Question 3:**

**Which of the following best describes the current nature of the COVID-19 variants according to experts cited in the passage?**

- A. Highly transmissible and causing severe respiratory illness.**
- B. Mutating into unknown strains with unpredictable effects.**
- C. Novel zoonotic variants with fatal long-term consequences.**
- D. Omicron subvariants with no increase in transmissibility or severity.**
- E. None of the above**

## **Article for Skimming**

**Monsoon woes: On  
the southwest  
monsoon and the  
northeast**

**The southwest monsoon has made a torrential entry and, expectedly, has wreaked considerable havoc. While the monsoon's advent from Kerala, and its subsequent journey northwards, is a cause for celebration, given its association with the economy, this is only one branch of the monsoon — the Arabian Sea branch. A day or two after its onset over Kerala, and sometimes simultaneously, the Bay of Bengal branch of the monsoon makes its way from the Andaman and Nicobar Islands and enters the northeastern States first before bringing in rains to the eastern States. Frequently, however, this eastern onset is accompanied by destruction from floods and landslides. This year has been one such instance. In Assam, 10 major rivers were flowing above their danger-level mark and in all, more than three lakh people across 19 districts of Assam have been affected in a wave of floods that has disrupted everyday lives.**

**Tripura also witnessed heavy to very heavy rainfall across many districts over the weekend and is expected to receive an extremely heavy downpour for most of the week. The death toll in rain-induced landslides, floods, flash floods, and lightning across the northeastern region was 30 until May 29 and on a single day, May 31, 22 people had lost their lives according to official estimates. In North Sikkim, landslides have marooned about 1,500 tourists with arterial roads getting blocked from incessant rains. A bus plunged into the swollen Teesta river, killing at least two people, with the rest of the passengers missing. This is only June and history has it that with the monsoon expected to be 'above normal', it would not be a stretch to expect a spate of disasters. To be sure, the India Meteorological Department expects that the northeastern States will likely get less than their normal quota of rain, but the base level of monsoon rains in these States is higher than many States in India.**

**This is a reason why extremely heavy rain and associated damage are a hard-wired feature of the monsoon in the northeastern States, even in a year of relative scarcity. The northeastern States also experience a smaller monsoon, between October to December, and thus it becomes all the more essential to craft a plan that accounts for the region's year-long vulnerability. Historically, infrastructure development in these States has not kept pace with the rest of the country. While challenging geographical conditions are a major reason for this, there needs to be a systematic review involving all the affected States and the Centre to evaluate a sustainable long-term plan to reduce fatalities and the widespread destruction annually.**

**Question 4:**

**Why is it stated that even a deficit monsoon can still result in disasters in the northeastern region?**

- A. Because infrastructure is already monsoon-resistant and disaster-proof.**
- B. Because the base level of rainfall in the region is naturally high.**
- C. Because monsoon rains mostly fall outside the northeastern region.**
- D. Because the region gets aid quickly from the Centre during disasters.**
- E. None of the above**

**Question 5:**

**What does the passage ultimately recommend for dealing with the recurrent impact of monsoons in the northeastern States?**

- A. Constructing large-scale dams to regulate rainwater flow.**
- B. Implementing seasonal lockdowns during monsoon months.**
- C. Conducting joint Centre-State evaluations to build long-term sustainable plans.**
- D. Encouraging population migration to less vulnerable States.**
- E. None of the above**

## Today's Descriptive Question:

- Write an essay of 200 words about the impact of Technology on Traditional Education.



**Technology has profoundly transformed traditional education, enhancing learning experiences and accessibility. One significant impact is the accessibility of information. The internet provides students with vast resources, including online libraries, educational videos, and interactive learning platforms. This access allows for more comprehensive and diverse learning experiences beyond the constraints of textbooks and classroom walls.**

**Another notable impact is the customization of learning. Educational technology, such as adaptive learning software, tailors educational content to individual students' needs and learning paces. This personalized approach helps address different learning styles and abilities, ensuring that students receive the support they need to succeed.**

**Technology also facilitates remote learning, breaking geographical barriers. Online courses and virtual classrooms enable students from different parts of the world to access quality education. This is particularly beneficial during situations like the COVID-19 pandemic, where traditional classroom settings are not feasible. However, the integration of technology in education also presents challenges. The digital divide, where some students lack access to necessary technological tools, can exacerbate educational inequalities. Additionally, over-reliance on technology may lead to decreased face-to-face interactions and the development of critical social skills. In conclusion, technology significantly enhances traditional education by providing access to information, customizing learning experiences, and enabling remote learning. Addressing the challenges it poses will ensure that the benefits of technological integration are maximized for all students.**

- **Write a letter to your friend congratulating him/her on his/her success in class 12 board exam.**

**B-32, sector-11**

**Rohini**

**New Delhi-110034**

**January 10, 2023**

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

**I hope this letter finds you well and in great spirits. I am writing to extend my heartfelt congratulations to you on your outstanding success in the Class 12 board exams!**

**I was thrilled to hear about your excellent results. Your hard work, dedication, and perseverance have truly paid off, and you have achieved a remarkable milestone. I know how much effort you put into your studies, and it is incredibly inspiring to see you succeed with such flying colors.**

**This achievement is not only a testament to your academic abilities but also to your commitment and determination. You have set a high standard for yourself, and I have no doubt that you will continue to excel in all your future endeavors.**

**As you step into this new phase of your academic journey, I am confident that you will continue to achieve great things. Remember to take a moment to celebrate your success and reflect on all the hard work that got you here.**

**Once again, congratulations on your well-deserved success! I look forward to catching up with you soon and celebrating this fantastic achievement together.**

**Best wishes,**

**[Your Name]**

**[Your Contact Information]**

## **Match the column**

- 1. Crocodile tears**
- 2. A wild goose chase**
- 3. A fish out of water**
- 4. A snake in the grass**
- 5. Curiosity killed the cat**

- A. To feel uncomfortable**
- B. Being too curious can lead to trouble**
- C. Someone who is deceitful**
- D. False expressions of sorrow**
- E. A futile or hopeless pursuit**

## **Answer:**

**1-d**

**2-e**

**3-a**

**4-c**

**5-b**

## Vocabulary

1. Unwarranted:
2. Obfuscation:
3. Marooned:
4. Incessant:
5. Readiness:
6. Debilitating:
7. Advent:
8. Arterial:
9. Rankled:
10. Gingerly:

# NIMISHA BANSAL

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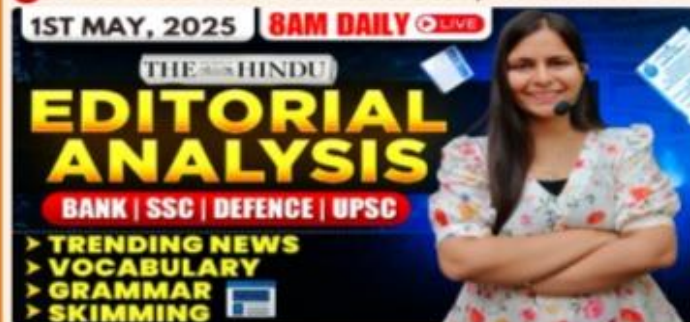


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**Rc ans**

**1.**

**Ans: C**

**Reference from the passage:**

“...health infrastructure — particularly the availability of medical oxygen, adequate beds and health-care personnel — is in a state of readiness.”

**Incorrect Options:**

A. Incorrect: The passage does not suggest building new hospitals, but rather optimizing existing infrastructure.

B. Incorrect: While vaccine availability is stressed, there's no mention of mobile vaccination units.

D. Incorrect: There's no reference to AI-powered systems in the text.

**2.**

**Ans: B**

**Reference from the passage:**

“Another scenario that must be avoided at all costs is the deliberate obfuscation of data on true numbers on infections or deaths as during the pandemic.”

**Incorrect Options:**

- A. Incorrect: Vaccine side effects are not mentioned in the passage.
- C. Incorrect: There's no mention of lockdowns or their timing.
- D. Incorrect: Rural clinics or resource allocation isn't discussed.

**3.**

**Ans: D**

**Reference from the passage:**

“...the variants causing infection now are Omicron subvariants and that they are neither more transmissible nor do they cause worse disease than in the past.”

Incorrect Options:

- A. Incorrect: The passage says the opposite—these variants are not more severe or transmissible.
- B. Incorrect: No mention of unknown or unpredictable mutations.
- C. Incorrect: The passage does not refer to zoonotic or long-term fatal outcomes.

4.

**Ans: B**

**Reference from the passage:**

“...the base level of monsoon rains in these States is higher than many States in India... extremely heavy rain and associated damage are a hard-wired feature... even in a year of relative scarcity.”

Despite lower-than-normal rain predictions, the naturally high baseline of rainfall means the potential for damage remains.

**Incorrect Options:**

- A. Incorrect: The passage points to poor infrastructure, not resistance to monsoons.
- C. Incorrect: Northeastern States receive significant monsoon rainfall, including from the Bay of Bengal branch.
- D. Incorrect: No mention is made of Centre's aid speed during disasters.

**5.**

**Ans: C**

**Reference from the passage:**

“...there needs to be a systematic review involving all the affected States and the Centre to evaluate a sustainable long-term plan...”

The passage calls for a coordinated and sustainable review process to minimize monsoon-related destruction.

**Incorrect Options:**

A. Incorrect: No reference to dam construction.

B. Incorrect: Seasonal lockdowns are not mentioned or implied.

D. Incorrect: There's no call for migration; rather, focus is on regional planning.