

# The Hindu EDITORIAL ANALYSIS

5th May 2025

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

## **1. Scrambled (भाग-दौड़ करना)**

- **Meaning:** Hurriedly moved or did something, often in response to urgency
- **Synonyms:** Rushed, hustled, dashed
- **Antonyms:** Strolled, delayed
- **Example:** Businesses scrambled to place orders before the tariff deadline.

## **2. Onerous (कष्टदायक )**

- **Meaning:** Involving a great deal of effort and difficulty
- **Synonyms:** Burdensome, taxing, oppressive
- **Antonyms:** Easy, effortless, light
- **Example:** The new tariff rules are considered more onerous by exporters.

### 3. Trowned (हराया हुआ)

- **Meaning:** Defeated heavily in a contest
- **Synonyms:** Routed, overwhelmed, vanquished
- **Antonyms:** Triumphed, succeeded
- **Example:** The opposition was trounced in the elections.

## 4. Parlous (कठिन / खतरनाक )

- **Meaning:** Full of danger or uncertainty; perilous or risky.
- **Synonyms:** Dangerous, precarious, hazardous
- **Antonyms:** Safe, secure, stable
- **Example:** The parlous state of the global economy is causing widespread concern among investors.

## **5. Denouement (समाप्ति)**

- **Meaning:** The final part of a narrative or drama, where matters are explained or resolved.
- **Synonyms:** Conclusion, outcome, resolution
- **Antonyms:** Beginning, start, introduction
- **Example:** The denouement of the novel tied all the characters' fates together in a surprising way.

## 6. Disparaged (निंदा करना / उपेक्षित करना)

- **Meaning:** To regard or represent as being of little worth; to belittle or criticize unfairly.
- **Synonyms:** Belittled, criticized, denigrated
- **Antonyms:** Praised, honored, respected
- **Example:** His contributions were disparaged by some members of the team, despite his hard work.

## 7. Crippling (कमजोर करनेवाला )

- **Meaning:** Causing serious damage or weakness.
- **Synonyms:** Devastating, paralyzing, disabling
- **Antonyms:** Strengthening, revitalizing, energizing
- **Example:** The crippling sanctions have severely affected the country's economy.



## 8. Derelict (परित्यक्त / नष्ट हुआ)

- **Meaning:** In a very poor condition as a result of disuse and neglect; abandoned or forsaken.
- **Synonyms:** Abandoned, neglected, ruined
- **Antonyms:** Maintained, cared for, restored
- **Example:** The derelict building in the city center has been left untouched for years.

## 9. Prodigious (विशाल / अद्भुत)

- **Meaning:** Remarkably or impressively great in extent, size, or degree; extraordinary.
- **Synonyms:** Extraordinary, immense, colossal
- **Antonyms:** Small, ordinary, insignificant
- **Example:** The prodigious efforts of the volunteers helped rebuild the community after the disaster.

## 10. Edify (शिक्षित करना / उजागर करना)

- **Meaning:** To instruct or improve someone morally or intellectually.
- **Synonyms:** Educate, enlighten, instruct
- **Antonyms:** Mislead, confuse, deceive
- **Example:** The speaker's goal was to edify the audience, helping them understand the importance of ethical leadership.

## VOCABULARY

### One-word substitute:

**1. A brief text or inscription in memory of a deceased person, often found on a gravestone:**

**Epitaph**

**2. Lacking a sense of right or wrong; indifferent to moral standards:**

**Amoral**

**3. A person who opposes the use of violence or war to resolve conflicts:**

**Pacifist**

**4. Using offensive or slanderous language to damage someone's reputation:**

**Scurrilous**

# VOCABULARY

## Phrasal Verbs:

### 1. Wear off:

Meaning: to gradually decrease, disappear, or stop

### 2. Grow apart:

Meaning: to become less friendly or emotionally

### 3. Fall apart:

Meaning: to break (into pieces)

### 4. chip in

Meaning: to join in or interrupt a conversation

# VOCABULARY

## Idioms & Phrases

### 1. On one's toes

Meaning: ready for any eventuality; alert

### 2. A lost cause

Meaning: someone or something that has no chance of succeeding

### 3. Lose one's touch

Meaning: to stop communicating with someone

## VOCABULARY

### **4. Once and for all**

**Meaning:** now and for the last time

### **5. The last straw**

**Meaning:** the last in a series of unpleasant events

## **Article for Reading**

**Temporary respite:  
on GST, India's  
manufacturing**



**India's Goods and Services Tax collection in April, since the indirect taxation framework was implemented in 2017, has consistently hit record highs. This April was no different — generally because of businesses tallying their books and completing their financial year-end tax commitments. The gross GST collected this time was about ₹2.37 lakh crore, marking an on-year growth of 12.6% from last April. After refunds, the central government netted over ₹2.09 lakh crore, an on-year rise of 9.1%. This also signifies a marked rise in GST compliance, also aided by faster refunds, which are crucial for small businesses as they work with thin working capital, and the mass adoption of fintech. The fintech adoption rate in India, at 87%, which is well above the global average, and aided by the insular COVID-19 years of 2020-21, has brought in millions from the MSME sector into the formal banking system, enabling better tax compliance and regulatory supervision.**

**Wider compliance is also evident from April's GST collections from 2018 to 2025, which has more than doubled from ₹1.03 lakh crore to ₹2.37 lakh crore.**

**What is significant this April has been the 86% rise in refunds issued to exporters and the 20.8% increase in GST revenues from imports. This correlates with the 10-month high growth in the April print of HSBC India Manufacturing Purchasing Managers' Index (PMI).**

**The PMI rose from 58.1 in March to 58.2 in April. The survey indicated a sharp rise in new business aided by greater international demand. Orders from abroad grew to the largest degree in over 14 years in the first month of the 2026 fiscal year, with demand led by Africa, Asia, Europe, West Asia and the Americas.**

**This suggests that businesses have scrambled to get their orders in before the 90-day pause on tariffs by the U.S. ends on July 9.**

**It also suggests a possible re-alignment in supply chains, with greater sourcing from India, as the U.S. tariffs on China appear to be more onerous and certain, with the possibility of transshipment goods from China being taxed, without a high value-add threshold. Apple has said at its January-to-March quarterly earnings call that it intends to source 'most of its iPhones' for the U.S., its largest market, from India. This suggests a temporary respite for India's manufacturing sector, which witnessed a four-year growth low at 4% in the last fiscal. A more durable growth strategy would be to boost domestic consumption and wrangle favourable concessions for its manufacturing sector from the many ongoing trade agreements.**

## Summary

**India's Goods and Services Tax (GST) collections in April 2025 reached a record high of ₹2.37 lakh crore, showing a 12.6% increase from the previous year. Net revenue after refunds was ₹2.09 lakh crore. The rise reflects improved GST compliance, driven by quicker refunds, fintech adoption, and increased formalization of the MSME sector. Notably, GST refunds to exporters surged by 86%, and revenues from imports rose by 20.8%, aligning with strong export demand and a 14-year high in international orders, as indicated by the HSBC India Manufacturing PMI. This demand surge may be due to the impending end of a U.S. tariff pause and a shift in global supply chains toward India, further highlighted by Apple's plan to source most U.S. iPhones from India. However, to sustain long-term growth, the article suggests boosting domestic consumption and securing favorable trade deals.**

## Tone:

**The tone is analytical and cautiously optimistic. It highlights positive developments in tax collections and manufacturing performance while also noting structural challenges and the need for strategic policy measures for sustained growth.**

## Reading Comprehension

Based on the above passage, answer the following questions:

**Question 1:**

**How has fintech adoption impacted GST compliance among MSMEs?**

- A) It has led to decreased compliance due to complexity.**
- B) Fintech adoption has no significant impact on GST compliance.**
- C) It has improved compliance by integrating MSMEs into the formal banking system.**
- D) Fintech tools have replaced the need for GST compliance.**
- E) None of the above**

## **Question 2:**

**What is the significance of the HSBC India Manufacturing PMI rising to 58.2 in April 2025?**

- A) It indicates a contraction in manufacturing activity.**
- B) It signifies the strongest growth in 10 months due to export demand.**
- C) It reflects the slowest growth in the past year.**
- D) It shows a decline in international orders.**
- E) None of the above**



**Question 3:**

**Why is Apple shifting most of its iPhone production for the U.S. market to India?**

- A) To take advantage of lower labor costs in India.**
- B) Due to declining sales in China.**
- C) To mitigate the impact of U.S. tariffs on Chinese imports.**
- D) Because of better infrastructure in India compared to China.**
- E) None of the above**

## **Article for Skimming**

**Sober verdicts:  
election results from  
Australia, Singapore**

**The re-election of the centre-left Labor party in the Australian general election on Saturday is a shot in the arm for Prime Minister Anthony Albanese, who became the first Australian leader to win a second term in more than two decades. The centre-right Liberal-National coalition was trounced, with Labor winning 87 of the 151 seats in the Australian parliament's lower house, against its previously razor-thin edge of 77 seats. Welcoming Mr. Albanese's win, Prime Minister Narendra Modi congratulated him for an "emphatic mandate" and a commitment to take India-Australia bilateral ties and cooperation in the Indo-Pacific forward. Both countries signed an 'early-harvest' partial FTA (ECTA) in 2022, and have agreed to conclude a Comprehensive Economic Cooperation Agreement (CECA) by the end of this year. India will host the Quad summit later this year, and Mr. Albanese is expected to discuss closer cooperation on trade, resilient supply chains, and critical mineral and technology partnerships.**

**The geopolitical changes wrought by China and the U.S. signal the need for Indo-Pacific region countries to diversify their economic interests and shore up each other's strategic needs. His re-election comes despite a rocky three-year term since 2022, as he faced low ratings on issues such as the economy, inflation and immigration; a recent poll said he would either lose or face a hung parliament. Given the timing of the turnaround, just after U.S. President Donald Trump took office, his win is seen as mirroring the results in Canada, where a dark horse centre-left Liberal party candidate, Mark Carney, won. As with the Conservative leadership in Canada, the Australian opposition's 'Liberal' candidate Peter Dutton was seen as a Trump policy admirer, and had taken a tough "anti-woke" stance, pillorying Mr. Albanese for allowing too many immigrants into the country, and vowing to stand with Israel on Gaza. However, as Mr. Trump unleashed a barrage of measures including tariffs on countries, his policies also appear to have had a negative impact on Mr. Dutton's chances.**

**Despite being a staunch U.S. ally, Mr. Albanese's relatively tough stand against the tariffs was seen favourably by voters — much as Mr. Carney's tough stand against the U.S.'s tariffs and threats won him votes. Another election result this weekend, in Singapore, saw a win, albeit quite expected, for Lawrence Wong, whose party won its 14th term. Mr. Wong too made Mr. Trump's policies a rallying cry during his campaign, even suggesting that countries would simply “stop exporting to USA” if the tariffs were not taken down. In each of the wins, voters chose sober candidates seen as more rational at the wheel, and not those seen as tough leaders with strong rhetoric. This is a trend among America's closest allies, and Mr. Trump will have to pay heed to sane voices from outside his circle of advisers.**

**Question 4:**

**What is the broader geopolitical significance of Albanese's re-election for the Indo-Pacific region?**

- A) It marks the end of Australia's participation in the Quad.**
- B) It solidifies India-Australia cooperation on critical technologies and regional security.**
- C) It suggests Australia will adopt a more neutral stance between China and the U.S.**
- D) It indicates Australia will increase immigration quotas across the region.**
- E) None of the above**

**Question 5:**

**What contributed most to Peter Dutton's defeat in the Australian election, according to the passage?**

- A) His inability to build alliances within his party**
- B) Voter disapproval of his economic reforms**
- C) His alignment with Trump-style politics and rhetoric**
- D) Scandals related to his immigration policies**
- E) None of the above**

**Today's Descriptive Question**

**Precis Writing:**



## **Original Text:**

**Inclusive growth refers to economic growth that is broad-based and benefits all sections of society, particularly marginalized and disadvantaged groups. Unlike traditional growth models that may disproportionately benefit the wealthy or urban populations, inclusive growth aims to ensure that economic progress translates into better living standards, opportunities, and access to resources for everyone.**

**Key to inclusive growth is addressing disparities in income, education, healthcare, employment, and basic services. It focuses on providing equal opportunities, reducing poverty, and promoting social inclusion. Governments and organizations pursuing inclusive growth implement policies aimed at improving access to education, healthcare, clean water, and social security, especially in rural and underserved areas.**

**In India, inclusive growth has been a priority, as the country seeks to reduce poverty and inequality while maintaining high economic growth rates. Initiatives like the Pradhan Mantri Jan Dhan Yojana, Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act (MGNREGA), and Skill India aim to bring marginalized communities into the mainstream economy by providing access to financial services, employment opportunities, and skill development.**

**However, challenges persist, such as unequal access to education and healthcare, rural-urban divides, and gender inequality. To achieve sustainable and inclusive growth, policies need to be holistic, targeting both economic and social dimensions.**

## Precis

**Inclusive growth ensures that economic progress benefits all segments of society, focusing on reducing poverty, inequality, and ensuring equal opportunities. In India, initiatives like MGNREGA and Skill India promote financial inclusion and access to employment.**

**Despite challenges like education gaps, rural-urban divides, and gender inequality, inclusive growth requires holistic policies to ensure sustainable development and improved living standards for marginalized communities.**

- You failed to submit an important report on time due to unforeseen circumstances. Write an email to your supervisor apologizing for the delay and mentioning the new submission timeline.

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

**Subject: Request for Salary Increment**

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

**I hope you are doing well. I would like to take this opportunity to discuss my current compensation in light of the contributions I have made to the company over the past [duration of your tenure].**

**Since joining [Company Name], I have consistently strived to contribute positively to our team's success. Some key highlights of my contributions include:**

**[Contribution 1: e.g., Successfully managing projects that resulted in a [specific result]]**

**[Contribution 2: e.g., Improving team efficiency through [specific action or process]]**

**[Contribution 3: e.g., Exceeding performance targets or taking on additional responsibilities such as [specific task]]**

**I believe these efforts, alongside my ongoing commitment to the company's growth, demonstrate my value. Given my performance, I would like to request a salary review, with the aim of aligning my compensation with my contributions and the industry standards.**

**I would be happy to discuss this further at a time that is convenient for you.**

**Thank you for considering my request.**

**Best regards,  
[Your Name]**

## Match the column

- |                     |  |
|---------------------|--|
| 1. On one's toes    | A. to stop communicating with someone                    |
| 2. A lost cause     | B. now and for the last time                             |
| 3. Lose one's touch | C. ready for any eventuality; alert                      |
| 4. Once and for all | D. the last in a series of unpleasant events             |
| 5. The last straw   | E. someone or something that has no chance of succeeding |

**Answer:**

**1-c**

**2-e**

**3-a**

**4-b**

**5-d**



## Vocabulary

1. Scrambled:
2. Onerous:
3. Trounced:
4. Parlous:
5. Denouement:
6. Disparaged:
7. Crippling:
8. Derelict:
9. Prodigious:
10. Edify:

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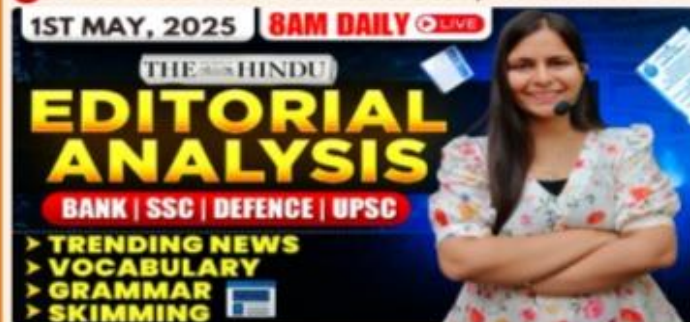


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**P.** The country, which has been most affected by the tariffs imposed by former US President Donald Trump, now faces tariffs as high as 245% on certain Chinese imports.

**Q.** However, the relief may be short-lived. The former president has since hinted at additional tariffs, stating on Truth Social, "NOBODY is getting 'off the hook'," as his administration investigates "semiconductors and the WHOLE ELECTRONICS SUPPLY CHAIN."

**R.** Fortunately for Apple, Trump recently exempted smartphones, computers, and some other electronic devices from these tariffs.

**S.** Apple sells over 220 million iPhones annually, with most estimates indicating that around 90% of these are manufactured in China.

**T.** Despite this, China remains the key hub for the production of Apple components—from glossy screens to battery packs—which are sourced and assembled into iPhones, iPads, and MacBooks, with the majority being shipped to the US, Apple's largest market.

## RC ANS

1.

**Ans: C**

**Explanation:** The passage notes that the 87% fintech adoption rate in India has "brought in millions from the MSME sector into the formal banking system, enabling better tax compliance and regulatory supervision."

**Incorrect Options:**

- A) The passage indicates improved compliance, not decreased.
- B) Fintech adoption has a significant positive impact on compliance.
- D) Fintech tools aid in compliance but do not replace the need for it.

**2.**

**Ans: B**

**Explanation:** The passage states that the PMI rose to 58.2 in April, marking a 10-month high, driven by a sharp rise in new business and greater international demand.

**Incorrect Options:**

- A) A PMI above 50 indicates expansion, not contraction.
- C) The passage mentions it as the strongest growth in 10 months, not the slowest.
- D) International orders grew to the largest degree in over 14 years.

**3.**

**Ans: C**

**Explanation:** The passage indicates that Apple intends to source most of its iPhones for the U.S. from India, suggesting a realignment in supply chains due to U.S. tariffs on China.

**Incorrect Options:**

A) While labor costs may be a factor, the primary reason mentioned is tariff mitigation.

B) The passage does not discuss declining sales in China as a reason.

D) Infrastructure comparison is not mentioned in the context.



4.

**Ans: B**

**Explanation:**

**The passage says:**

“Mr. Albanese is expected to discuss closer cooperation on trade, resilient supply chains, and critical mineral and technology partnerships.”

It also says his win supports moving India-Australia bilateral ties forward, especially through forums like the Quad, hosted by India later this year. These elements clearly show enhanced cooperation in the Indo-Pacific.

**Incorrect options:**

A) The passage mentions Australia participating in the Quad summit, not leaving it.

C) No neutrality is mentioned; instead, closer cooperation with India is highlighted.

D) Immigration is mentioned as a point of criticism against Albanese, not something he's promoting in the Indo-Pacific.

**5.**

**Ans: C**

**Explanation:**

**The passage says:**

“...the Australian opposition’s ‘Liberal’ candidate Peter Dutton was seen as a Trump policy admirer... his policies also appear to have had a negative impact on Mr. Dutton’s chances.”

His “anti-woke” stance, aggressive anti-immigration rhetoric, and alliance with Trump-like views worked against him with voters.

**Incorrect options:**

A) No mention of party infighting or inability to build alliances.

B) The economy is discussed as a weak point for Albanese, not Dutton.

D) While he criticized immigration, no scandal is mentioned.

## Parajumble Answer:

The correct order of the given sentences in the paragraph is **SPTRQ**. **S begins the paragraph** by highlighting the main topic of how most iPhones are manufactured in China, which now faces high tariffs (**continued in P**). Despite these tariffs, China remains the hub for the production of Apple components (**as mentioned in T**). **RQ is a mandatory pair**, with **R highlighting** that Trump provided relief for smartphones, which, however, offered only short-term relief (**as mentioned in Q**).