

# The Hindu EDITORIAL ANALYSIS

31st 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. Dissipate (कम करना/मिटाना)

- **Meaning:** To disappear or cause to disappear; to scatter or reduce gradually.
- **Synonyms:** Disperse, vanish, dissolve
- **Antonyms:** Accumulate, gather, intensify
- **Example:** The fear among border residents began to dissipate after the government's relief efforts.

## 2. Punctilious (सूक्ष्म विवरणों के प्रति अत्यधिक सावधान )

- **Meaning:** Showing great attention to detail or correct behavior.
- **Synonyms:** Meticulous, precise, scrupulous, fastidious
- **Antonyms:** Careless, negligent, casual
- **Example:** The manager was punctilious about following every safety protocol.

### 3. Reassuring (आश्वस्त करने वाला)

- **Meaning:** Serving to remove someone's doubts or fears.
- **Synonyms:** Comforting, encouraging, soothing
- **Antonyms:** Alarming, worrying, unsettling
- **Example:** The army's statement was reassuring for residents living along the border.

## 4. Choleric (गुस्सैल)

- **Meaning:** Easily angered; bad-tempered.
- **Synonyms:** Irritable, short-tempered, irascible
- **Antonyms:** Calm, easygoing, even-tempered
- **Example:** His choleric nature made it difficult for coworkers to approach him.

## 5. Robust (मज़बूत)

- **Meaning:** Strong and healthy; able to withstand tough conditions.
- **Synonyms:** Sturdy, resilient, vigorous
- **Antonyms:** Weak, fragile, feeble
- **Example:** A robust domestic presence will protect exporters from global trade shocks.

## 6. Incipient (प्रारंभिक )

- **Meaning:** In an initial stage; beginning to happen or develop.
- **Synonyms:** Emerging, developing, nascent
- **Antonyms:** Mature, developed, advanced
- **Example:** The doctor noticed the incipient signs of an infection.

## 7. Sparsely (विरल रूप से)

- **Meaning:** In a thinly scattered or distributed manner.
- **Synonyms:** Scarcely, thinly, meagerly
- **Antonyms:** Densely, heavily, abundantly
- **Example:** Sparsely populated areas in Kashmir demand more individualized bunker construction.



## 8. Pragmatic (व्यावहारिक )

- **Meaning:** Dealing with things sensibly and realistically rather than theoretically.
- **Synonyms:** Practical, realistic, rational
- **Antonyms:** Idealistic, impractical, unrealistic
- **Example:** Her pragmatic approach helped solve the issue efficiently.

## 9. Cadence (लय)

- **Meaning:** A modulation or inflection of the voice; a rhythmic sequence or flow of sounds.
- **Synonyms:** Rhythm, tempo, beat
- **Antonyms:** Irregularity, discord, dissonance
- **Example:** The speaker's cadence captivated the audience, making the lecture memorable.

## 10. Dolorous (दुखदायी )

- **Meaning:** Feeling or expressing great sorrow or distress.
- **Synonyms:** Mournful, sorrowful, gloomy
- **Antonyms:** Joyful, cheerful, happy
- **Example:** The movie ended on a dolorous note, leaving the audience in tears.

# VOCABULARY

## One-word substitute:

**1. An actor or actress:**

**Thespian**

**2. The use of dishonest or corrupt practices, especially for personal gain:**

**Graft**

**3. Fully in agreement; held or carried by everyone involved:**

**Unanimous**

**4. A collection of skills, techniques, or works that a person or group is able to perform or use:**

**Repertoire**

# VOCABULARY

## Phrasal Verbs:

### 1. Take after

Meaning: To resemble a family member in appearance or behavior.

### 2. Put up with

Meaning: To tolerate or endure something unpleasant.

### 3. Look into

Meaning: To investigate or examine something.

### 4. Drop by

Meaning: To visit someone informally or without an appointment.

# 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**

**Steep decline: On the  
Index of Industrial  
Production**



**India's factory output performance measured monthly by the Index of Industrial Production (IIP) and released by the Ministry of Statistics and Program Implementation (MoSPI) slowed to an eight-month low of 2.7% in April, at the start of fiscal 2026. It also marked a steep decline, almost halving from last April's 5.2% growth. This correlates with the monthly gauge of the eight core sectors by the Ministry of Commerce and Industry, which posted a 0.5% growth in April, also an eight-month low. More significantly, it is a steep decline from last April's 6.9%. The eight core sectors make up about 40% of the weight of items included in the IIP. This comes on the back of a 4% growth in industrial output for the last fiscal, which was the lowest in the past four years. Of particular concern is the contraction in mining by 0.2%, the first since August 2024.**

**While the absolute value of mining exports has risen in the past decade from \$25 billion in FY15 to \$42 billion in FY25, its share in exports has fallen from 8.1% to 5.1%. This still constitutes a not-so-insignificant share in India's overall goods exports at a time of great trade volatility. However, both manufacturing and power production also slowed to 3.4% (4.2%) and 1.1% (10.2%), respectively, in April. While trade and tariff-related uncertainties are most likely to have impacted goods output, the continuing contraction in consumer non-durables' output for the third consecutive month suggests persistently low rural consumption, as essentials such as food make up a significant portion of consumer non-durables. This is a clear indication that despite retail inflation hitting an almost 6-year low at 3.16% in April, it has not translated into higher spending power for rural communities, where consumer non-durables have the most demand.**

**Food prices contracted for the sixth straight month to 2.14%, which led to below MSP rates for most staples at mandis. The government must focus on raising rural incomes by implementing MSPs for farm produce more systematically. This would aid in increasing rural consumption. However, a surge in capital goods output to 20.3% in April, albeit from a low base, indicates confidence in the domestic economy as investors continue with their plans to diversify exports, attempting to rely less on the U.S. With trade-related sectors expected to continue to stay volatile in the near-term, the Centre must push the private sector to increase capital expenditure at home. This will increase incomes, and aid in raising consumption demand. Export-oriented sectors must also aim to ring-fence themselves from tariff, price and supply chain shocks by ensuring a robust domestic presence, while also diversifying outside the traditional export regions of the U.S. and the EU.**

## Summary

**India's factory output, as measured by the Index of Industrial Production (IIP), slowed to 2.7% in April 2025, marking an eight-month low and a steep drop from 5.2% in April 2024. Similarly, the eight core sectors, which constitute 40% of the IIP, grew just 0.5%, also an eight-month low. This slowdown follows a 4% industrial output growth in FY25, the lowest in four years. Mining contracted by 0.2%, its first decline since August 2024, and despite an increase in export value over the decade, its share in total exports has decreased. Manufacturing and power production also weakened, while consumer non-durables contracted for the third straight month, indicating low rural consumption. This persists despite retail inflation dropping to a six-year low and food prices declining for six months, leading to below MSP sales in mandis. To revive demand, the government is urged to implement MSPs more systematically to raise rural incomes. On a positive note, capital goods output surged by 20.3%, suggesting investor confidence and potential for domestic economic growth.**

## **Tone:**

**Analytical and advisory — The passage objectively analyzes recent economic data, points out key concerns (like rural distress and trade volatility), and suggests policy measures (like increased capital expenditure and rural income support) to address them.**

## Reading Comprehension

Based on the above passage, answer the following questions:

**Question 1:**

**Which of the following trends offers a positive signal for investor confidence in the domestic economy?**

- A. Mining sector's contraction by 0.2% in April**
- B. Food price deflation leading to mandi prices below MSP**
- C. Surge in capital goods output to 20.3%**
- D. Power production slowdown to 1.1%**
- E. None of the above**

**Question 2:**

**According to the passage, what structural mismatch is contributing to lower rural spending power?**

- A. High inflation in rural areas compared to urban zones**
- B. Inadequate implementation of MSPs despite falling food prices**
- C. Government focus on capital goods at the cost of essentials**
- D. Reduction in food subsidies and increase in direct taxes**
- E. None of the above**



**Question 3:**

**What does the passage recommend as a strategy for export-oriented sectors to reduce vulnerability to external shocks?**

- A. Rely on bilateral trade agreements with the U.S. and EU**
- B. Shift completely to domestic markets to avoid trade risks**
- C. Ring-fence operations through domestic presence and market diversification**
- D. Focus solely on reducing production costs through automation**
- E. None of the above**

## **Article for Skimming**

**Rebuilding J&K: On  
Amit Shah's visit**

**Jammu and Kashmir bore the brunt of Pakistan's response to Operation Sindoor, and Union Home Minister Amit Shah rightly focused on both security and development during his visit to Poonch, where residential areas were hit by shelling from across the border. A comprehensive relief package is planned alongside the construction of more underground shelters for civilians. The J&K government is still in the process of assessing damages, but Poonch was by far the worst-affected district. A preliminary report submitted by a committee set up by the BJP to the Ministry of Home Affairs identified 1,500 houses — 690 in Poonch and 534 in Uri — that were damaged in the indiscriminate shelling. At least 18 civilians — 14 in Poonch alone — lost their lives. Pakistani shelling hit towns in Poonch, Baramulla, Kupwara and Rajouri, and the damage to civilian infrastructure was considerable.**

**Mr. Shah on Friday visited the affected regions, expressed solidarity with the people, and handed out job appointment letters to the kin of those who lost their lives. Earlier, the Leader of the Opposition, Rahul Gandhi, and representatives of the Trinamool Congress visited the victims. These border residents felt heard, their sense of fear dissipated to some extent, and their morale boosted by these visits. The Indian Army's statement on the India and Pakistan ceasefire "not having an expiry date" is reassuring for the border residents. Life is limping back to normalcy with residents returning to their homes, many of them shattered by the shelling. The J&K government is struggling to meet the demands of the affected population. This was evident from the relief amount approved up to ₹1.2 lakh to fully damaged houses. The affected and displaced residents described it as "insufficient" for them to return to their once-concrete and multi-storey houses.**

**Against this backdrop, Mr. Shah's promise of a relief package is a ray of hope. Around 9,500 bunkers — 8,000 in the Jammu division and 1,500 in the Kashmir Valley — have been built by the Centre so far. However, there is a growing demand for individual bunkers in sparsely located populations in border areas of J&K, especially in the Kashmir Valley, to ensure civilians manage to shift to safer locations immediately in case of shelling by Pakistan. The Centre and the elected government in J&K should work in tandem to help border residents who are in distress.**

**Question 4:**

**How many underground bunkers have been built by the Centre so far, and what is the distribution between the Jammu division and the Kashmir Valley?**

- A) 9,500 bunkers; 8,000 in Jammu and 1,500 in Kashmir**
- B) 10,000 bunkers; 5,000 in each region**
- C) 8,500 bunkers; 4,000 in Jammu and 4,500 in Kashmir**
- D) 7,000 bunkers; 3,500 in each region**
- E) None of the above**

**Question 5:**

**What was the Indian Army's statement regarding the ceasefire between India and Pakistan, and how did it impact border residents?**

- A) The ceasefire has been officially terminated.**
- B) The ceasefire is under renegotiation.**
- C) The ceasefire "does not have an expiry date," providing reassurance to border residents.**
- D) The ceasefire is conditional and subject to change.**
- E) None of the above**

## Today's Descriptive Question

- Write an essay of 200 words highlighting the impacts of movies on youth.



**Movies exert a profound influence on the youth, shaping their perceptions, values, and behaviours. The impact of movies on the younger generation is multifaceted, encompassing both positive and negative aspects. On the positive side, films serve as powerful tools for education and cultural exposure. They can broaden the horizons of the youth, fostering empathy and understanding of diverse perspectives. Inspirational movies, in particular, have the potential to motivate and instil a sense of purpose. Conversely, the negative impacts cannot be overlooked. Graphic violence, explicit content, and unhealthy lifestyles portrayed in some movies can desensitise young minds and contribute to desensitisation or the glorification of negative behaviours.**

**Moreover, unrealistic beauty standards perpetuated by the film industry may lead to body image issues among the youth.**

**It is crucial for parents, educators, and society to play an active role in guiding young individuals in their movie choices and promoting media literacy. Encouraging critical thinking about the content, fostering discussions, and setting age-appropriate viewing boundaries can help mitigate the adverse effects of movies on youth.**

**Ultimately, a balanced approach that appreciates the educational and entertainment value of movies while being mindful of their potential impact is essential for harnessing the positive aspects of this influential medium.**

- Write a letter on the topic of "Request for Sponsorship for a Community Event".

[Your Name]

[Your Organization]

[Your Address]

[City, State, ZIP Code]

[Email Address]

[Phone Number]

[Date]

[Recipient's Name]

[Recipient's Title]

[Company or Organization Name]

[Address]

[City, State, ZIP Code]

**Subject: Request for Sponsorship**

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

**I trust this letter finds you well. I am writing on behalf of [Your Organization] to seek your support as a sponsor for our upcoming community event, [Event Name], scheduled for [Date] at [Venue].**

**[Provide a brief overview of the event and its purpose.]**

**To make this event a success, we are seeking financial assistance for venue rental, logistics, and promotional materials. Your sponsorship would not only contribute to the event's success but also enhance [Recipient's Company or Organization]'s visibility within our community.**

**Please find attached a concise sponsorship package with various tiers and benefits. We would appreciate the opportunity to discuss this collaboration further at your convenience. You can reach me at [Your Phone Number] or [Your Email Address].**

**Thank you for considering our proposal. We look forward to the possibility of working together to positively impact our community.**

**Sincerely,**

**[Your Full Name]**

**[Your Title or Role]**

**[Your Organization]**

**[Your Contact Information]**

**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. Dissipate:
2. Punctilious:
3. Reassuring:
4. Choleric:
5. Robust:
6. Incipient:
7. Sparsely:
8. Pragmatic:
9. Cadence:
10. Dolorous:



# ENGLISH

**EXCLUSIVE SUBSCRIPTION**



## **BASIC TO ADVANCE**

- ➞ PERFECTION 2025 (1.0 – 12.0)
- ➞ PERFECTION 2024 (1.0–10.0)
- ➞ GRAMMAR GRANTH
- ➞ RECORDED + LIVE

**BY NIMISHA BANSAL**

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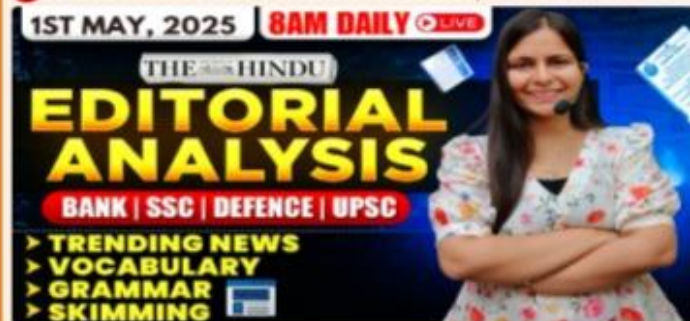


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## Rc ans

1.

**Ans: C**

**Explanation:**

“A surge in capital goods output to 20.3% in April... indicates confidence in the domestic economy as investors continue with their plans to diversify exports...”

Capital goods are a proxy for investment, hence this is a positive signal.

**Incorrect options:**

A. A contraction is negative

B. Below-MSP prices indicate agrarian distress, not confidence

D. Power output decline is a negative signal

**2.**

**Ans: B**

**Explanation:**

“Food prices contracted... which led to below MSP rates for most staples at mandis. The government must focus on raising rural incomes by implementing MSPs... more systematically.”

The lack of effective MSP enforcement is harming farmer income, which affects rural consumption.

**Incorrect options:**

- A. Inflation is falling — rural areas are not facing high inflation
- C. The passage does not suggest trade-offs between sectors
- D. No mention of reduced subsidies or increased taxes

**3.**

**Ans: C**

**Explanation:**

“Export-oriented sectors must... ring-fence themselves from tariff, price and supply chain shocks by ensuring a robust domestic presence, while also diversifying outside... the U.S. and the EU.”

This strategy combines local resilience and market diversification.

**Incorrect options:**

- A. The U.S. and EU are specifically named as regions to diversify away from
- B. The passage suggests balance, not a complete shift
- D. Automation/costs are not mentioned as the main strategy

**4.**

**Ans: A**

**Explanation:**

The passage states that around 9,500 bunkers have been built by the Centre, with 8,000 in the Jammu division and 1,500 in the Kashmir Valley.

**Incorrect Options:**

- B) The total number and distribution do not match the figures provided.
- C) The numbers are inconsistent with the passage.
- D) This total is less than the actual number mentioned.

**5.**

**Ans: C**

**Explanation:**

The Indian Army's statement that the ceasefire "does not have an expiry date" served as reassurance for border residents, helping to alleviate their fears and boost morale.

**Incorrect Options:**

- A) There is no mention of the ceasefire being terminated.
- B) The passage does not indicate any renegotiation of the ceasefire.
- D) The ceasefire is presented as ongoing and indefinite.