

The Hindu EDITORIAL ANALYSIS

9th 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. Lackadaisical (उदासीन / सुस्त)

- Meaning: Lacking enthusiasm, energy, or determination**
- Synonyms: Careless, lazy, unenthusiastic**
- Antonyms: Diligent, energetic, attentive**
- Example: The Finance Ministry's lackadaisical approach to audits led to massive inconsistencies.**

2. Inexorable (अटल / अनिवार्य)

- **Meaning:** Impossible to stop, alter, or resist
- **Synonyms:** Relentless, unstoppable, unyielding
- **Antonyms:** Flexible, lenient, yielding
- **Example:** The inexorable rise in tax disputes has weakened the credibility of the GST system.

3. Egregious (अत्यंत बुरा / चौंकाने वाला)

- **Meaning:** Outstandingly bad or shocking
- **Synonyms:** Appalling, atrocious, heinous
- **Antonyms:** Admirable, commendable, excellent
- **Example:** The PAC highlighted egregious errors in the government's financial records.

4. Subterfuge (छल / धोखाधड़ी)

- **Meaning:** Deceit used to achieve one's goal
- **Synonyms:** Deception, trickery, fraudulence
- **Antonyms:** Honesty, sincerity, transparency
- **Example:** The proliferation of fake academic certificates is a result of systemic subterfuge.

5. Defeatist (हार मानने वाला)

- **Meaning:** A person who expects or is ready to accept failure.
- **Synonyms:** Pessimist, quitter, cynic
- **Antonyms:** Optimist, fighter, believer
- **Example:** His defeatist attitude prevented him from even trying for the promotion.

6. Ineffable (अवर्णनीय)

- **Meaning:** Too great or extreme to be expressed in words.
- **Synonyms:** Inexpressible, indescribable, beyond words
- **Antonyms:** Expressible, describable, explainable
- **Example:** The joy I felt when I met my childhood friend again was ineffable.

7. Stingy (कंजूस)

- **Meaning:** Unwilling to spend money or share resources.
- **Synonyms:** Miserly, tight-fisted, parsimonious
- **Antonyms:** Generous, lavish, charitable
- **Example:** He was so stingy that he hesitated to donate even a small amount to charity.

8. Supercilious (अभिमान्नी)

- **Meaning:** Behaving or looking as though one thinks one is superior to others.
- **Synonyms:** Arrogant, condescending, haughty
- **Antonyms:** Humble, modest, unassuming
- **Example:** His supercilious attitude toward his colleagues made him very unpopular.

9. Blatant (स्पष्ट)

- **Meaning:** Done openly and unashamedly, often in a way that is offensive
- **Synonyms:** Obvious, glaring, flagrant
- **Antonyms:** Subtle, concealed, hidden
- **Example:** His blatant disregard for the rules led to his suspension from the team.

10. Tardy (ढीला/सुस्त)

- **Meaning:** Slow in movement, action, or response.
- **Synonyms:** Delayed, sluggish, unpunctual
- **Antonyms:** Prompt, quick, timely
- **Example:** The teacher warned the student for his tardy arrival in class.

VOCABULARY

One-word substitute:

1. A person who loves or is obsessed with work:

Ergophile

2. The branch of medicine that deals with the study and treatment of cancer:

Oncology

3. A person who has recently gained wealth or status but is not yet accepted by the social class they have entered:

Parvenu

4. A person who doubts or questions accepted beliefs, statements, or claims:

Sceptic

VOCABULARY

Phrasal Verbs:

1. Winnow down

Meaning: To gradually reduce a large number of choices to a smaller, better group.

2. Zero in on

Meaning: To focus on or choose a specific target or option.

3. Pick on

Meaning: To single out a person or thing, sometimes in a negative way, but can also mean to choose.

4. Nail down

Meaning: To finalize or choose something after careful consideration.

VOCABULARY

Idioms & Phrases

1. It's all Greek to me

Meaning - a way of saying that one do not understand something that is said

2. Close but no cigar

Meaning - used to say that someone almost succeeded, but is not completely successful

3. An axe to grind

Meaning - to have a selfish reason or strong opinion that influences your actions

VOCABULARY

4. To bend over backwards

Meaning - to try extremely hard to do something good

5. A sitting duck

Meaning - easy to attack, cheat, or take advantage of

Article for Reading

**Influencing
interlocutors: On
Operation Sindoor,
India's delegations**

The seven Indian delegations of mostly Members of Parliament and some former diplomats, tasked by the government to carry diplomatic messages after Operation Sindoor, have completed their travels. The 59 members visited 32 countries to convey the country's position on the outrage felt over the Pahalgam terror attack and its links to Pakistan, the restrained and precise nature of Indian strikes on Pakistan's terrorist infrastructure, and the "new normal" the government has adopted for terrorist strikes. The message was meant not just for foreign governments but also for lawmakers, the foreign media and the general public, especially in countries where New Delhi has felt it has not found the expected support. Many of the countries visited are members of the UN Security Council (UNSC), and include those which are elected non-permanent members or will join next year.

This is important as India faced a diplomatic setback when Pakistan, an elected UNSC member for 2025-26, was able to amend the UNSC statement to omit references to The Resistance Front (TRF) that had claimed responsibility for the Pahalgam attack. That Pakistan managed to be chosen Chair of the Taliban Sanctions committee and Vice-Chair of the UN Counter-terrorism Committee will make India's task of holding the terrorists responsible for the attack accountable through UN designations and at the Financial Action Task Force more difficult. Finally, the focus on the U.S. was pointed, where the delegation visited New York and Washington. This may have stemmed from the appearance that ties with Washington are strained over President Donald Trump's persistent claim that he had mediated the ceasefire between India and Pakistan, using trade ties as a leverage to avert a "nuclear conflict".

It remains to be seen just how successful these tours of political diplomacy have been, given criticism in India that more time was spent speaking to the Indian diaspora, and giving interviews to the accompanying Indian media rather than in influencing interlocutors abroad. The delegations also had to contend with a copy-cat move from Pakistan to counter the Indian narrative. However, the overarching message of the delegations, comprising representatives from a number of Indian States, faiths and political parties, is a powerful one — of Indian unity and consensus on the issue of national security. At a time when the Modi government is under criticism internationally for “democratic decline” and increasing majoritarianism, New Delhi chose its messengers wisely, with a view to projecting abroad a positive and pluralistic image of a country that was resolute against terrorism.

Summary

After Operation Sindoor, seven Indian delegations consisting mostly of MPs and former diplomats visited 32 countries to deliver India's diplomatic message on the Pahalgam terror attack, linking it to Pakistan. Their key aims were to justify India's measured military response, promote the "new normal" in counter-terrorism policy, and rally international support, particularly from UNSC members. India faced setbacks at the UN, where Pakistan—now a UNSC member and chairing key committees—managed to omit references to TRF, the group claiming the attack. Outreach also targeted the Organisation of Islamic Cooperation and the U.S., where ties appear strained due to Trump's claims of mediating an India-Pakistan ceasefire. Though there's domestic criticism that the delegations engaged more with diaspora and Indian media than foreign stakeholders, the unified, pluralistic composition of the delegations aimed to counter international criticism of India's democratic backsliding and show national consensus on combating terrorism.

Tone:

Informative and analytical, with subtle undercurrents of concern and realism. Reflects measured optimism about India's diplomatic strategy while acknowledging challenges and criticisms.

Reading Comprehension

Based on the above passage, answer the following questions:

Question 1

What was one of the primary objectives of the Indian delegations' visits to 32 countries following Operation Sindoor?

- A) To negotiate a new trade deal with Pakistan**
- B) To clarify India's domestic policies to the UN General Assembly**
- C) To counter Pakistan's influence in the Organisation of Islamic Cooperation**
- D) To project India's internal political consensus on counter-terrorism**
- E) None of the above**

Question 2:

Why might India's diplomatic outreach to the United States have been particularly focused during these delegations?

- A) The U.S. had imposed sanctions on Indian imports**
- B) The U.S. backed Pakistan's case at the Financial Action Task Force**
- C) There were concerns about President Trump's claims of mediation**
- D) The UN headquarters demanded India's direct clarification**
- E) None of the above**

Question 3:

Which challenge might undermine the effectiveness of India's diplomatic delegations, as noted in the passage?

- A) Failure to meet key UN diplomats**
- B) More focus on Indian diaspora and media than foreign stakeholders**
- C) Lack of coordination between the Ministry of External Affairs and Defence**
- D) Inconsistent messaging among the delegations**
- E) None of the above**

Article for Skimming

**Consultative
regulation-making
that should go further**

In May this year, the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) issued a policy framework for how it will publish regulations, directions, guidelines and notifications. This follows a similar move by the Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI), in February, which published regulations setting out the procedure it would follow to issue regulations. Regulators such as the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) and SEBI, have been created by Acts of Parliament and have quasi-legislative powers. Within this context, strong procedural safeguards and robust checks and balances are essential to uphold the rule of law. The recent frameworks, which outline the procedures that the RBI and SEBI must follow when making law, are a welcome start. When proposing any new regulations or amendment to existing regulations, the RBI will now conduct “impact analyses” and SEBI will state the “regulatory intent and objectives”. Both regulators will also invite public comments for 21 days. Moreover, they will now periodically review their own regulations.

These reforms signal a welcome shift toward more transparent and consultative regulation-making. Yet, they can, and should go further. Two additions will make these processes more robust, and ensure greater transparency and accountability. First, regulators should clearly identify the economic rationale for their interventions, and second, they should institute mechanisms to ensure accountability for periodic reviews and responses to public comments. The RBI's impact analyses and SEBI's statements of objectives must be grounded in economic rationale that identifies the problem that their proposed regulation will address. In 2013, the Financial Sector Legislative Reforms Commission (FSLRC) emphasised that "laws must be defined in terms of their economic purpose". Regulatory practices in other jurisdictions also support the FSLRC's suggestion. For example, executive memoranda in the United States mandate that regulators undertake a cost-benefit analysis before proposing or adopting a regulation.

Regulators there must also ensure the “least burden on society”, adopt an approach that maximises benefits, and assess the feasibility of alternatives to direct regulation. As another example, under the European Union’s Better Regulation Framework, impact assessments involve identifying the problem, potential solutions and their impact, and mechanism for monitoring and evaluating the results. Currently, RBI’s framework calls for “impact analysis” considering “economic environments”. SEBI must explain its objectives. However, neither are explicitly required to provide the economic rationale of any proposed regulation or identify the underlying market failure. This can be contrasted with the framework implemented by the International Financial Services Centres Authority (IFSCA), which must state the issue that its proposed regulation seeks to address.

Question 4

What limitation does the passage identify in the current regulatory frameworks of RBI and SEBI compared to international standards?

- A) Lack of consultation with judicial authorities during rulemaking**
- B) Absence of public access to draft regulations**
- C) Failure to articulate economic rationale for regulatory action**
- D) Exclusion of impact analysis from the rulemaking process**
- E) None of the above**

Question 5

Which institutional practice stands out in the framework of the International Financial Services Centres Authority (IFSCA) when compared to RBI and SEBI?

- A) Delegation of rule-making to state governments**
- B) Full public hearings before any regulation is enacted**
- C) Mandatory legal review by the Supreme Court**
- D) Requirement to state the issue a regulation addresses**
- E) None of the above**

Today's Descriptive Question:

- **Write an essay of 200 words about the effects of Global Trade on Developing Economies.**

Global trade significantly impacts developing economies, offering both opportunities and challenges. On the positive side, it provides access to larger markets, enabling these economies to export goods and services, which can boost economic growth. Increased trade can lead to job creation, higher income levels, and improved living standards. For instance, countries like China and India have experienced substantial economic growth due to their integration into the global market.

Additionally, global trade allows developing countries to import advanced technologies and capital goods, enhancing productivity and industrialization. This access can help these economies diversify their industries and reduce dependence on a limited range of exports, thus stabilizing their economic base.

However, global trade also presents significant challenges for developing

economies. These countries often face stiff competition from more established economies, making it difficult for local industries to thrive. This competition can lead to job losses and the decline of traditional sectors. Moreover, developing countries might become overly dependent on exporting a few commodities, making them vulnerable to global market fluctuations and price volatility. Furthermore, the benefits of global trade are not always evenly distributed within developing economies. Wealth and opportunities may concentrate in specific regions or among certain groups, exacerbating inequality.

In conclusion, while global trade can drive economic growth and development in developing economies, it also poses challenges that need to be managed carefully. Policies promoting diversification, innovation, and equitable distribution of trade benefits are essential for maximizing the positive impacts of global trade on these economies.

- **Write a letter to the Mayor of your city requesting him for a children's park in your locality.**

[Your Name]

[Your Address]

[City, State, ZIP Code]

[Email Address]

[Phone Number]

[Date]

[Mayor's Name]

[City Hall Address]

[City, State, ZIP Code]

Subject: Request for a Children's Park in [Locality Name]

Dear Mayor [Mayor's Name],

I hope this letter finds you well. I am writing to request the establishment of a children's park in our locality, [Locality Name].

Our community has many young families with children who lack access to safe and recreational outdoor spaces. A children's park would provide a necessary area for kids to play and promote a healthy lifestyle. Such a park would also strengthen community bonds by offering a gathering place for families and neighbors.

Thank you for considering this request. We are eager to support this initiative in any way possible and look forward to your positive response.

**Sincerely,
[Your Name]**

Match the column

- | | |
|---------------------------|--|
| 1. It's all Greek to me | A. easy to attack, cheat, or take advantage of |
| 2. Close but no cigar | B. to try extremely hard to do something good |
| 3. An axe to grind | C. a selfish aim or motive |
| 4. To bend over backwards | D. one can't understand what is being said |
| 5. A sitting duck | E. a narrowly missed success |

Answer:

1-d

2-e

3-c

4-b

5-a

Vocabulary

1. Lackadaisical:
2. Inexorable:
3. Egregious:
4. Subterfuge:
5. Defeatist:
6. Ineffable:
7. Stingy:
8. Supercilious:
9. Blatant:
10. Tardy:

NIMISHA BANSAL

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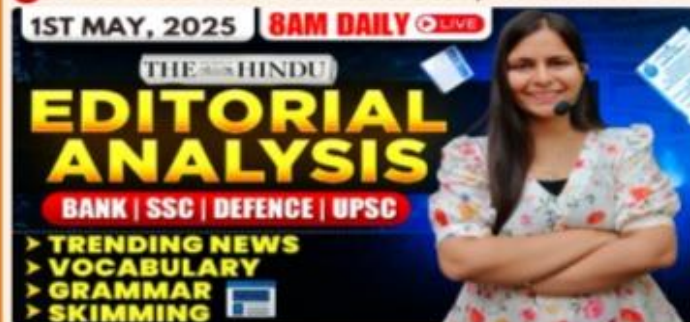


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Rc ans

1.

Ans: D

Explanation:

The passage states: “The overarching message of the delegations... is a powerful one — of Indian unity and consensus on the issue of national security.” This indicates that showcasing unity against terrorism was a key objective.

Incorrect Options:

A) There is no mention of negotiating trade deals with Pakistan.

B) The target audience was foreign governments, lawmakers, media, and the public, not specifically the UN General Assembly.

C) While OIC criticism is mentioned, the primary aim wasn't countering OIC influence.

2.

Ans: C

Explanation:

The passage notes: “This may have stemmed from the appearance that ties with Washington are strained over President Donald Trump’s persistent claim that he had mediated the ceasefire between India and Pakistan...”

Incorrect Options:

- A) The passage discusses trade leverage, not sanctions.
- B) FATF is mentioned but U.S. role isn’t specified in this context.
- D) There is no reference to demands from the UN headquarters.

3.

Ans: B

Explanation:

The passage criticizes the effort, stating: “...given criticism in India that more time was spent speaking to the Indian diaspora, and giving interviews to the accompanying Indian media rather than in influencing interlocutors abroad.”

Incorrect Options:

A) There's no mention of failure to meet diplomats.

C) No coordination issues between ministries are indicated.

D) Messaging is described as unified: “...of Indian unity and consensus...”

4.

Ans: C

Explanation:

From the passage: “However, neither are explicitly required to provide the economic rationale of any proposed regulation or identify the underlying market failure.” Hence, this is the key limitation.

Incorrect Options:

- A) Judicial authorities are not mentioned as part of the consultation framework.
- B) Public access is implied through the 21-day comment window.
- D) “RBI’s framework calls for ‘impact analysis’...” so impact analysis is included.

5.

Ans: D

Explanation:

The passage mentions: "...the framework implemented by the International Financial Services Centres Authority (IFSCA), which must state the issue that its proposed regulation seeks to address."

Incorrect Options:

- A) No mention of state-level delegation.
- B) No public hearings are indicated.
- C) The Supreme Court's role is not discussed.