

# The Hindu EDITORIAL ANALYSIS

14th July 2025

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

# 1. Vetting (जांच)

- **Meaning:** The process of examining or evaluating someone or something thoroughly.
- **Synonyms:** Screening, scrutiny, examination
- **Antonyms:** Overlooking, ignoring, neglecting
- **Example:** The committee is vetting the applications to select the most suitable candidate.

## 2. Disavowal (अस्वीकृति / इनकार)

- **Meaning:** Denial of any responsibility or support for something.
- **Synonyms:** Rejection, renunciation, denial
- **Antonyms:** Endorsement, confirmation, acceptance
- **Example:** The Ministry's latest move is a disavowal of its 2015 emission policy.

### 3. Spurious (झूठा / मिथ्या)

- **Meaning:** Not genuine, authentic, or true; based on false ideas or bad reasoning.
- **Synonyms:** False, fake, bogus, fraudulent
- **Antonyms:** Genuine, authentic, valid
- **Example:** The court dismissed the allegations as spurious and unsupported by evidence.

## 4. Bafflement (उलझन / आश्चर्य)

- **Meaning:** A state of being confused or puzzled.
- **Synonyms:** Confusion, bewilderment, perplexity
- **Antonyms:** Clarity, understanding, certainty
- **Example:** The bafflement of the pilot added to the mystery of the engine cutoff.

## 5. Galvanise (प्रेरित करना / उत्साहित करना)

- **Meaning:** To stimulate into sudden activity or to inspire people to take action.
- **Synonyms:** Motivate, spur, stir, energize
- **Antonyms:** Deter, discourage, demotivate
- **Example:** The tragic incident galvanised the public into demanding stricter safety measures.

## 6. Subservient (आज्ञाकारी / अधीनस्थ)

- **Meaning:** Prepared to obey others unquestioningly; less important or subordinate.
- **Synonyms:** Obedient, compliant, subordinate
- **Antonyms:** Dominant, independent, superior
- **Example:** AI should remain subservient to natural intelligence in making ethical medical decisions.

## 7. Replenish (पूरण करना / फिर से भरना)

- **Meaning:** To fill something again; restore a previous level or condition.
- **Synonyms:** Restore, refill, regenerate
- **Antonyms:** Deplete, drain, exhaust
- **Example:** Traditional seed varieties have the ability to replenish soil nutrients, improving long-term soil health.



## 8. Unscrupulous (अनैतिक)

- **Meaning:** Having or showing no moral principles; not honest or fair.
- **Synonyms:** Unprincipled, unethical, dishonest
- **Antonyms:** Ethical, principled, honest
- **Example:** Unscrupulous traders often exploit inexperienced investors.

## 9. Whipping up (भड़काना )

- **Meaning:** To incite or provoke a strong reaction or emotion in others.
- **Synonyms:** Stirring up, provoking, agitating
- **Antonyms:** Calming, pacifying, soothing
- **Example:** The politician's speeches often aim at whipping up nationalist sentiments among the crowd.

## 10. Irrefutable (अखंडनीय )

- **Meaning:** Impossible to deny or disprove; undeniable.
- **Synonyms:** Undeniable, incontrovertible, unquestionable
- **Antonyms:** Disputable, questionable, refutable
- **Example:** The prosecutor presented irrefutable evidence that convinced the jury.

## VOCABULARY

### One-word substitute:

**1. Not having any serious purpose or value; trivial:**

**Frivolous**

**2. Involving much sitting and little physical activity:**

**Sedentary**

**3. Dying without having made a legal will:**

**Intestate**

**4. Lacking good judgment or care in speech or action, especially by revealing things that should remain private:**

**Indiscreet**

# VOCABULARY

## Phrasal Verbs:

### 1. Stick around

Meaning - to stay in a place for a while.

### 2. Take back

Meaning - to retract a statement or take responsibility for a mistake.

### 3. Think up

Meaning - to invent or imagine something.

### 4. Wade through

Meaning - to struggle through something difficult, often a large amount of information.

# VOCABULARY

## Idioms & Phrases

### 1. As white as a sheet

**Meaning:** Looking very pale, often due to fear or shock.

### 2. Paint the town red

**Meaning:** To celebrate in a lively, enthusiastic way, often by going out.

### 3. In a brown study

**Meaning:** Deeply absorbed in thought, often looking gloomy or worried.

## VOCABULARY

### **4. Born to the purple**

**Meaning:** Belonging to a royal or noble family.

### **5. Worth its weight in gold**

**Meaning:** Extremely valuable or useful.

## **Article for Reading**

**Need for a revamp:  
On the Ahmedabad  
air crash probe,  
aviation safety**



**The preliminary report flowing from the investigation into the crash of an Air India Boeing 787-8 at Ahmedabad, on June 12, 2025, has a focal point now. Released in the early hours of July 12, 2025, a month after the accident, the Aircraft Accident Investigation Bureau's 15-page document has highlighted the fuel control switches of "Engine 1 and Engine 2" having "transitioned from the 'Run' to the 'Cutoff' position, one after another, with a time gap of one second". That this happened just after flight AI171 had begun to lift off from the 3,505-metre-long runway, leading to the engines beginning to decrease from their take-off values as fuel starvation hit, has accentuated another detail. How did two separate switches that are guarded by brackets, feature a metal stop locking mechanism and have separate systems for redundancy move to 'cutoff'? And why?**

**The element of bafflement by one crew member, and denial by the other pilot, over the cutoff, has compounded the issue, more so in the absence of the full and raw transcript of the cockpit voice recording. However, in the midst of the crisis, what must be acknowledged was a display of airmanship, with a partially successful relighting of the GENx-1B70/75/P2 engines, which ended with the call of May Day. While the key details in the report have evoked appeals by a pilot body for a revamped probe, especially to ‘stop the bias towards pilot error’, the investigation team must now stay the course to ensure that there is a sound, comprehensive and transparent investigation. There has also been focus on an FAA Special Airworthiness Information Bulletin of 2018 that concerns the potential for disengagement of the fuel control switch locking feature, and applicable to the Boeing 787 aircraft family.**

**In a reaction to the preliminary report and its findings, there has been some expert commentary on the topic of crew well-being, but in a counter to this, the Indian Commercial Pilots' Association has said that “pilots undergo extensive psychological and professional screening... and operate under the highest standards of safety”. However, the subject of Crew Resource Management and Line Oriented Flight Training may need to be revamped, more so with this being an unusual incident of dual engine failure. Finally, despite the preliminary report's pitch of there “not being recommended actions that concern the aircraft type and the engine manufacturer”, India's expanding civil aircraft fleet requires greater vigilance in terms of maintenance and operations. Airport funnel zones and obstacle limitations must be reviewed too as it is a given that air crew and passengers have safer flights.**

## Summary

The preliminary report on the June 12, 2025 crash of an Air India Boeing 787-8 at Ahmedabad highlights a critical incident where the fuel control switches for both engines inexplicably moved from 'Run' to 'Cutoff' within one second, just as the aircraft began its take-off. This led to fuel starvation and engine power reduction. The report raises serious questions about how both guarded and redundantly designed switches were disengaged almost simultaneously. While the crew attempted a partial engine relight and issued a May Day call, ambiguity remains due to the lack of the full cockpit voice recording. Pilot bodies have called for a more impartial investigation, cautioning against bias towards attributing the error to pilot fault. The incident also draws attention to a 2018 FAA bulletin on the Boeing 787's fuel switch locking mechanism. Suggestions have emerged for revising crew training protocols and maintaining high standards of operational vigilance, especially as India's aviation fleet grows. The report, however, stops short of recommending changes to the aircraft type or engine manufacturer.

## **Tone:**

**The tone is serious, investigative, and cautionary. It combines factual reporting with a critical and reflective stance, highlighting technical anomalies, procedural concerns, and the need for transparency and systemic improvement in aviation safety.**

## Reading Comprehension

Based on the above passage, answer the following questions:

**Question 1:**

**Which of the following best explains why the dual engine cutoff event is considered highly unusual and perplexing?**

- A. Because both fuel switches are mechanical and unprotected**
- B. Because both switches are locked, redundant, and separated**
- C. Because both engines are powered by different fuel systems**
- D. Because Boeing 787s are immune to fuel cutoff issues**
- E. None of the above**

**Question 2:**

**Why has the Indian Commercial Pilots' Association (ICPA) objected to some responses to the preliminary report?**

- A. They believe Boeing was unfairly blamed for a manufacturing flaw**
- B. They object to the omission of engine manufacturer data**
- C. They aim to prevent premature attribution of the crash to pilot error**
- D. They deny the possibility of human error ever occurring in aviation**
- E. None of the above**



**Question 3:**

**What FAA advisory is referenced in the report and why is it significant?**

- A. A directive to decommission older Boeing models due to outdated avionics**
- B. A bulletin about fatigue cracks in GEnx engine compressor blades**
- C. An urgent alert concerning software bugs in Boeing autopilot systems**
- D. A 2018 bulletin about disengagement risks in fuel control switch locking**
- E. None of the above**

## **Article for Skimming**

**Smoke and sulphur:  
On sulphur dioxide  
emissions, public  
health**

**The axe has dropped. The Environment Ministry has exempted the majority of India's coal-fired plants from mandatorily installing Flue Gas Desulphurisation (FGD) systems, which are designed to cut sulphur dioxide (SO<sub>2</sub>) emissions. In effect, this undermines its own mandate from 2015 that required all such plants — there are about 180 of them now, comprising 600 units — to install these systems. While these were expected to be in place by 2017, only about 8% of the units have actually installed FGD — nearly all by the public-sector National Thermal Power Corporation (NTPC). SO<sub>2</sub> is among the gases monitored by the Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB) as exposure beyond a degree can be harmful. Less appreciated is its propensity to form sulphates in the air and contributing to particulate matter pollution. In general, India's average ground-level SO<sub>2</sub> measurements have been below the permissible levels — one among several reasons that there has not been a sense of urgency in implementing FGD norms.**

**The official reasons are the limited number of vendors in India, high installation costs, the potential rise in electricity bills, and disruptions due to the COVID-19 pandemic. While the latest deadlines flew by in 2024, the Environment's Ministry's decision — it follows consultations with scientific institutions and new commissioned studies — is a sharp disavowal of the current policy. An expert appraisal committee says that Indian coal is low in sulphur; SO<sub>2</sub> levels in cities near plants with operational FGD units do not differ significantly from those without these units, and all of these were anyway well below permissible levels. The committee had said that concerns about sulphates are unfounded. It also argued, echoed by the Minister for Power, that sulphates had a beneficial side-effect in suppressing warming from greenhouse gas emissions. Thus, reducing sulphates would actually worsen warming and compromise India's climate goals.**

**While IPCC assessments do account for the heat-suppressing action of sulphates, nowhere is it projected as an unalloyed good. A minority of plants, about a fifth — those within a 10 km radius of the NCR; in cities with a population of over a million, or known to be in pollution hotspots — must install FGDs by 2028. This seems to suggest that what determines their installation is the location of a coal plant and not whether FGDs are effective or SO<sub>2</sub> is harmful. This is a rare instance when there are different environmental standards within India on controlling exposure to a pollutant. While it is not unscientific to revise understanding of the harms or benefits of substances, this needs debate in the public domain before a policy is changed. Otherwise it amounts to undermining India's commitment to scientifically informed public health.**

#### **Question 4:**

**What reason was not cited by the Environment Ministry or its expert committee in justifying the rollback of mandatory FGD installations?**

- A. Indian coal has relatively low sulphur content**
- B. COVID-19 disruptions delayed installations**
- C. FGDs have been proven to raise mercury levels in the atmosphere**
- D. Few vendors are available for installation**
- E. None of the above**

**Question 5:**

**According to the passage, what is the core contradiction in the Ministry's decision to require only some coal plants to install FGDs?**

- A. The selected plants are operated by private firms while others are public sector**
- B. The selection is based on plant size rather than environmental impact**
- C. It assumes SO<sub>2</sub> is more harmful in urban areas only**
- D. The policy introduces regional disparities in pollution standards**
- E. None of the above**

## Today's Descriptive Question:

- **Write an essay of 200 words about 70 hour work week – Pros & Cons.**



**A 70-hour work week is increasingly common in today's fast-paced, competitive environments, especially in industries like technology, finance, and consulting. Such demanding schedules bring both advantages and disadvantages.**

**One major benefit is the potential for career advancement. Working extended hours often showcases commitment and dedication, leading to quicker promotions and salary growth. A 70-hour work week may also increase productivity, allowing employees to handle larger responsibilities and complete projects more efficiently. For entrepreneurs, putting in extra hours is often essential to establish and grow their business, especially during the initial phases.**

**However, the cons of a 70-hour work week are significant. Extended hours can lead to physical and mental exhaustion, affecting overall well-being.**

**Chronic stress and burnout are common issues, which may reduce productivity over time and lead to health problems like insomnia, anxiety, and cardiovascular issues. This intense work schedule also compromises work-life balance, limiting time for family, hobbies, and self-care, ultimately reducing job satisfaction.**

**In summary, while a 70-hour work week can offer career-related advantages, it comes with considerable risks to personal health and work-life balance. Striking a balance between career growth and well-being is essential for sustainable, long-term success.**

- **Write a letter to the bank manager requesting your bank statement for a specific time period.**

**[Your Name]**  
**[Your Address]**  
**[City, State, ZIP Code]**  
**[Email Address]**  
**[Contact Number]**  
**[Date]**

**The Branch Manager**  
**[Bank Name]**  
**[Branch Address]**  
**[City, State, ZIP Code]**

**Subject: Request for Bank Statement**

**Dear Sir/Madam,**

**I am writing to request a bank statement for my account [Account**

**Number] for the period from [Start Date] to [End Date]. I need this statement for [mention the reason, e.g., financial planning, loan application, tax filing, etc.].**

**Please let me know if there are any applicable fees for this service. You may send the statement to my registered email address or inform me when it is available for collection at the branch.**

**Thank you for your assistance. I look forward to your prompt response.**

**Yours faithfully,**

**[Your Full Name]**

**[Your Signature, if submitting a hard copy]**

## Match the column

- |                             |   |
|-----------------------------|---|
| 1. As white as a sheet      | A. To celebrate in a lively, enthusiastic way |
| 2. Paint the town red       | B. Extremely valuable or useful               |
| 3. In a brown study         | C. Belonging to a royal or noble family       |
| 4. Born to the purple       | D. Looking very pale                          |
| 5. Worth its weight in gold | E. Deeply absorbed in thought                 |

## **Answer:**

**1-d**

**2-a**

**3-e**

**4-c**

**5-b**

## Vocabulary

1. Vetting:
2. Disavowal:
3. Spurious:
4. Bafflement:
5. Galvanise:
6. Subservient:
7. Replenish:
8. Unscrupulous:
9. Whipping up:
10. Irrefutable:



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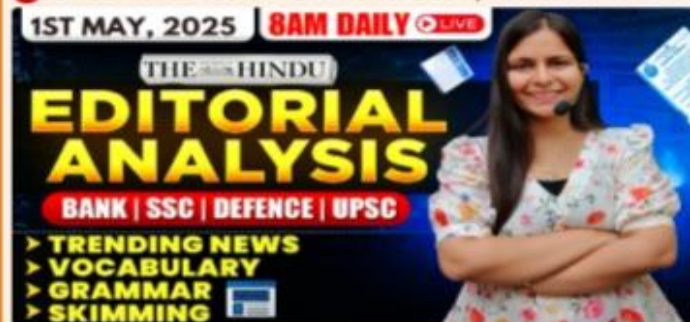


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## Rc ans

1.

**Ans: B**

**Explanation:**

**Reference:** “How did two separate switches that are guarded by brackets, feature a metal stop locking mechanism and have separate systems for redundancy move to ‘cutoff’? And why?”

The design makes accidental or simultaneous cutoff unlikely, hence the bafflement.

**Incorrect options:**

A: The switches are not unprotected; they are guarded and locked.

C: No reference to independent fuel systems for the two engines.

D: The 787 isn’t claimed to be immune; in fact, FAA bulletins exist for this issue.

**2.**

**Ans: C**

**Explanation:**

**Reference:** “...appeals by a pilot body for a revamped probe, especially to ‘stop the bias towards pilot error’”

The ICPA is concerned about bias in interpretation that defaults to blaming the crew prematurely.

**Incorrect options:**

A: Boeing is not blamed in the preliminary report.

B: Engine manufacturer is not central to the objection.

D: The ICPA says pilots operate under high standards, not that errors never occur.

**3.**

**Ans: D**

**Explanation:**

**Reference:** “FAA Special Airworthiness Information Bulletin of 2018... concerns the potential for disengagement of the fuel control switch locking feature, and applicable to the Boeing 787 aircraft family”

This advisory directly relates to the issue of unexpected movement of guarded switches.

**Incorrect options:**

A: There is no mention of decommissioning due to avionics.

B: Fatigue cracks in compressor blades are not referenced.

C: Software bugs or autopilot are not mentioned in the passage.

4.

**Ans: C**

**Explanation:** Mercury levels are not discussed at all in the passage. The justification focuses on sulphur content, vendor limitations, installation costs, COVID-19, and already-low SO<sub>2</sub> levels.

**Incorrect options:**

A: “An expert appraisal committee says that Indian coal is low in sulphur.”

B: “...disruptions due to the COVID-19 pandemic.”

D: “The official reasons are the limited number of vendors in India...”

**5.**

**Ans: D**

**Explanation:**

**Reference:** “This is a rare instance when there are different environmental standards within India on controlling exposure to a pollutant.”

The discrepancy is geographical, not scientific — creating inconsistent standards.

**Incorrect options:**

A: No mention of public vs. private plant ownership.

B: The criteria is location, not size.

C: The policy implies this but does not explicitly assume  $\text{SO}_2$  is only urban-harmful.