The Hindu EDITORIAL ANALYSIS

8th 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. Voluble (प्रवाहित भाषी / बातूनी)

- fluently, readily, or incessantly

 Synonyms: Talkative,
- loquacious, articulate

Meaning: Speaking

→ Antonyms: Reticent, silent reserved

conference.

silent, reserved

→ Example: The
spokesperson was voluble
in defending the policy
during the press

2. Stipulated (निर्धारित)

- ➤ Meaning: Demanded or specified, typically as part of an agreement.
- → Synonyms: Specified, mandated, required
- → Antonyms: Optional, undefined, unregulated
- → Example: The agreement stipulated that the documents must be submitted by the end of the month.

3. Succinctly (संक्षेप में)

- Meaning: In a brief and clearly expressed manner
- → Synonyms: Concisely,
- ⇒ Antonyms: Verbosely,
- wordily, diffusely

 → Example: The report
 succinctly summarized the
 key findings in just two
 pages.

4. Ubiquity (व्यापकता)

- → Meaning: The fact of appearing everywhere or of being very common.
 → Synonyms:
- → Synonyms:
 Omnipresence,
 pervasiveness,
- universality

 → Antonyms: Rarity,
- absence, uniqueness

 → Example: The ubiquity of
- smartphones has transformed how people communicate.

5. Cognate (सजातीय / समान मूल का)

- Meaning: Related by origin, especially in language or family; having a common ancestry or root Synonyms: Related,
- analogous, associated
- **Antonyms: Unrelated,**
- dissimilar, distinct
- **Example: 'Night' in English and 'Nacht' in** German are cognate words."

6. Havoc (विनाश)

- Meaning: Widespread
 destruction or great
 confusion.
 Synonyms: Devastation,
- chaos, ruin
- → Antonyms: Order, peace,
 harmony
 → Example: The flood left
- → Example: The flood left havoc in its trail, destroying homes and livelihoods.

7. Destitute (निर्धन / अत्यंत गरीब)

- ➤ Meaning: Extremely poor and lacking the means to provide for oneself
- → Synonyms: Impoverished, needy, penniless
- → Antonyms: Affluent,
 wealthy, prosperous
 → Example: The charity was
- → Example: The charity was established to help destitute families in rural areas.

8. Touted (प्रचारित करना)

- Meaning: Promoted or talked about publicly with the aim of generating approval or support. Synonyms: Praised,
- advertised, hyped
- **Antonyms: Criticized,**
- concealed, downplayed **Example: The SIR was** touted as a seamless revision process, but ground realities say otherwise.

9. Hapless (दुर्भाग्यशाली)

- Meaning: Unlucky and unfortunate
- → Synonyms: Unfortunate, ill-fated, luckless
- → Antonyms: Fortunate, lucky, blessed
- → Example: The hapless traveller lost his luggage and missed his flight.

10. Preposterous (बेतुका / असंगत)

- Meaning: Completely absurd, ridiculous, or contrary to reason
- → Synonyms: Absurd, ludicrous, nonsensical
- → Antonyms: Rational,

preposterous.

→ Example: The claim that the earth is flat is utterly

One-word substitute:

- 1. A short quotation or saying at the beginning of a book or chapter, intended to suggest its theme:
- **Epigraph**
- 2. The Japanese art of folding paper into decorative shapes and figures:
- Origami
- 3. Knowing everything; having unlimited awareness or understanding: Omniscient
- 4. A particular way of speaking or using words, especially common to a specific group or profession:
- **Parlance**

Phrasal Verbs:

1. Eye up

Meaning: To look at someone or something closely or with interest, often with intent or desire.

2. Face off

Meaning: To confront someone in a direct or competitive situation, often in preparation for a conflict or contest.

3. Fall back

Meaning: To retreat or move back, especially in military or defensive situations; can also mean to rely on something as a backup.

4. Fall down

Meaning: To collapse to the ground; can also mean to fail in an attempt or responsibility.

Idioms & Phrases

1. Jump the gun

Meaning: To start something too soon or act prematurely.

2. Burn the candle at both ends

Meaning: To overwork yourself by doing too much, often leading to exhaustion.

3. The elephant in the room

Meaning: A major issue or problem that everyone is avoiding or ignoring.

4. Bite the hand that feeds you

Meaning: To harm or criticize someone who has helped or supported you.

5. Under one's belt

Meaning: To have achieved or experienced something that adds to one's knowledge or skills.

Article for Reading

Batting for prevention: On Nipah cases in Kerala

With two cases of Nipah virus detected in Kerala — including one fatality owing to the infection — the attention is rightfully, once again, on a preventable infectious disease that could leave havoc in its trail. An adolescent girl from Malappuram succumbed to the virus on July 1, and a 38-year-old woman from Palakkad is battling for life in the hospital. In the big picture, as many as 425 people who are in the contact lists of the two Nipah-infected persons in three districts in Kerala have been identified and are under surveillance. Of these, 228 are from Malappuram district, where Patient Zero was identified this time, 110 in Palakkad and 87 in Kozhikode. In Palakkad, one contact is being treated in isolation, while 12 people are currently undergoing treatment in Malappuram five of them are in the intensive care unit. One of them tested negative for the infection, and the results for the others are awaited. Over 140 of those on the contact list are said to be health workers.

While the health machinery in Kerala is engaged in tracing the original source of the infection, it is also tasked, particularly in the three districts of Malappuram, Palakkad and Kozhikode, to trace contacts, isolate them to prevent further spread, contain infection and treat all those who show symptoms. India has recorded several outbreaks of the virus since 2001, a year when 45 of the 66 people infected died in West Bengal. In 2018, it surged in Kerala, with 17 of the 19 cases with laboratory-confirmed Nipah infection dying without responding to treatment. Kerala continues to report outbreaks regularly since then. What renders even a single case of significant concern to get the entire health-care machinery in a tizzy? Nipah is a transmissible viral infection with a high mortality rate, ranging between 40% and 75%, which implies that if the infection spreads, then, a number of people are likely to die.

Future research might add an effective tool to the armamentarium to effectively treat Nipah infections without mortality, but as of now, the course of action is vested only in prevention and awareness generation. Nipah is transmitted by fruit bats which are the natural reservoirs of the virus. It is suspected that consuming contaminated fruits, bitten or licked by bats, may play a role in spreading the virus. It is also equally important to cast a watchful eye on climate change-related factors, particularly anthropogenic activity that is destroying natural habitats, and initiate a robust One Health programme that will weigh not just Nipah but also other pathogens that are capable of zoonotic spillover, transitioning from animals to humans and causing great harm.

Summary

The passage discusses the recent outbreak of the Nipah virus in Kerala, where two cases have been reported—one resulting in death. Authorities have identified 425 contacts across Malappuram, Palakkad, and Kozhikode, many of whom are under medical surveillance, including health workers. The piece highlights Nipah's high mortality rate (40–75%), its zoonotic origin from fruit bats, and the lack of effective treatment options, making prevention and awareness crucial. It calls for urgent attention to climate change-related habitat destruction and advocates for a "One Health" approach to monitor zoonotic diseases.

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The tone is urgent, cautionary, and informative, with a focus on

public health awareness and proactive containment.

Reading Comprehension

Based on the above passage, answer the following questions:

Question 1: What potential environmental factor does the passage highlight as contributing to the risk of Nipah outbreaks?

- A. Urban pollution causing immune deficiency
- B. High levels of groundwater contamination

E. None of the above

- C. Deforestation and habitat destruction due to human activity
- D. Rising ozone levels in lower atmosphere

Why is tracing Patient Zero crucial in outbreaks like Nipah, according to the passage?

A. To ensure access to foreign vaccines in time

Question 2:

- B. To accurately report the outbreak to WHO
- C. To confirm whether the virus is man-made
- D. To trace the infection origin and prevent further spread
- E. None of the above

Question 3: What is the role of fruit bats in the Nipah virus transmission chain?

- A. They act as intermediate carriers from pigs to humans.

 B. They are natural reservoirs and may contaminate fruits
- consumed by humans.
- C. They contaminate livestock directly through saliva.

 D. They are genetically modified carriers of the virus.
- E. None of the above

Article for Skimming

Keep it simple: On Special Intensive Revision of Bihar's electoral rolls

The Election Commission of India's (ECI) Special Intensive Revision (SIR) of Electoral Rolls in Bihar, while touted as a smooth process with significant form submissions, is riddled with contradictions and poses a serious threat to voter enfranchisement. Despite claims of progress, with over 11% of the estimated electorate submitting forms, conflicting statements from the ECI highlight deep-seated issues. Initially, the CEO, Bihar, through advertisements, suggested a lenient approach towards electors who did not have the stipulated 11 documents. They were told that they could submit enumeration forms to booth-level officers and provide documents later, or even get verified without mandatory documents, with verification through local investigations by Electoral Registration Officers. However, the CEC clarified that earlier orders mandating document submission by July 25, 2025, stand, with a claims and objections period from August 1 to September 1 for those who fail to comply.

This shift in stance and reliance on local-level investigations for verification present inherent problems. Leaving verification to the discretion of local electoral officers increases the possibility of misuse and bias. Such an ad hoc approach risks wrongful inclusions or exclusions, undermining the integrity of the electoral roll. Instead, the ECI should adopt a more pragmatic and robust approach by accepting more universally available identity documents such as Aadhaar, ration cards, and MGNREGA job cards. The ubiquity of Aadhaar, and its mandatory requirement for numerous government services, makes it an ideal proof of identity. Similarly, ration cards and MGNREGA job cards are widely held, particularly among agrarian populations, as they are central to India's welfare initiatives. Bihar's historical challenges in birth registration, school enrolment, and broader documentation mean that a significant number of genuine electors may lack any of the 11 indicative documents. The onus is on the state and its institutions, including the ECI, to facilitate their participation.

The current rigid documentary requirements place an undue burden on voters, especially the marginalised and underprivileged, who already face significant hurdles in engaging with bureaucracy, and risks widespread disenfranchisement. The current Bihar exercise seems to be treating every voter as a potential non-citizen unless proven otherwise. To uphold the principle of universal adult franchise and prevent large-scale exclusion, the ECI must urgently reconsider its SIR even as the Supreme Court is due to hear petitions challenging this exercise. The ECI should immediately broaden the acceptable forms of identification, ensuring that all eligible citizens have the

opportunity to exercise their constitutional right to vote.

Question 4:
What is the main risk posed by allowing Electoral Registration
Officers (EROs) to verify voters without standardised
documentation?

- A. It leads to a slowdown in the verification process.
- B. It may increase litigation against the ECI.C. It may lead to arbitrary exclusions or inclusions due to officer
- discretion.
- D. It allows for foreign nationals to be added accidentally.
- E. None of the above

Question 5: What solution does the passage recommend for resolving the documentation issue?

- A. Issuing temporary voter IDs to all electors pending verification B. Accepting widely held documents like Aadhaar, ration cards, and MGNREGA job cards
- C. Requiring all electors to re-register regardless of past records D. Postponing the Bihar Assembly elections until documentation is resolved
- E. None of the above

Today's Descriptive Question:

 Write an essay of 200 words about to raise mental health awareness in Schools Raising mental health awareness in schools is crucial for fostering a supportive and healthy learning environment. Mental health issues, such as anxiety, depression, and stress, affect a significant number of students, impacting their academic performance, social interactions, and overall well-being. By integrating mental health education into the school curriculum, students can learn about the importance of mental health, recognize signs of distress in themselves and others, and understand how to seek help.

One of the primary benefits of raising mental health awareness is the reduction of stigma. When students and staff openly discuss mental health, it normalizes these conversations and encourages those struggling to seek support without fear of judgment.

Schools can promote awareness through workshops, seminars, and incorporating mental health topics into existing subjects. This education helps build empathy, resilience, and coping skills among students.

Moreover, providing access to mental health resources, such as counseling services and peer support groups, is essential. Trained professionals can offer guidance and support to students in need, helping them navigate their challenges and improve their mental well-being. Additionally, creating a safe and inclusive school environment where students feel valued and understood can significantly contribute to their mental health.

In conclusion, raising mental health awareness in schools is vital for creating a supportive atmosphere that enhances students' emotional and psychological well-being.

Through education, open dialogue, and accessible resources, schools can

play a pivotal role in promoting mental health and ensuring that every

student has the opportunity to thrive.

• Write a letter to your brother advising him to read textbooks.

ABC, Z block Dwarka New Delhi

27th June, 2024

Dear [Brother's Name],

I hope this letter finds you well. I wanted to take a moment to talk to you about the importance of reading your textbooks.

Textbooks are a vital resource for your studies. They provide

comprehensive information on the subjects you are learning, ensuring you have a strong foundation in each topic. By regularly reading your textbooks, you can better understand the material and be well-prepared for exams.

Additionally, textbooks often contain valuable examples, practice questions, and explanations that can clarify complex concepts. These resources can significantly enhance your learning experience and help you achieve better grades.

I know it can sometimes be challenging to stay focused, but developing a habit of reading your textbooks will pay off in the long run. Set aside dedicated time each day for reading, and try to create a quiet and comfortable study environment.

Remember, education is one of the most important investments you can make in

your future. By committing to your studies and making the most of your textbooks, you are setting yourself up for success.
If you ever need help or advice on your studies, don't hesitate to reach out. I'm always here to support you.
Take care and keen up the good work!

Best regards,

[Your Name]

Match the column

5. Under one's belt

- 1. Jump the gun A. A major issue that everyone is avoiding
- 2. Burn the candle at both ends B. To harm someone who has helped you
- 3. The elephant in the room C. To start something too soon
- 4. Bite the hand that feeds you D. To have achieved something that adds to one's knowledge.

E. To overwork yourself by doing too much

Answer:

1-c 2-e 3-a 4-b 5-d

Vocabulary

- 1. Voluble:
- 2. Stipulated:
- 3. Succinctly:
- 4. Ubiquity:
- 5. Cognate:
- 6. Havoc:
- 7. Destitute:
- 8. Touted:
- 9. Hapless:
- 10. Preposterous:

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Rc ans

1.

Ans: C

Explanation:

Reference: "...cast a watchful eye on climate change-related factors, particularly anthropogenic activity that is destroying natural habitats..."

Incorrect options:

A & D: No mention of ozone or urban immune impact.

B: Groundwater contamination is not discussed.

Z.

Ans: D

Explanation:

Reference: "...tracing the original source of the infection... to prevent further spread..."

Incorrect options:

A & B: WHO reporting and vaccine timing are not mentioned.

C: There's no suggestion that the virus is man-made.

3.

Ans: B

Explanation:

Reference: "Nipah is transmitted by fruit bats which are the natural reservoirs... consuming contaminated fruits, bitten or licked by bats..."

Incorrect options:

A: Pigs are not mentioned in this outbreak.

C: No evidence of livestock contamination is discussed.

D: There's no mention of genetic modification.

7. Ann. (

Ans: C

Explanation:

Reference: "Leaving verification to the discretion of local electoral officers increases the possibility of misuse and bias."

Incorrect options:

A: Slowdown is not discussed.

B: Litigation is not mentioned.

D: No direct mention of foreign nationals.

Ans: B

5.

Explanation:

Reference: "The ECI should adopt a more pragmatic and robust approach by accepting more universally available identity documents such as Aadhaar, ration cards, and MGNREGA job cards."

Incorrect options:

A & C: No mention of mass re-registration or temporary IDs.

D: Postponing elections is not proposed.