



THE HINDU EDITORIAL

18 SEP 2020

7:30 AM



THE HINDU
EDITORIAL ANALYSIS



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TIME TABLE

- 1) EDITORIAL ANALYSIS – **7:30 AM (you tube)**
- 2) SSC KI PATHSHALA – **10 AM (you tube)**
- 3) QUIZ AT MY TELEGRAM – **8:30 PM**
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TASK OF THE DAY

- 1) EDITORIAL DISCUSSION + VOCABULARY
- 2) TONE OF THE PASSAGE
- 3) IDIOM
- 4) PHRASAL VERB
- 5) ONE LINERS
- 6) QUIZ



Need for caution

India needs more than one vaccine, but all must come through their long gestation

Russia's candidate vaccine for COVID-19 appears to have found a midwife in India. The Russian Direct Investment Fund (RDIF), which is piloting the Sputnik V vaccine, has announced a partnership with the Hyderabad-based Dr. Reddy's Laboratories to conduct a Phase-3 trial, or large multi-location human trials here. Were the candidate vaccine, developed by Russia's Gamaleya, to prove safe and efficacious, the RDIF would supply 100 million doses through its partnership with Dr. Reddy's Laboratories. However, there is no agreement to manufacture the vaccine here unlike the deal between the Pune-based Serum Institute of India and the United Kingdom-based AstraZeneca, for the Oxford University-developed ChAdOx1 vaccine. Sputnik V is being developed as a two-dose vaccine on a human adenovirus vaccine platform. Several vaccines that are in development are also being deployed on similar platforms, and the evidence so far is that none of these has been commercially approved for use in humans though there is an experimental vaccine for Ebola. Results of the Phase-1 and Phase-2 trials of the vaccine, published in *The Lancet*, suggest that the evidence so far is that it has proven safe and efficacious enough to progress to the next stage of trials. Controversially, Sputnik V has been granted a pre-approval by Russia's regulators even before Phase-3 trials have been completed.

There is immense political pressure globally on regu-

Reject this inequitable climate proposal

The UN Secretary General's recent advice to India amounts to asking for its virtual de-industrialisation and stagnation



T. JAYARAMAN &
TEJAL KANITKAR

The UN Secretary General António Guterres's call for India to give up coal immediately and reduce emissions by 45% by 2030 is a call to de-industrialise the country and abandon the population to a permanent low-development trap.

Piling on the pressure

In an extraordinary move in climate diplomacy, Mr. Guterres, delivering the Darbari Seth Memorial Lecture on August 28, at the Energy and Resources Institute (TERI), in New Delhi, called on India to make no new investment in coal after 2020. Superficially framed as an even-handed appeal to all G20 nations, it was in reality a deliberate setting aside of the foundational principles of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) that distinguish sharply between the responsibilities and commitments of developed countries vis-à-vis those of developing countries.

long-term impact is still very unclear.

What is the state of India's climate action today? The UN Secretary General is quite aware that India, by any yardstick of reckoning, is punching at least on a par, if not above, its weight in responsibility and economic capacity in climate action.

India's track record

Its renewable energy programme is ambitious while its energy efficiency programme is delivering, especially in the domestic consumption sector. India is one of the few countries with at least 2°C Celsius warming compliant climate action, and one of a much smaller list of those currently on track to fulfilling their Paris Agreement commitments.

Despite the accelerated economic growth of recent decades India's annual emissions, at 0.5 tonnes per capita, are well below the global average of 1.3 tonnes, and also those of China, the United States and the European Union (EU), the three leading emitters in absolute terms, whose per capita emissions are higher than this average. In terms of cumulative emissions (which is what really counts in determining the extent of temperature increase), India's contribution by 2017 was only 4%



GETTY IMAGES

While it is amply clear that their commitments into the future set the world on a path for almost 3°C warming, they have diverted attention by fuzzy talk of "carbon neutrality" by 2050, and the passage of resolutions declaring a climate emergency that amount to little more than moral posturing.

A First World strategy

Alongside, large sections of First World environmentalist opinion, while unable to summon up the domestic political support required for climate action, have turned to pressure the developing countries to bear the brunt of climate mitigation. Their strategies include the demonising of coal mining and coal-based power generation, promoting claims that immediate climate mitigation would miraculously lower domestic inequalities and ensure climate

post of UN Secretary General has embraced this strategy almost fully. Tellingly, he has rarely, if indeed ever, called out the U.S. for its withdrawal from the Paris Agreement, or called out the EU nations for their long-term reliance on gas and oil while hiding behind their overwhelming rhetorical focus on coal. He has been promoting the agenda of carbon neutrality by 2050 as national level goals applicable to all, without any reference to global and international equity and the principle of common but differentiated responsibilities in climate action. With this wilful neglect of the core principles of the climate convention, and extreme demands that the developing world cannot satisfy, the UN Secretary General risks unravelling even the Paris Accord, unsatisfactory as it is.

Ending coal investment

What will be the consequences if India indeed ceases all coal investment from this very year? Currently, roughly 2 GW of coal-based generation is being decommissioned per year, which implies that by 2030, India will have only 184 GW of coal-based generation. But meeting the 2030 electricity consumption target of 1,580 to 1,660 units per person per year, based on the continuation or a slight in-

critically on technology development, including improvements in the efficiency of conversion of energy from its source into electricity, in the management of the corresponding electricity grids, as well as advance in storage technologies. But since the Copenhagen Accord signalled the end of legally binding commitments to emissions reduction by the developed countries, technology development in climate change mitigation technologies has registered a significant fall. Annual filing of patents shows a marked decline ranging between 30% to 50% or more from 2009-10 to 2017, across all subsectors and across all developed countries, without exception. The exception is China which has a rising trend in select areas. Regrettably, India's presence in such patenting hovers between minimal to near-vanishing, a persistent trend over decades that is very difficult to reverse any time soon.

Lacking production capacity in renewable energy technologies and their large-scale operational deployment on this scale will expose India to increasing and severe dependence on external sources and supply chains. It is also a truism that renewables alongside coal will generate, directly and indirectly, far more employment

chain storage and distribution to ensure access to citizens – and the world – in reasonable time, but it must not forget that vaccines must go through their inevitably long gestation to ensure that only those that are safe and efficacious make their way to the market.

A push for reform

The UN must change to reflect the altered geopolitical realities in order to stay relevant

As the United Nations commences the 75th session of the General Assembly, the need for internal reforms to suit the 21st century could not be starker. Volkan Bozkir, the Turkish diplomat and politician who is the incoming president of the UNGA, has voiced concern that the structure of the 15-member Security Council ought to be more democratic and representative. But action has been long overdue on the demand, especially from the so-called Group of 4 (G4) countries – Brazil, Germany, India and Japan – which advocate a permanent seat for all of them. Meanwhile, the veto powers that the UNSC's five permanent members enjoy is an anachronism in this age. This instrument is often wielded as a blunt weapon to shore up their geopolitical interests, regardless of the disastrous consequences for the victims of armed conflict. The push for reform gathered momentum following the unilateral declaration of war by the United States and the United Kingdom, against Iraq, in 2003. The General Assembly's 122nd plenary meeting in 2008 decided to facilitate the reform process through the Inter-Governmental Negotiations framework (IGN) on equitable representation as well as expansion of the UNSC. Though the General Assembly's adoption of a 2015 resolution to allow the IGN on the basis of a framework document generated some enthusiasm, it was dampened by the U.S., Russia and China being opposed to serious reform of the Council. The G4 bemoaned earlier this year that the IGN process might have outlived

Criticism, the judiciary and a word of advice

On free speech, there must be a forum to moderate dialogue between the players – lawyers, journalists and the public



SRIRAM PANCHU

The fires created and stoked by Justice Arun Mishra using the power of contempt to convict Prashant Bhushan for free speech still rage. While so, here comes another contempt action, by a Madras High Court Judge. The Tamil actor, Suriya, who supports public causes, had issued a statement highlighting what he felt was differential treatment, viz. that when due to fear of the novel coronavirus, the court is delivering justice through video conferencing, it is asking students to go and write the National Eligibility cum Entrance Test (for admission to medical courses) without fear. The judge, Justice S.M. Subramaniam, in a letter, has requested the Chief Justice of the Madras High Court to initiate proceedings for contempt.

Possible solutions

The judge is well-esteemed, and was in the news recently for a generous donation to support young lawyers in these difficult times. So for court watchers, this

was a bit of a surprise. One other matter for surprise was that this letter was given by an undisclosed source to the media; this is hardly proper, it is a letter of importance addressed to the head of the judiciary in the State, and if the confidential nature had been maintained, the Chief Justice could have dealt with it in a variety of ways – discussed it quietly with the judge, perhaps bring about a softening of view, involving other senior members of the Court for a considered decision, etc. A simple solution would have been for the court's Registry to issue a statement explaining how the factual position is obviously different, and that while online court hearings are a viable alternative, none such exists for NEET. Now, the harsh glare of publicity, with strong voices weighing in advocating actions of extreme ends (throw the letter out/throw the actor in) only makes things more difficult for the Chief Justice.

Freedom of speech is not just Article 19(1)(a) of the Constitution; it is an article of faith for courts and judges, because they, above all, know that it is essential for the functioning and survival of a democracy, and for making government accountable to the people. The courts are constitutionally cast as Defenders and Protectors



of the public right to free speech and expression. It is a tragic inversion to see judges being cast as the ones who want to limit and abridge it. This is not for the well-being of the institution and those who man it and depend on it, and that means a great many of us.

Avoiding controversy

Judges know that much depends on the factual setting of the case. Now, if only some quiet deliberation had taken place, could not the senior judges have considered if it was rational, wise and prudent to pitch their tent opposing a sea of anxious parents who are quite justifiably petrified about the prospect of their child catching this dreaded infection? God forbid, if such were to happen, we know it is human nature to look elsewhere to blame, and the courts closeted in closed rooms hearings are easy objects to blame. To go in for contempt on this issue will invite and exacerbate this. And the actor seems to have a favourable public

image, especially among the youth. Why do we want to go looking for trouble, could have been the question very easily asked; not so easy to answer, and that would have ended the matter.

Somewhere here one also gets the feeling that the place of criticism and critiquing in a democracy is not being properly understood. As George Orwell said, freedom is the right to tell people what they do not want to hear. And the response of authority to criticism should echo the words popularly attributed to Voltaire – I disagree with everything you say, but I shall defend to the death your right to say it. Judges are holders of high public office and are not immune from being criticised. They must bear it and carry on, safe in the knowledge that their rightful actions and their garnered reputations are their ultimate shield, and that ill-mannered and ill-meant speech will be recognised for what it is and shunned by people. We want our judges to have broad shoulders with the ability to shrug off such comments, and focus on the matters that matter.

A platform and guidelines

There are multiple voices in the current narrative on this subject; lawyers objecting to their criticism of judges' acts of commission and

omission being proscribed, journalists' fear of chilling effect on free speech, and public bewilderment at what is going on. But there is another set of voices we need to pay close attention to – and these are of judges who have passed strong judgments in seminal cases in favour of free speech and expression, who now can be heard saying that some things have gone too far. And so there is need for introspection, communication and understanding on all sides.

We also need a forum for moderating dialogue between leaders of these three communities where concerns and apprehensions can be discussed between them, all of whom want the best for the country and its institutions and people. What could then emerge is a clear set of guidelines of what is acceptable and what is not. And one can then be sure that the latter category are acts so undefendable that no supporter of free speech will support them, for rights are indeed subject to restrictions; the latter must be reasonable and minimal, but must be obeyed for the former to have full play.

Sriram Panchu is a Senior Advocate at the Madras High Court, and the President of the national association Mediators India. E-mail: srirampanchu@gmail.com

Need for caution

India needs more than one vaccine, but all must come through their long **gestation**

Russia's candidate vaccine for COVID-19 appears to have found a **midwife** in India. The Russian Direct Investment Fund (RDIF), which is **piloting** the Sputnik V vaccine, has announced a partnership with the Hyderabad-based Dr. Reddy's Laboratories to conduct a Phase-3 trial, or large multi-location human trials here. Were the candidate vaccine, developed by Russia's Gamaleya, to prove safe and **efficacious**, the RDIF would supply 100 million doses through its part-

Process of development of
a plan or idea

Helper , दाई

Hosting , संचालन

Effective , प्रभावोत्पादक

Unscrew ,तैनात

nership with Dr. Reddy's Laboratories. However, there is no agreement to manufacture the vaccine here unlike the deal between the Pune-based Serum Institute of India and the United Kingdom-based AstraZeneca for the Oxford University-developed ChAdOx1 vaccine. Sputnik V is being developed as a two-dose vaccine on a human adenovirus vaccine platform. Several vaccines that are in development are also being **deployed** on similar platforms, and the evidence so far is that none of these has been commercially approved for use in humans though there is an experimental vaccine for Ebola. Results of the Phase-1 and Phase-2 trials of the vaccine, published in *The Lancet*, suggest that the evidence so far is

that it has proven safe and efficacious enough to progress to the next stage of trials. Controversially, Sputnik V has been granted a pre-approval by Russia's regulators even before Phase-3 trials have been completed.

There is immense political pressure globally on regulatory agencies to get a vaccine out at the earliest. Thus, it is **incumbent** on a company conducting such trials to be particularly **vigilant** that all good practices and necessary **protocols** are **scrupulously** followed. It is well **acknowledged** that two-thirds of the most common vaccines produced globally are made in India. The Serum Institute has committed to producing 100 million doses of its vaccine for India and other 'Low and Middle In-

Depend , निर्भर

Watchful , जागरूक

Set of rules

Carefully

Comply , स्वीकार करना

come Countries' at less than \$3 per dose. Reportedly, half of these are for India. All in all, there seems to be a guarantee for only about 150 million doses for India, which given the country's population is **minuscule**. All of this of course does not account for the vaccines that are being **indigenously** developed in India: Covaxin, by Bharat Biotech, based on a strain sourced from the Indian Council of Medical Research, and ZyCov-D, the plasmid DNA-vaccine being developed by Zydus Cadilla. In Phase-2 trials now, both are being tested for their ability to produce a satisfactory immune response. India has the capabilities for vaccine manufacture, cold chain storage and distribution to ensure access to citi-

handwritten , एक प्रकार का
हस्तलेख

Native , देश में ही

zens – and the world – in reasonable time, but it must not forget that vaccines must go through their inevitably long gestation to ensure that only those that are safe and efficacious make their way to the market.

Compulsory , अनिवार्य रूप से



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➤ **Blew the lid off – To make public something that was previously not known or was hidden.**

❖ **The investigation blew the lid off corruption in city hall.**



SSC CPO/SI KI PATHSHALA



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ENGLISH

REARRANGEMENT

SSC की बात

PRIYA MA'AM के साथ

10:00 AM



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A push for reform

The UN must change to reflect the altered geopolitical realities in order to stay relevant

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Improvement , सुधार

Exchange , बदल

Proper , उचित

Begin , शुरू

Increasing , बढ़ता

countries – Brazil, Germany, India and Japan – which advocate a permanent seat for all of them. Meanwhile, the veto powers that the UNSC's five permanent members enjoy is an **anachronism** in this age. This instrument is often **wielded** as a **blunt** weapon to **shore up** their geopolitical interests, regardless of the disastrous consequences for the victims of armed conflict. The push for reform gathered **momentum** following the unilateral declaration of war by the United States and the United Kingdom, against Iraq, in 2003. The General Assembly's 122nd **plenary** meeting in 2008 decided to facilitate the reform process through the Inter-Governmental Negotiations framework (IGN) on equitable representation as well as expansion of the UNSC.

Chronological , कालभ्रम

To command

Not sharp , कुंद

to help to support something that is weak or going to fail (phrasal verb)

Speed , गति

Entire , परिपूर्ण

Though the General Assembly's adoption of a 2015 resolution to allow the IGN on the basis of a framework document generated some enthusiasm, it was dampened by the U.S., Russia and China being opposed to serious reform of the Council. The G4 bemoaned earlier this year that the IGN process might have **outlived** its purpose given the absence of a negotiating document which alone could provide a structure to the **de-liberations**. In any case, the exercise has been **deferred** in view of the COVID-19 pandemic.

India's election in June as a non-permanent member of the UNSC, obtaining 184 votes, was a diplomatic **triumph**, **notwithstanding** that it was the **lone** contestant for the Asia-Pacific seat. But in a sign of the difficulties

Live longer even after death

Careful examination

delay

Victory , विजय

Inspite of , बावजूद

Alone , अकेला

ahead to achieve New Delhi's ultimate objective, reforms to the UN figured no more than as part of a broader vision in the declaration to **commemorate** the organisation's 75th anniversary. The political and economic architecture of the emerging global order that the **allied** powers shaped at the end of World War II has been altered since then. The UN remains unreflective of the current trajectory, especially in the strategic and economic **arenas**. The multilateral framework now faces an **unprecedented** challenge – to fashion a collective response to humanity's biggest problems, which include global warming and the pandemic. **Paradoxically** though, the post-war order faces an existential threat to

In memory of

Associated , सम्बद्ध

Battlefield , रणभूमि

Never seen before , अभूतपूर्व

**Containing multiple claims ,
असत्यवत**

its stability from the revival of nationalism across the globe, with some of the powers that **enshrined** common principles and rules willing to discard them. All countries must have the voice to influence policy.

Cherish , प्रतिष्ठापित

ONE LINERS

- ▶ US Government plans to offer the COVID-19 vaccine to all the US citizens free of cost

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- ▶ Tata Group has won the contract for the construction of the new Parliament Building with a bid of Rs. 861.90 crores

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▶ SBI and Titan Partners to launch first contactless payment watches.

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READY FOR QUIZ TIME ??



Kya aap sure hain?

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❖ 1) In the letter, Pakistan's Ambassador sought to (1) portray Pakistan as a victim of "cross-border terrorism", (2) and claimed that Pakistan is "responsible" to (3) "decimating" al-Qaeda in the region. (4) no error (5)

- 3 – responsible for – because when we talk about a thing we use for with responsible

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❖ 2) As India's mission at the UN retorted, the 1) envoy could not have forgot that (2) Osama bin Laden and other leaders of the (3) terror group were all found in Pakistan(4) no error (5)

▪ 2- forgotten – modal verb + have + V3

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❖ 1) Tehrik-e-Taliban Pakistan (TTP), a group (1) that according to Pakistan's unsubstantiated (2) claim has been funding by an "Indian terror (3) syndicate" based in Afghanistan. (4) no error (5)

▪ 3- funded because sentence is in passive voice

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- ❖ 2) India, which has described these allegations as “preposterous” (1) and “laughable”, need not worry about its reputation, (2) given its acclaimed role in fight terror and cooperating on the international stage (3) to deny terrorists funding and safe haven. (4) no error (5)

- 3- fighting – because preposition (in) we use verb + ing

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