In the name of the father: On why Ajay Mishra should go

Ajay Kumar Mishra’s continuation as Minister is **morally untenable**

A Special Investigation Team of the Uttar Pradesh police has **concluded** that the violence in Lakhimpur Kheri, U.P., on October 3 that **claimed** the lives of eight people was a “pre-planned **conspiracy**”. Union Minister of State for Home Ajay Kumar Mishra’s son Ashish Mishra is a key **accused** in the case. He was in a **convoy** of cars that **mowed down** farmers protesting against the controversial farm laws that have since been **repealed**. Two of the cars were owned by the Minister. In **subsequent** violence on that day, three BJP **workers** who were part of the convoy were **lynched** by the protesters. The charges are yet to be proved in a court, but the Minister is **on the defensive** as the Opposition **stalled** Parliament for two days, demanding his **dismissal**. The charges against his son are serious. The police have **sought** to drop the initial charges they had brought against the accused under Indian Penal Code (IPC) Section 304A (**culpable homicide** not **amounting to** murder), Section 279 (negligent driving), and Section 338 (causing **grievous** hurt). They now **seek** Section 307 (attempt to murder), Section 326 (causing hurt with dangerous weapon), Section 34 (acts done by several persons in **furtherance** of common intention), and Section 3/25 Arms Act against Mr. Ashish Mishra.

It could be argued that a father is not **accountable for** his son’s actions, but in this **instance** it is **disingenuous**. The son has been a **key** character in the father’s politics, **by all accounts**, and the Minister’s continuation in the Council has become morally untenable. Mr. Ajay Kumar Mishra has **aggravated** the situation for himself by misbehaving with a journalist who asked him a question on the issue. His behaviour, caught on camera, is **unbecoming** of a Minister. The **violence unleashed** by the Minister’s followers on October 3 **was** one of the factors that forced the hand of Prime Minister Narendra Modi who had **ruled out** the repeal of the farm laws **all along**. The BJP appears to be defending the Minister **though** the official argument has been **limited** to the point that the matter cannot be discussed in Parliament as it is before a court. Mr. Ajay Kumar Mishra’s **adventurism** has **turned out** to be costly for the BJP, but the party may be cautious in **dealing with** him. The Assembly election is **due** in Uttar Pradesh, and the party may not want to **ruffle feathers** any further. An element of an internal power struggle in the BJP’s U.P. unit is **unmistakable** in the violent incident and the police response that followed. Mr. Ajay Kumar Mishra had political **calculations** in taking a **combative stance** against farmers. But he may have to **pay a price** for it now, as the incident puts the State and Central governments of the party **on the back foot**. **Fairness** demands that he must not **stay on** as a Union Minister. [Practice Exercise]

- Red/Blue coloring of words in the sentence indicates **subject verb** relationship.
- For example: **Subject**: Workers, **Verb**: were
- Dictionary: [www.lexico.com](http://www.lexico.com)
Vocabulary

1. **In the name of** (phrase) – By the authority of. के नाम पर

2. **Morally** (adverb) – With reference to the principles of right and wrong behavior. नैतिक रूप से

3. **Untenable** (adjective) – indefensible, undefendable, unarguable असमर्थनीय

4. **Conclude** (verb) – come to the conclusion, deduce, infer, draw the inference निष्कर्ष निकालना

5. **Claim** (verb) – take लेना

6. **Conspiracy** (noun) – plot, scheme, stratagem, plan, machination, intrigue साज़िश

7. **Accused** (noun) – A person or group of people who are charged with or on trial for a crime. दोषी

8. **Convoy** (noun) – group, fleet, cavalcade, motorcade काफिला

9. **Mow down** (phrasal verb) – run over; Recklessly knock down someone with a car or other vehicle. कुचल कर निकालना

10. **Repeal** (verb) – revoke, rescind, cancel, reverse, रद्द करना

11. **Subsequent** (adjective) – following, ensuing, succeeding, successive, later बाद का

12. **Lynch** (verb) – (of a mob) kill (someone), especially by hanging, for an alleged offense with or without a legal trial. बिना मुकदमे मार डालना

13. **On the defensive** (phrase) – Expecting or resisting criticism or attack. बचाव में

14. **Stall** (verb) – obstruct, impede, interfere with, hinder, hamper रोकना

15. **Culpable** (adjective) – to blame, guilty, at fault, in the wrong अपराधिक

16. **Homicide** (noun) – murder, killing, assassination मानव हत्या

17. **Amount to** (phrasal verb) – be equal to, be equivalent to, represent के बराबर होना

18. **Grievous** (adjective) – serious, severe, grave, bad, गंभीर

19. **Seek** (verb) – ask for, request, solicit, call on, appeal for मांगना

20. **Furtherance** (noun) – The advancement of a plan or interest. आगे बढ़ाने में

21. **Accountable** (for) (adjective) – responsible, liable, answerable, chargeable उत्तरदायी, जवाबदाय

22. **Instance** (noun) – example, occasion, occurrence, case, घटना
23. **Disingenuous** (adjective) – dishonest, deceitful, underhand कपटी

24. **Key** (adjective) – crucial, central, essential मुख्य

25. **By all accounts** (phrase) – reputedly, supposedly, according to popular belief सब लोगों की राय में, प्रसिद्धिदृष्टि से

26. **Aggravate** (verb) – worsen, make worse, exacerbate बदतर करना

27. **Unbecoming** (adjective) – unsuitable, unsuited, ill-suited अनुपयुक्त, नामुमकिन

28. **Unleash** (verb) – To let happen or begin something powerful that, once begun, cannot be controlled.

29. **Rule out** (phrasal verb) – reject, dismiss, disregard खारिज करना

30. **All along** (phrase) – All the time; from the beginning. प्रारंभ से

31. **Though** (conjunction) – although, even if, even though, हालाँकि

32. **Limit** (to) (verb) – restrict, curb, check, place a limit on; Set or serve as a limit to. सीमित करना

33. **Adventurism** (noun) – The willingness to take risks in business or politics (especially in the context of foreign policy); actions, tactics, or attitudes regarded as daring or reckless. दृढ़साहस

34. **Turn out** (phrasal verb) – transpire, prove to be the case, emerge प्रकट हो जाना, होना

35. **Deal with** (phrasal verb) – cope with, handle, manage, tackle निपटना, सुलझाना

36. **Due** (adjective) – Expected at or planned for at a certain time

37. **Ruffle feathers** (phrase) – annoy, irritate, irk, vex, nettle, सताना, ठुँक पहुँचाना

38. **Unmistakable** (adjective) – distinctive, distinct, telltale, well defined साफ़, स्पष्ट

39. **Calculation** (noun) – assessment, judgement गणना

40. **Combative** (adjective) – aggressive, antagonistic, quarrelsome, argumentative लड़क़ू, जंगी

41. **Stance** (noun) – attitude, stand, point of view रैया

42. **Pay a price** (phrase) – To experience/suffer the bad result of something you have done.

43. **(Put) on the back foot** (phrase) – In a worse situation than other people. बदतर स्थिति में

44. **Fairness** (noun) – Impartial and just treatment or behavior without favoritism or discrimination. आधिक्य

45. **Stay on** (phrasal verb) – Remain, Continue to do something बना रहना
Practice Exercise

Direction (Q1 – Q3): Select the best express synonym of the given word

1. Conspiracy
   A. Obsequious
   B. Intrigue
   C. Cosmopolitan
   D. Exasperate

2. Untenable
   A. Censure
   B. Sensory
   C. Indefensible
   D. Derogatory

3. Combative
   A. Repudiate
   B. Aggressive
   C. Precipitous
   D. Vacillate

4. What is the antonym of the 'Aggravate'?
   A. Avarice
   B. Alleviate
   C. Allocate
   D. Cognitive

5. Idiom and phrase: Ruffle someone’s feathers
   A. An achievement to be proud of.
   B. Cause someone to become annoyed or upset.
   C. Make money illicitly and at someone else's expense.
   D. Extremely light and insubstantial.

6. Para jumbled based on Editorial: Junior council
   P. No member of the previous Council of Ministers has found a place in the reconstituted Ministry led by Chief Minister Bhupendra Patel in Gujarat.
   Q. Only three members have any previous ministerial experience.
   R. Ten are cabinet rank Ministers, five are MoS with independent charge and nine are MoS.
   S. Of the 25-member council of the BJP, nine members including the Chief Minister are first time legislators.

   A. SQRP       B. RSQP
   C. QSRP       D. PSQR
Cloze test based on Editorial: A welcome decision

In a welcome move to ..........7.............the huge vaccine inequity globally, India will, from October, .........8............exporting much needed COVID-19 vaccines. The decision comes after the Government severely restricted vaccine exports in March and stopped them in mid-April. The renewed export drive, known as Vaccine Maitri, will first prioritise the global vaccine-sharing platform, COVAX, and ..........9.............countries. Just four days after the vaccination programme ..........10.............off in India on January 16, India shipped the first batch of vaccines to Bhutan and the Maldives as a part of its vaccine diplomacy.

7. A. succumb  B. pervade  C. lampoon  D. address
8. A. permeate  B. distend  C. resume  D. infer
9. A. neighbouring  B. amorphous  C. profound  D. prosaic
10. A. called  B. paid  C. written  D. kicked
Answer

Explanations
6. No member of the previous Council of Ministers has found a place in the reconstituted Ministry led by Chief Minister Bhupendra Patel in Gujarat. Of the 25-member council of the BJP, nine members including the Chief Minister are first time legislators. Only three members have any previous ministerial experience. Ten are cabinet rank Ministers, five are MoS with independent charge and nine are MoS.

7. Address (verb) – tackle, deal with हल करने का प्रयास करना, निपटना
8. Resume (verb) – restart, start again फिर से शुरू करें
9. Neighboring (adjective) – adjacent पडोसी
10. Kick off (phrasal verb) – start, begin, launch शुरू करना
   • Call off (phrasal verb) – Cancel an event or agreement. रद्द करना
   • Pay off (phrasal verb) – yield good results; succeed.
   • Write off (phrasal verb) – Dismiss someone or something as insignificant. खारिज करना

Explanation of other important words

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<tr>
<th>Sr.NO</th>
<th>Words</th>
<th>Meanings</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Q1</td>
<td>Obsequious</td>
<td>adjective Fawning; subservient; sucking up to चापलूस, गुजामाणा</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Cosmopolitan</td>
<td>adjective At home in many places or situations; internationally sophisticated सर्वदेशीय, सार्वभौमिक</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Exasperate</td>
<td>verb To annoy thoroughly; to make very angry; to try the patience of गुस्से में लाना, चिढ़ाना, खिजलाना</td>
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<td>Q2</td>
<td>Censure</td>
<td>verb To condemn severely for being something bad निद्दा</td>
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<td>Sensory</td>
<td>adjective Having to do with the sense of sensation ग्रहणशील</td>
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<td>Derogatory</td>
<td>adjective Disapproving; Degrading अपमानजनक</td>
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<td>Q3</td>
<td>Repudiate</td>
<td>verb To reject; to renounce to disown to have nothing to do with परित्याग करना</td>
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<td>Precipitous</td>
<td>adjective Steep तेज</td>
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<td>Vacillate</td>
<td>verb to be indecisive; to waver डगमगाना, हिचकना</td>
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<td>Q4</td>
<td>Avarice</td>
<td>noun Greed; excessive love of riches लोभ, तालच</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Allocate</td>
<td>verb To distribute; to assign; to allot बांटना, ठहराना</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Cognitive</td>
<td>adjective Dealing with how we know the world around us through our sense; mental संज्ञानात्मक</td>
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<td>Q7</td>
<td>Succumb</td>
<td>verb To yield or submit; to die मर जाना</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Pervade</td>
<td>verb To spread throughout ट्याप्त होना</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Lampoon</td>
<td>verb To satirize; to mock; to parody ट्याप्त करना</td>
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<tr>
<td>Q8</td>
<td>Permeate</td>
<td>verb</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Distend</td>
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<td>Infer</td>
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<td>Q9</td>
<td>Amorphous</td>
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