Keep up the pressure: On the conviction of a Mumbai attacks handler in Pakistan

India must seek the extradition of Sajid Mir for his role in the Mumbai attacks

Reports in Pakistan’s newspapers, that a Pakistani court has convicted Sajid Majeed Mir, one of the men who planned the Mumbai 26/11 attacks, on terror financing charges, are welcome proof that the search for each of the masterminds must never be given up on. In the case of Mir, Pakistan’s security agencies had gone so far as to falsely declare him “dead”. He was reportedly sentenced to more than 15 years in jail and is serving his term in a Lahore jail. Mir, the LeT’s former deputy chief of “international operations”, has been wanted for his role in recruitment for the 26/11 attacks, being the handler for David Headley, who carried out the reconnaissance for the LeT during several visits to India, and for being in the Karachi “control room” during the Mumbai siege. Headley named Mir in his deposition to a U.S. court, after he was given a “plea bargain” by the U.S. government, as well as in depositions via video link for the 26/11 trial in India. Mir is also wanted for LeT conspiracies to attack a Danish newspaper accused of publishing blasphemous cartoons and bomb a nuclear installation in Australia. He was also convicted by a French court for recruiting LeT operatives, and is believed to have also recruited terror-volunteers in the “Virginia Paintball Jihad” case in the U.S. The timing of Mir’s conviction appears to be linked to the final stages of Pakistan’s grey listing at the FATF this June, that voted to allow on-site visits in Pakistan with a view to de-listing it in the next few months. While Mir is not actually on the UN Security Council’s 1267 list of terror-designated individuals that the FATF is mandated to pursue, the West has frequently brought his name up at FATF proceedings in demanding that Pakistan successfully convict leaders of terrorist groups.

If Mir is in fact behind bars, New Delhi must move quickly to demand his extradition to stand for trial in India. Admittedly, this is a virtually impossible task, given the poor state of bilateral ties. New Delhi must also rectify the error in not pursuing Mir’s addition to the UNSC list thus far, and launch a concerted international effort for Mir to be prosecuted for the number of terror attacks he has been involved in — not just for terror financing. As with Hafiz Saeed, Zaki-ur-Rahman Lakhvi and other LeT members, it is necessary to keep the spotlight on Mir, given the predilection of Pakistan’s legal authorities for reversing convictions and reducing the sentencing of terrorists once the heat from international agencies reduces. This will be particularly important, especially as Pakistan is expected to receive a full reprieve at the FATF in October, and it must be made clear that the Government will continue to pursue the legal process against each of the men behind the Mumbai attacks, until they are brought to justice.

[Practice Exercise]

- State (noun) – Condition, situation स्थिति
- Red/blue coloring of words in the sentence indicates subject verb relationship; where ‘red’ denotes ‘subject’ and ‘blue’ denotes ‘verb’
## Vocabulary

1. **Keep up** (phrasal verb) – continue, persist with, persevere with, maintain बनाए रखना

2. **Conviction** (noun) – declaration of guilt, sentence, judgement दोषसिद्धि

3. **Handler** (noun) – undercover agent, enemy agent संचालक

4. **Seek** (verb) – Ask, call for, solicit on मांगना

5. **Extradition** (noun) – deportation, handover, repatriation, refoulement, expulsion अपराधी का प्रत्यर्पण

6. **Convict** (verb) – declare guilty, find guilty, pronounce guilty दोषी ठहराना

7. **Charge** (noun) – accusation, allegation, indictment आरोप

8. **Mastermind** (noun) – planner, organizer

9. **Give up on** (phrasal verb) – Stop having faith or belief in someone or something. छोड़ देना

10. **So far as** (phrase) – To the extent that. यहां तक कि

11. **Reportedly** (adverb) – supposedly, seemingly, apparently, allegedly कथित तौर पर

12. **Sentence** (verb) – pronounce sentence on, mete out punishment to, punish, convict मुजर्रम ठहराना

13. **Serve** (verb) – spend, go through बिताना

14. **Term** (noun) – period of time, time, length of time, spell अवधि, काल

15. **Carry out** (phrasal verb) – Perform a task. कार्यानिवित करना

16. **Reconnaissance** (noun) – preliminary survey, survey, exploration, observation, investigation पूर्व-परीक्षण

17. **Siege** (noun) – blockade, beleaguerment, encirclement घेराबंदी

18. **Deposition** (noun) – statement, sworn statement, affidavit, attestation बयान

19. **Plea bargain** (noun) – An arrangement between prosecutor and defendant whereby the defendant pleads guilty to a lesser charge in exchange for a more lenient sentence or an agreement to drop other charges.

20. **Trial** (noun) – court case, case, lawsuit, suit, hearing मुकदमा

21. **Conspiracy** (noun) – plot, scheme, stratagem, plan, machination साजिश

22. **Blasphemous** (adjective) – irreligious, irreverent, impious, ungodly, godless तिरस्कारी
23. **Operative** (noun) – agent, secret agent, undercover agent, spy गुर्गें

24. **Volunteer** (noun) – A person who freely offers to take part in an enterprise or undertake a task. स्वयंसेवी

25. **Paintball** (noun) – A game in which participants simulate military combat using air guns to shoot capsules of paint at each other.

26. **Grey listing** (noun) – FATF has placed a country under increased monitoring to check its progress on measures against money laundering and terrorism financing.

27. **FATF** (noun) – The Financial Action Task Force (FATF) is the global money laundering and terrorist financing watchdog.

28. **On-site** (adjective) – Taking place or situated at a particular place or site.

29. **With a view to** (phrase) – with the hope, aim, or intention of. के विचार से

30. **De-list** (verb) – to remove from the list सूची से निकाल देना

31. **Designated** (adjective) – chosen, selected, deputed, delegated निदिष्ट

32. **Mandate** (verb) – Require (something) to be done; make mandatory.

33. **Pursue** (verb) – engage in, follow, prosecute, conduct

34. **The West** (noun) – It include U.S and other European countries.

35. **Bring up** (phrasal verb) – suggest, propose, advance, moot, put forward, bring forward उठाना

36. **Proceeding** (noun) – course of action, action, step, measure, move कार्यवाही

37. **Behind bar** (phrase) – In prison. सलाखों के पीछे

38. **Stand trial** (phrase) – To be brought before a judge for a crime or misdeed

39. **Admittedly** (adverb) – definitely, undoubtedly, without a doubt निश्चय ही; निर्मसन्देह

40. **Virtually** (adverb) – in effect, effectively, all but, more or less, practically वास्तव में

41. **Given** (preposition) – considering, taking into consideration, taking into account देखते हुए

42. **Ties** (noun) – connection, link, liaison, attachment, association संबंध

43. **Thus far** (phrase) – so far, until now, until then, up until now अब तक

44. **Concerted** (adjective) – strenuous, vigorous; collective, combined, ठीस
45. **Prosecute** (verb) – take to court, bring legal proceedings against, पर मुकदमा चलाना

46. **As with** (phrase) – the same thing applies to के साथ भी

47. **Keep the spotlight on** (phrase) – To focus on or bring attention to someone or something. पर ध्यान देना

48. **Predilection** (noun) – liking, fondness, preference, partiality झुकाव

49. **Authorities** (noun) – officials, officialdom, the people in charge प्राधिकारी

50. **Reverse** (verb) – withdraw, repeal, cancel, rescind, annul, nullify उलटना

51. **Heat** (noun) – Passion, fervor, ardor, intensity, excitement गर्मी

52. **Reprieve** (noun) – cancellation of punishment, postponement of punishment, remission, दण्डवराम

53. **Make clear** (phrase) – explain, elucidate, spell out, clarify स्पष्ट करना

54. **Bring to justice** (phrase) – Arrest someone for a crime and ensure that they are tried/suited in court.

---

**Click here to download all such PDFs**
Practice Exercise

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

1. Mir is also wanted for LeT conspiracies to attack a Danish newspaper accused of publishing **blasphemous** cartoons and bomb a nuclear installation in Australia
   A. Sardonic
   B. Decimate
   C. Profane
   D. Innate

2. India must seek the **extradition** of Sajid Mir for his role in the Mumbai attacks
   A. Capitalism
   B. Repatriation
   C. Sacrosanct
   D. Aberration

3. New Delhi must also rectify the error in not pursuing Mir’s addition to the UNSC list thus far, and launch a **concerted** international effort for Mir to be prosecuted for the number of terror attacks he has been involved in — not just for terror financing.
   A. Serendipity
   B. Burgeon
   C. Aristocratic
   D. Strenuous

**Direction (Q4 – Q5): select the appropriate antonym of the given words**

4. **REPRIEVE**
   A. Alloy
   B. Conviction
   C. Capitalism
   D. Maverick

5. **PREDILECTION**
   A. Acquiesce
   B. Labyrinth
   C. Confluence
   D. Aversion

**Direction (Q6 – Q10): Read the given sentences to find out whether there is any grammatical error in them**

6. A. There has been a fall from the profits of our company recently.
   B. There was a huge crowd in front of the actor's house on his birthday.
   C. Reena came early on Lambda Monday because she had to plan out the team's schedule for the whole week.
   D. Rupali wanted to get a clear picture about the incident so she spoke to the victims.
   E. All are correct

7. A. They were very disciplined and quiet when the new teacher entered the classroom.
   B. He has refused not to take the promotion although he is eligible.
C. The door was open but no one was there at home last night.
D. Both A & B are incorrect
E. All are correct

8. **Fill in the blank with the most appropriate idiom.**
   In Colombia, where a decades-long civil war between the state and the Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia (FARC) had had a devastating impact on the public psyche, even mainstream leftist politicians had struggled to win popular support. But FARC’s decision to ________________ and join the political mainstream as part of the 2016 peace agreement widened the scope for leftist politics in the country
   A. Lay down arms
   B. Steal a march on
   C. Serve the purpose
   D. Cause for alarm

9. **Fill in the blank with the most appropriate Phrasal verb**
   Even when a wave of leftist victories was sweeping across South America in the early 2000s, it remained a fort of centrist and conservative politics. But Mr. Petro, armed with his promises of overhauling the country’s economy and governance, ________________ this fort and captured power.
   A. Came across
   B. Pointed out
   C. Broke into
   D. Turned out

10. **Find out the misspelt word**
    A. Plagiarize
    B. Pronounciation
    C. Personnel
    D. Perceive

11. **Direction:** Six statements are given below, which are jumbled in any random order. These statements will form a coherent and meaningful paragraph, when arranged in the correct sequence. Arrange the sentences in the right order and answer the questions that follow.
    All non-officer appointments to the three wings of the Indian armed forces will be through the Agnipath (literally, the path of fire), the Centre announced on June 14.
    (Playing with fire – The Hindu: 20 June, 2022)
    P. Almost on cue, a section of experts has jumped in praising the move as transformative for the country’s defence.
    Q. The Government has enumerated its reasons for the move that fundamentally disrupts not only the process of recruitment but also the character of the soldier.
    R. Youth aspiring to join the forces are on the streets in protest in several States, and are even turning violent in many places.
S. With no recruitment in the last two years due to COVID-19, these youngsters were already frustrated.
T. With modest education and skills, they fear the new process stalls an accessible escape route from poverty.
U. But many in the defence community and also political observers have not shied away from expressing their reservations and shock.

Which among the following will be the Fourth sentence of the paragraph after the rearrangement?

A. P  B. T  C. U  D. Q  E. R


The Government claims the new scheme will help build a younger, fitter defence force, with personnel more trainable in the changing technological environment. It says it will also _______12_______ military discipline, _______13_______ and skilling as a value addition, improving the prospects for those who return to civil society. To start with, there will be no permanent recruitment in the armed forces for the next four years. Critics who include many fellow travellers of the ruling BJP have raised concerns such as potential damage to operational preparedness given the crises on the borders, with personnel hired for the short term, trained in a rush and lacking the _______14_______ that professional forces possess. If a soldier’s job is now turned into a contractual employment, it might not motivate aspirants who hope for job security, pension and honour. The argument that defence should not be treated as an employment guarantee scheme is _______15_______ impressive, but the fact is that from the manufacturing of arms to the employment of soldiers, the sector plays a critical role in the economy.

12. A. Insatiable  B. Inculcate  C. Sacrilege  D. Disdain

13. A. Belying  B. Proletariats  C. Sacrosanct  D. Ethos

14. A. Camaraderie  B. Inexorable  C. Arduous  D. Attrition

15. A. Supercilious  B. Epitome  C. Rhetorically  D. Ruminant
Answers


Explanations

6. ‘from’ के बदले ‘in’ का प्रयोग होगा क्योंकि ‘fall from something’ का अर्थ है ‘किसी चीज से गिरना’ जबकि ‘fall in something’ का अर्थ है ‘किसी चीज में गिरावट होना’; जैसे-
   i. His fall from the running train caused his death.
   ii. There is no scope of fall in the profits of this company.

7. ‘not’ का प्रयोग अनावश्यक है क्योंकि ‘refuse, deny, forbid, prohibit, prevent’ कुछ ऐसी क्रियाएँ हैं जिनमें ‘not’(न) का भाव मौजूद होता है और इसलिए इनके साथ या बाद में ‘not’ का प्रयोग नहीं होता है; जैसे-
   i. He forbade me to go there.

8. Lay down one’s arms (phrase) – Cease/stop fighting.
   Steal a march on (phrase) – Gain an advantage over (someone) by acting before they do.
   Serve the purpose (phrase) – to have a particular use
   Cause for alarm (phrase) – A reason to be worried or concerned about something

9. Break into (phrasal verb) – To enter some place forcibly
   Come across (phrasal verb) – seem, appear, look; be clear, be understood
   Point out (phrasal verb) – indicate, call attention to, draw attention to, direct attention to
   Turn out (phrasal verb) – transpire, prove to be the case, emerge

10. Pronunciation (noun) – The way in which a word is pronounced.

11. QPURST
    All non-officer appointments to the three wings of the Indian armed forces will be through the Agnipath (literally, the path of fire), the Centre announced on June 14. The Government has
enumerated its reasons for the move that fundamentally disrupts not only the process of recruitment but also the character of the soldier. Almost on cue, a section of experts has jumped in praising the move as transformative for the country’s defence. But many in the defence community and also political observers have not shied away from expressing their reservations and shock. Youth aspiring to join the forces are on the streets in protest in several States, and are even turning violent in many places. With no recruitment in the last two years due to COVID-19, these youngsters were already frustrated. With modest education and skills, they fear the new process stalls an accessible escape route from poverty.

12. **Inculcate** (verb) – instil, implant, fix, ingrain, infuse, डालना
13. **Ethos** (noun) – moral code, attitudes, beliefs, principles, standard
14. **Camaraderie** (noun) – closeness, affinity, togetherness, solidarity, mutual support सौहार्द, मेल-मिलाप
15. **Rhetorically** (adverb) – in a way that relates to using language effectively आलंकारितापूर्वक
### Explanation of other important words

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sr.NO</th>
<th>Words</th>
<th>Meanings</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Q1</td>
<td>Sardonic</td>
<td>adjective: Mocking; scornful</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Decimate</td>
<td>verb: To kill or destroy a large part of</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Innate</td>
<td>adjective: Existing since birth; inborn; inherent</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Q2</td>
<td>Capitalism</td>
<td>noun: Free enterprise; an economic system in which business are owned by private citizen</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Sacrosanct</td>
<td>adjective: Sacred; held to be inviolable</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Aberration</td>
<td>noun: Something not typical; a deviation from the standard</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Q3</td>
<td>Serendipity</td>
<td>noun: Accidental good fortune; discovering good thing without looking for them</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Burgeon</td>
<td>verb: To expand; to flourish</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Aristocratic</td>
<td>adjective: Of noble birth; snobbish</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Q4</td>
<td>Alloy</td>
<td>noun: A combination of two or more things, usually metals</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Capitalism</td>
<td>noun: Free enterprise; an economic system in which business are owned by private citizen</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Maverick</td>
<td>noun: A nonconformist; a rebel</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Q5</td>
<td>Acquiesce</td>
<td>verb: To comply passively; to accept; to assent; to agree</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Labyrinth</td>
<td>noun: A maze; something like a maze.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Confluence</td>
<td>noun: Flowing together, especially of rivers; the place where they begin to flow together.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Q12</td>
<td>Insatiable</td>
<td>adjective: Hard or impossible to satisfy; greedy; avaricious</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Sacrilege</td>
<td>noun: A violation of something sacred; blasphemy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Disdain</td>
<td>noun: Arrogant scorn; contempt</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Join us on Telegram channel: **English Madhyam**, Email Id: Support@englishmadhyam.in  
Website: [www.englishmadhyam.in](http://www.englishmadhyam.in), Phone number: 7722987077
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Q13</th>
<th><strong>Belie</strong></th>
<th>verb</th>
<th>To give a false impression of; to contradict</th>
<th>झूठलाना</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>Proletariat</strong></td>
<td>noun</td>
<td>The industrial working class</td>
<td>सर्वहारा</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>Sacrosanct</strong></td>
<td>adjective</td>
<td>Sacred; held to be inviolable</td>
<td>पवित्र</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Q14</td>
<td><strong>Inexorable</strong></td>
<td>adjective</td>
<td>Relentless; inevitable; unavoidable</td>
<td>निषुर</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>Arduous</strong></td>
<td>adjective</td>
<td>Hard; Difficult</td>
<td>कठिन</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>Attrition</strong></td>
<td>noun</td>
<td>Gradual wearing away, weakening or loss; a natural or expected decrease in number or size.</td>
<td>संघर्षण</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Q15</td>
<td><strong>Supercilious</strong></td>
<td>adjective</td>
<td>Haughty; patronizing</td>
<td>घमंडी, अधीन होना</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>Epitome</strong></td>
<td>noun</td>
<td>A brief summary that captures the meaning of the whole; the perfect example of something; a paradigm.</td>
<td>प्रतिमान</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>Ruminate</strong></td>
<td>verb</td>
<td>To contemplate; to ponder; to mull over</td>
<td>मनन करना; विचार करना</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Click here to download all such PDFs**