



THE HINDU

EDITORIAL ANALYSIS

&

VOCABULARY

- **IMPORTANT NEWS**
- **READING**
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**08
AM**

17 February





Brave new world: On the India-European Free Trade

Association agreement and IPR

India must invest in fundamental research to be able to develop reliable drugs

Scuttling opposition: On Income-Tax department action

against the Congress

Income-Tax department's freezing of Congress accounts seems political



VOCABULARY



INVEIGLE

Part of Speech: **Verb**

Meaning: **To persuade or manipulate someone through flattery or deception, often to gain something**

Synonym: **coax, wheedle, cajole, entice**

Antonym: **discourage, dissuade, deter**

Sentence: **The salesman tried to inveigle me into buying the more expensive product by praising its superior qualities, but I remained skeptical and stuck with my original choice.**



PARADIGM

Part of Speech: **Noun**

Meaning: **A typical example or pattern of something; a model or framework that serves as a standard**

Synonym: **exemplar, model, pattern**

Antonym: **anomaly, exception**

Sentence: **The discovery of DNA's double helix structure was a paradigm shift in the field of genetics, revolutionizing our understanding of heredity and molecular biology.**



INCUBATE

Part of Speech: Verb

Meaning: To maintain conditions suitable for growth or development, often used in the context of hatching or fostering the development of ideas, projects.

Synonym: hatch, cultivate, foster, nurture

Antonym: neglect, abandon, hinder

Sentence: The startup decided to incubate their new product idea, providing resources and support to foster its development into a viable product for the market.



SCUTTLE

Part of Speech: **Verb**

Meaning: **To run or move hurriedly with short, quick steps**

Synonym: **scurry, scamper, rush**

Antonym: **stroll, saunter, amble**

Sentence: **As soon as the lights turned on, the cockroach scuttled across the kitchen floor, seeking cover in the dark corners.**



STALLED

Part of Speech: Verb (past tense)

Meaning: To come to a halt or standstill, often unexpectedly or temporarily; to cease making progress or advancing

Synonym: halted, delayed, stuck, impeded

Antonym: progressed, advanced, accelerated

Sentence: The construction project stalled due to a lack of funding, leaving the site deserted and incomplete for months.



BRAZEN

Part of Speech: **Adjective**

Meaning: **Bold and without shame**

Synonym: **shameless, audacious, impudent, daring**

Antonym: **timid, meek, modest, bashful, reserved**

Sentence: **The thief had the brazen audacity to steal the painting in broad daylight, right under the noses of the museum staff.**



ENCOMIUM

Part of Speech: **Noun**

Meaning: **expression of high praise or tribute, often presented in a public speech or written composition**

Synonym: **accolade, tribute, praise, commendation**

Antonym: **criticism, condemnation, censure**

Sentence: **The professor received an encomium from his colleagues for his groundbreaking research in the field of quantum mechanics.**



GALVANISE

Part of Speech: **Verb**

Meaning: **To shock or excite someone into taking action; to stimulate or motivate someone to do something**

Synonym: **inspire, stimulate, energize, spur**

Antonym: **discourage, demotivate, deter**

Sentence: **The impassioned speech by the activist galvanized the crowd to take action against climate change, sparking a wave of protests and environmental initiatives.**



UNDERPIN

Part of Speech: **Verb**

Meaning: **To support, strengthen, or provide a foundation for something, typically a structure or an idea**

Synonym: **bolster, reinforce, support, buttress, strengthen**

Antonym: **weaken, undermine, sabotage**

Sentence: **Clear evidence and logical reasoning underpin the scientific theory, providing a solid foundation for further research and investigation.**



OSTENSIBLE

Part of Speech: Adjective

Meaning: Stated or appearing to be true, but not necessarily so; seeming or outwardly evident

Synonym: apparent, seeming, outward, superficial,

Antonym: genuine, real, authentic, actual, sincere

Sentence: His ostensible reason for missing the meeting was a sudden illness, but many suspected he simply forgot about it.



BAROQUE

Part of Speech: **Adjective**

Meaning: **Relating to the style of European art, music, and architecture of the 17th and 18th centuries, marked by ornate detail, elaborate ornamentation, and dramatic effects.**

Synonym: **ornate, embellished, flamboyant**

Antonym: **simple, minimalist, plain, unadorned**

Sentence: **The baroque cathedral was a masterpiece of intricate design, with its ornate sculptures, elaborate frescoes, and majestic domes.**



BODE ILL (Verb phrase)

Meaning: To indicate or foreshadow something bad or unfavorable; to suggest that there will be negative consequences or outcomes.

Synonym: forebode, portend, augur, presage

Antonym: bode well, augur well, promise good

Sentence: The dark clouds gathering on the horizon bode ill for our picnic plans, suggesting that a storm is imminent.



A BONE OF CONTENTION

Meaning: A subject or issue over which there is persistent disagreement or conflict; a point of contention or dispute that causes friction or tension.

Synonym: point of disagreement, source of conflict, contentious issue

Sentence: The distribution of chores in the household has become a bone of contention between the roommates, leading to frequent arguments and resentment.

ARTICLE ANALYSIS

THE HINDU EDITORIAL



TODAY'S EDITORIAL TOPIC

Brave new world: On the India-European Free Trade Association agreement and IPR

India must invest in fundamental research to be able to develop reliable drugs



Expectations are high that a free trade agreement involving India and the European Free Trade Association (EFTA) is close to fruition. However, a bone of contention relates to intellectual property rights, and has persisted as an issue since 2008. Switzerland and Norway, which are prominent members of EFTA, host several of the pharmaceutical and biotechnology companies that are responsible for several of the drugs and therapeutics that underpin health care globally. The nature of the pharma industry — it costs much to discover a useful effective drug and relatively little to make generic copies of it — with demand that is far disproportionate to affordability, means that there is a constant tussle between the inventors and the generic-drug companies.



Patenting, or an exclusive monopoly for a fixed number of years to originators and a reciprocal right by governments to issue directions for ‘compulsory licensing,’ thereby selectively breaking such monopolies in the interest of public health, has brokered the peace and sustained the global pharma industry for decades. But new legal innovations such as data exclusivity continue to inveigle themselves in free trade negotiations. Under this provision, all the clinical-trial data that concerns the safety and efficacy of a drug generated by the originator firm becomes proprietary and out of bounds for a minimum period of six years. Permission to make a generic is possible if a country’s regulator can rely on supplied clinical trial data to approve a drug. For this, generic makers usually rely on the originator’s published data.



The principle of data exclusivity is present among European countries as well as in agreements involving many developing countries. Were it to take effect in India, it could significantly hinder India's drug industry which is also a major exporter of affordable drugs. Indian officials have rejected data exclusivity as a point of negotiations in the FTA, though leaked drafts of the agreement suggest that it is alive. However, India's rise up the drug manufacturing chain in the last few decades means that it must invest in an ecosystem that can conduct ethical drug trials and make new molecules and therapeutics from scratch.



The paradigm that drug development will always be expensive and confined to the West need not be permanent, as was seen in the development of several novel technology approaches to developing vaccines in India during the COVID-19 pandemic. But as preparation, India must invest substantially more in fundamental research to incubate the local drug industry into the future.



TOPE OF THE PASSAGE

1. **INFORMATIVE**
2. **ANALYTICAL**
3. **SKEPTICAL**
4. **NEUTRAL**
5. **CRITICAL**



**THANK
YOU**