

Decoding The Hindu Article

Belated pivot

Without curbing inflation, the RBI will not be able to promote sustainable growth

The Reserve Bank of India's Monetary Policy Committee has rather belatedly acknowledged that its primary remit is, after all, to ensure price stability. Addressing the media on Friday after announcing the MPC's first monetary policy review of the new fiscal year, RBI Governor Shaktikanta Das was emphatic in stating that "in the sequence of priorities, we have now put inflation before growth". More than three years after it prioritised growth over price stability – in February 2019, and well before the onset of the COVID-19 pandemic – the RBI has pivoted back to putting the horse before the cart, best reflected in the central bank's own words on monetary policy goals: "Price stability is a necessary precondition to sustainable growth". That it has taken the outbreak of war in Europe, with its accompanying commodity price shocks to remind the RBI of the imperative centrality of price stability is a salutary reminder that monetary policymakers can ill afford to be complacent when it comes to inflation. Less than two months after it rather sanguinely projected inflation to average 4.5% in the fiscal year to March 2023, the MPC has raised the forecast by a substantial 120 basis points to 5.7%. And this even as it cut its earlier projection for real GDP growth in the current fiscal by 60 basis points to 7.2%. The RBI also made it clear that while it had left benchmark interest rates and its accommodative policy stance unchanged for now, the time had come to commence the "withdrawal of accommodation".

Vocabulary

Word	English Meaning	Hindi Meaning
Remit	(Verb): cancel or refrain from exacting or inflicting (a debt or punishment).	प्रेषण करना
Sanguinely	(Adverb): optimistically cheerful and confident.	दृढ़ विश्वास के साथ

Static News

Shaktikanta Das is a retired 1980 batch Indian Administrative Service officer of Tamil Nadu cadre. Currently serving as the 25th governor of the Reserve Bank of India, he was earlier a member of the Fifteenth Finance Commission and India's Sherpa to the G20.

The Monetary Policy Committee is responsible for fixing the benchmark interest rate in India. The meetings of the Monetary Policy Committee are held at least 4 times a year and it publishes its decisions after each such meeting

Grammar

An adverb of manner will explain how an action is carried out. Very often adverbs of manner are adjectives with -ly added to the end, but this is certainly not always the case. In fact, some adverbs of manner will have the same spelling as the adjective form.

They answer the question 'how is the action performed?'

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Decoding The Hindu Article

Line of command: guard's nod must to roll train

Amended rules say loco pilot should get clearance of guard, who must get stationmaster's go-ahead

S. VIJAY KUMAR
CHENNAI

The Railway Ministry has amended the General Rules making it mandatory for the loco pilot to get clearance of the guard before starting the train.

Though the signal in green is good to go, the loco pilot shall await clearance of the guard who will, in turn, rely on the stationmaster to give the go-ahead to start the train.

According to railway sources, the provisions under Clause '4.35' on Starting of Trains of the Indian Railways (Open Lines) General (First Amendment) Rules, 2022 was amended by a Gazette Notification recently. A loco pilot shall from now not start his train without the authority to proceed.

Before starting the train,



Green wave: The guard shall give the signal only when he is sure that no person is travelling in risky spaces. • FILE PHOTO

the loco pilot shall satisfy himself/herself that all correct fixed signals and, where necessary, hand signals are given and the line ahead is clear of visible obstructions and the guard had given the signal/confirmation on wireless communication to proceed.

The stationmaster, after

ensuring that activities such as watering, loading/unloading and cleaning is completed, will give clearance to the guard to start the train.

"The guard shall not give the signal for starting unless he has satisfied himself that, except in accordance with special instructions, no person is travelling in any com-

partment or vehicle or roof of the vehicle not intended for the use of passengers," the amended rule said.

According to railway official, the roof of the compartment, footboard and coupling (that attach coaches) are some of the areas not meant for passengers to travel. The guard is empowered to seek assistance of the Government Railway Police/Railway Protection Force personnel to remove passengers travelling in such prohibited spaces.

Passengers travelling on footboard hanging out of coaches in suburban trains is still not an uncommon sight, the official said. The motorman/guard could seek the assistance of security personnel in removing such passengers in the larger interest of safety.

After the EMU accident at St. Thomas Mount, Chennai, in 2018 when five passengers travelling on the footboard were killed after hitting a wall infringing on track space, Southern Railway issued caution order slowing down the speed of suburban trains where such concrete structures were found to be infringing on track space, posing a threat to safety.

"Many such obstructions have been removed in the recent past but passengers continue to travel on the footboard during rush hours. The amended rules on starting trains empowers the guard to ensure safety of passengers. Travelling on roof of compartments has become a thing of the past after electrification," the official, who preferred not to be quoted, said.

Vocabulary

Word	English Meaning	Hindi Meaning
Gazette	(Noun): a journal or newspaper.	राज सूचना-पत्र
Infringing	(Verb): act so as to limit or undermine (something); encroach on.	उल्लंघन करने वाली

Static News

Ashwini Vaishnaw is an Indian politician and ex Indian Administrative Service officer currently serving as the Minister of Railways, Communications and Electronics & Information Technology in Government of India, since 8 July 2021. He is a member of the Bharatiya Janata Party

The Ministry of Railways is a ministry in the Government of India, responsible for the country's rail transport. The ministry operates the statutory body Indian Railways, an organisation that operates as a monopoly in rail transport and is headed by the Chairman and CEO of Railway Board.

Founded: 18 February 1905

Grammar

The positions of adverbs are not a fixed or set thing. As you have seen, adverbs can appear in different position in a sentence. However, there are some rules that help us decide where an adverb should be positioned. The rules will be different depending on whether the adverb is acting to modify an adjective or another adverb, a verb or what type of adverb it is.



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Decoding The Hindu Article

Ukraine braces for key battles on eastern front

Pope calls for Easter truce; Russia gets new war commander

AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE
ASSOCIATED PRESS
KRAMATORSK

Ukraine is preparing for "important battles" against Moscow's forces in the east of the country, officials in Kyiv said, as Pope Francis on Sunday called for an Easter truce to end the war.

Evacuations continued from Kramatorsk, in eastern Ukraine, where a missile strike on Friday killed 52 people at a railway station, while an airport in the central city of Dnipro was completely destroyed in fresh shelling on Sunday.

President Volodymyr Zelensky again condemned atrocities against civilians, and after speaking with German Chancellor Olaf Scholz said they agreed "that all perpetrators of war crimes must be identified and punished".

Ukraine's prosecutor general Iryna Venediktova said the country was examining the alleged culpability of 500 leading Russian officials, including President Vladimir Putin, for thou-



Nowhere to go: A woman inside what remains of her house, in Chernihiv. • REUTERS

sands of war crimes.

Pope Francis, meanwhile, called for an Easter ceasefire in Ukraine to pave the way for peace through "real negotiation". "Let the Easter truce begin. But not to provide more weapons and pick up the combat again – no! – a truce that will lead to peace, through real negotiation," he told a public mass at Saint Peter's Square.

Different appeal

But Russia's Orthodox Patriarch Kirill, a key ally of Mr. Putin, issued his own appeal against Russia's "enemies".

"In this difficult period for

our fatherland, may the Lord help each of us to unite, including around power," he said. "This is how true solidarity will emerge in our people, as well as an ability to push back external and internal enemies, and to build a life with more good, truth and love."

The appeals came after Mr. Zelensky said Kyiv was readying for a Russian onslaught. "Sadly, in parallel we see the preparations for important battles, some people say decisive ones, in the east," he said on Saturday. "We are ready to fight and to look in parallel to end this war through diplomacy."

A senior U.S. official said Russia has appointed a new commander to oversee its war on Ukraine.

The official, speaking on condition of anonymity, said Russia has turned to one of its most experienced military officers, **Gen. Alexander Dvornikov**. Officials say the 60-year-old General has a record of brutality against civilians in Syria and other theatres of war.

Vocabulary

Word	English Meaning	Hindi Meaning
CULPABILITY	(Noun): responsibility for a fault or wrong; blame.	अभियोज्यता

Static News

Pope Francis (born Jorge Mario Bergoglio, 17 December 1936) is the head of the Catholic Church and sovereign of the Vatican City State since 2013.

Aleksandr Vladimirovich Dvornikov (born 22 August 1961) is a Russian Ground Forces army general and a Hero of the Russian Federation.

Grammar

‘At present’ means ‘at the present time’, ‘presently’ means ‘soon’. These should not be confused.

❌ Incorrect- Nothing more can be done presently. Correct- Nothing more can be done at present.

❌ Incorrect- He will come back at present. Correct- He will come back presently.



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Decoding The Hindu Article

Flawless Leclerc scorches Albert Park circuit

Red Bull's Perez is second; Verstappen fails to finish

AUSTRALIAN GP

AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE
MELBOURNE

A flawless Charles Leclerc led from start to finish to steer his Ferrari to an action-packed win at the Australian Grand Prix on Sunday with World champion Max Verstappen failing to finish.

The World championship leader from Monaco started from pole, held his position at the first turn and never looked back, **scorching** round the 58-lap Albert Park circuit to take the chequered flag by a massive 20.5 seconds.

Hamilton fourth

Red Bull's Sergio Perez was second with George Russell an encouraging third for the struggling Mercedes and his seven-time World champion teammate Lewis Hamilton fourth.

The McLaren's of Lando Norris and Daniel Ricciardo were fifth and sixth.



On top down under: Leclerc led from start to finish to steer his Ferrari victory. • REUTERS

Alpine's Esteban Ocon came seventh ahead of Valtteri Bottas in an Alfa Romeo, with Pierre Gasly's Alpha-Tauri and Alex Albon's Williams rounding out the top 10.

But there was disaster for Red Bull's Verstappen, the winner two weeks ago in Saudi Arabia, who pulled over on lap 39 when second, saying on the team radio: "I smell some weird fluid."

He jumped out with smoke coming from the engine, grabbing a fire extinguisher to help marshals put out the flames.

It was his second retirement in three starts this season.

In contrast, Russell was **delighted with his podium place** after Mercedes' early-season struggles with porpoising – bouncing at high speed.

THE RESULTS

1. Charles Leclerc (Ferrari) 1hr 27min 46.548s, 26 pts; 2. Sergio Perez (Red Bull) at 20.524s, 18; 3. George Russell (Mercedes) at 25.593, 15; 4. Lewis Hamilton (Mercedes) 28.543, 12; 5. Lando Norris (McLaren) 53.303, 10; 6. Daniel Ricciardo (McLaren) 53.737, 8; 7. Esteban Ocon (Alpine) 1:01.683, 6; 8. Valtteri Bottas (Alfa Romeo) 1:08.439, 4; 9. Pierre Gasly (AlphaTauri) 1:16.221, 2; 10. Alexander Albon (Williams) 1:19.382, 1; 11. Zhou Guanyu (Alfa Romeo) 1:21.695; 12. Lance Stroll (Aston Martin) 1:28.598; 13. Mick Schumacher (Haas) 1 lap; 14. Kevin Magnussen (Haas) 1 lap; 15. Yuki Tsunoda (AlphaTauri) 1 lap; 16. Nicholas Latifi (Williams) 1 lap; 17. Fernando Alonso (Alpine) 1 lap.

Fastest lap: Leclerc (lap 58) 1:20.260s.

Not classified: Max Verstappen (Red Bull), Lap 39, mechanical failure; Sebastian Vettel (Aston Martin), Lap 24, spin into wall; Carlos Sainz (Ferrari), Lap 2, spin into gravel trap.

Penalties: Lance Stroll five-second time penalty, weaving on straight.

Vocabulary

Word	English Meaning	Hindi Meaning
Scorching	(Adjective): (of criticism) harsh; severe.	प्रखर

Static News

Charles Marc Hervé Perceval Leclerc is a Monégasque racing driver, currently racing in Formula One for Scuderia Ferrari. Leclerc won the GP3 Series championship in 2016 and the FIA Formula 2 Championship in 2017

The Australian Grand Prix is an annual motor racing event which is under contract to host Formula One until 2025. It is the second oldest surviving motor racing competition held in Australia, after the Alpine rally of East Gippsland

Red Bull is a brand of energy drinks sold by Austrian company Red Bull GmbH. With 38% market share, it is the most popular energy drink brand as of 2019. Since its launch in 1987, more than 82 billion cans of Red Bull have been sold worldwide, including 7.9 billion in 2020

Grammar

Optative sentences express a hope, prayer, or wish. Usually, there is an exclamation mark at the end of an optative sentence. For example:

- ☐ May you succeed on the test!
- ☐ May you get well soon!
- ☐ Would that I were rich!



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