

Daily Editorial Analysis From Newspaper 21 June 2021



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Cold peace: On first Biden-Putin summit in Geneva

The article talks about the Geneva Summit between the US and Russia that seems to lay grounds for mutual agreement on various disputes. Earlier the US had accused Russia of cyberattacks and criticised its interference in elections. On the same lines, Russia had shut hard on the interventionist foreign policy.

During the summit, the two nations have tried to strike optimism in the light of self-interest. They have come to terms with discussing arms control measures and sending their Ambassadors to the Embassies.

Yet, there are structural issues in the ties. Russia took NATO's expansion step and strategic retreat as a threat to its supremacy. In 2014 Crimea annexation renewed the tensions, and Russia was chucked out of G8. And the tensions continued.

Though all this cannot be resolved in a single summit, the nations can prevent the relations from worsening. Cyberattacks are a red line for the US, and Russia sees NATO's expansion as a threat. So, both nations have to help to address the critical concerns first. And both must not underestimate the worth and power of each other and align themselves on cooperative terms.

Words to look out for

Pragmatic:

- **Synonyms**: practical, realistic, sensible
- Antonyms: impractical, idealistic, naive
- **Word usage:** There were pragmatic inferences.

Dissent:

- Synonyms: protest, disagree, conflict
- **Antonyms**: agree, assent agreement
- **Word usage**: He did everything in his power to suppress political dissent.

Amass:

- Synonyms: accumulate, collect, gather
- **Antonyms**: disperse, divide, dissipate
- **Word usage**: It let her amass an army unlike any that had ever existed and showed her the key to victory.

 $Article\ Link:\ https://www.thehindu.com/opinion/editorial/cold-peace-the-hindu-editorial-on-first-biden-put insummit-in-geneva/article 34853428.ece$



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Make masking work: Govts should use market bodies, malls, retail associations to enforce mandatory mask-wearing

The article stresses wearing masks. The author mentions that States have begun unlocking and releasing the lockdown restrictions as the no. of cases have dipped now. And economically, there is a dire need for commercial activity to resume.

The evidence shows that covid-appropriate behaviour is being ignored by people when in malls or markets. It prompted the head of NTF on Covid to warn people of the next wave that may approach in 12-16 weeks.

The long term solution is vaccination, but the gap in demand and supply is quite huge. Given the situation, it would be impossible to get the whole population vaccinated before that. So, the only option is to follow the advice on masking.

Though masking is mandatory in India, strict enforcement is lacking. One must not rely on police forces for the implementation solely. The retailers can also own the responsibility of reminding the customers to have their masks up.

Another rule can be put in place that those malls and markets serving unmasked customers would be shut down permanently. It is crucial because the whole of India is not in a situation to risk another wave.

Words to look out for

Throng:

- **Synonyms**: crowd, swarm, flock
- **Antonyms**: few, empty, bit
- Word usage: A throng of officers surrounded him.

Far cry:

- **Synonyms**: discrepancy, difference, opposition
- **Antonyms**: accuracy, certainty, conformity
- **Word usage**: The apartment they live in now is a far cry from the huge mansion they once used to have.

Head off:

- **Synonyms**: avert, prevent, fend off
- Antonyms: do a favour, help, incline
- Word usage: The shell had blown his head off.

 $Article\ Link:\ https://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/blogs/toi-editorials/make-masking-work-govts-should-use-market-bodies-malls-retail-associations-to-enforce-mandatory-mask-wearing/$

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