

Daily Editorial Analysis

21 July 2021



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Show the way, house: Parliament session comes in the middle of a crisis. Govt, opposition must conduct themselves accordingly

With the Parliament coming back to session, the government is expected to sideline petty politics for consideration of serious matters like unemployment, rising fuel prices, covid-induced economic debacle, and healthcare strategies to deal with the raging pandemic.

With the recent shuffle in the cabinet as well as organizational changes in the opposition Congress, both parties seem to be keen on saving face when charged with criticisms. A keen eye is also being kept on regional parties recently voted to power like the DMK and TMC.

Nine pending bills are listed for consideration and passing, and 17 bills are listed for introduction, including the data protection bill.

But the legislative agenda is not heavy-duty, implying enough time to discuss everything from China to Afghanistan, state revenue shortfalls to adverse international arbitration awards, UAPA to sedition law, farm reforms to statehood for J&K. The GoI is expected to indulge in healthy debate to resolve the multifaceted crises the country has been burdened with.

Words to look out for

Joust:

- **Synonyms:** battle, compete, contend
- **Antonyms:** accord, harmony, peace
- **Word usage:** The joust was about the happen but a peace treaty, signed just before the war, sealed the deal.

Superficial:

- **Synonyms:** shallow, cursory, perfunctory
- **Antonyms:** deep, profound, thorough
- **Word usage:** The superficial layer was unable to protect the dome from extreme sunlight.

Edify:

- **Synonyms:** enlighten, educate, instruct
- **Antonyms:** discourage, fall, befuddle
- **Word usage:** The saint edified his disciples and purified their souls.

Article Link: <https://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/blogs/toi-editorials/show-the-way-house-parliament-session-comes-in-the-middle-of-a-crisis-govt-opposition-must-conduct-themselves-accordingly/>



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Leaving the past behind: On Afghanistan

Two events in Central Asia last week, a meeting in Dushanbe, of the Contact group on Afghanistan of SCO Foreign Ministers, and a Central and South Asia connectivity conference in Tashkent, which India attended, saw Afghanistan's neighbors seeking solutions to the conflict there.

The situation in Afghanistan is tense as the U.S. and NATO have completed their pullout from most of the key locations, and the Taliban are vying for a return to power, by force if necessary.

Afghanistan's neighboring countries have decried the violence in Afghanistan and along its borders with other countries. The Afghan Prime Minister has been asked to confront Pakistan about its failure to stop the cross-border terrorist influx.

On the brighter side, a regional consensus within Afghanistan and a stronger resistance will give the Taliban a reason to pause. Furthermore, the high-level intra-Afghan talks and the Taliban's Eid announcement that they will pursue a political solution "seriously" and to assure neighbors they will not allow Afghan territory to be "used against any other country" may be evidence that the message has been received.

Words to look out for

Salience:

- **Synonyms:** importance, prominence, projection
- **Antonyms:** trivial, small, inconsequential
- **Word usage:** The salience of masking can never be understated in times like these.

Decry:

- **Synonyms:** criticize, belittle, condemn
- **Antonyms:** applaud, laud, commend
- **Word usage:** The teacher decried the student for not completing the homework.

Regime:

- **Synonyms:** government, command, rule
- **Antonyms:** disorder, anarchy, bedlam
- **Word usage:** The monarch's regime was marked by brutal violence.

Article Link: <https://www.thehindu.com/opinion/editorial/leaving-the-past-behind-the-hindu-editorial-on-afghanistan/article35398324.ece>

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