

Daily Editorial Analysis

14 Aug 2021



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Free and open: On U.S Defence Secretary's visit to India

The article at hand considers the recent visit of the United States' secretary of defense Lloyd Austin to India as the author explores various topics discussed during the visit.

The author believes the arrival of the defence secretary was significant in many ways. Mr Austin's visit this early in US president Joe Biden's tenure emphasizes the importance of India in the US' bilateral plans.

It confirms that the US is keen on cooperating in the Indo-pacific sea region. Mr Austin's also visited Afghanistan to review American troops' pull-out of Afghanistan.

Consequently, there was a discussion on all the major focus areas: bilateral ties, the Indo-Pacific and Afghanistan. But while the US does not seem interested in India's concerns regarding Taliban and the situation in Afghanistan and Pakistan, the author believes India should be proactive in the matter.

There were even talks regarding the sanctions against the countries for procuring Russian Military equipment and India's situation with China as well.

Words to look out for

Discretion:

- **Synonyms:** decision, choice, judgment
- **Antonyms:** imprudence, indiscretion, naivety
- **Word usage:** Using the Decision Review System (DRS) is under the discretion of the teams playing.

Sentiment:

- **Synonyms:** emotion, feeling, passion
- **Antonyms:** insensitivity, unfeelingness, coldness
- **Word usage:** One should not hurt someone's sentiments.

Heed:

- **Synonyms:** attention, follow, notice
- **Antonyms:** disregard, neglect, disdain
- **Word usage:** No one pays heed to the chatterbox.

Article Link: <https://www.thehindu.com/opinion/editorial/free-and-open/article34135125.ece>



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Future ready? Gig economy promises new jobs. Technological evolution will also throw up surprises

The article at hand talks about the prospects of the gig economy in the tech-driven world of ours' as the author explores various facets of the issue.

The technological revolution has transformed the nature of work. And even though automation led to reduced workforce requirements in various production units, sectors such as e-commerce and food delivery have created substantial employment opportunities.

Although the quality of life associated with such jobs is still to be gauged, we must remember that this is not the first time job informalization is happening. And since technical developments are hard to predict, we need to create a socio-economic framework that supports these jobs.

Since it is futile to expect budding startups to treat gig workers as regular employees, the governments should improve their deliveries in crucial areas like education, health, etc.

Flexible work hours and a wide variety of work is a boon for many women workers, but it needs to be backed by our education and healthcare infrastructure.

Words to look out for

Impede:

- **Synonyms:** obstruct, hinder, block
- **Antonyms:** unclog, aid, assist
- **Word usage:** The huge door impeded the thieves from entering the building quickly.

Poignant:

- **Synonyms:** emotional, impactful, passionate
- **Antonyms:** cold, emotionless, detached
- **Word usage:** A poignant speech from a relative marked the funeral.

Efface:

- **Synonyms:** obliterate, eradicate, destroy
- **Antonyms:** preserve, fashion, forge
- **Word usage:** Global warming will efface the living habitat of people in coastal regions.

Article Link: <https://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/blogs/toi-editorials/future-ready-gig-economy-promises-new-jobs-technological-evolution-will-also-throw-up-surprises/>

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