

Important Vocab For the Editorial

1. **consent** (noun) – agreement, assent, permission.
2. **come under** (phrasal verb) – be subjected to.
3. **abiding** (adjective) – long-lasting, permanent, stable.
4. **utopian** (adjective) – idealistic, visionary, reforming/progressive.
5. **lean on** (phrasal verb) – depend, count, rely.
6. **copious** (adjective) – full, extensive/considerable, substantial.
7. **relentless** (adjective) – persistent, continuing, intense.
8. **grease with** (verb) – make slippery, make smooth, make oily.
9. **greed** (noun) – desire, appetite, hunger/yearning (for something, especially wealth, power, etc).
10. **ingestion** (noun) – the process of swallowing something (food/drink).
11. **inception** (noun) – establishment, foundation, formation.
12. **stringent** (adjective) – strict/stern, severe, tough/rigorous.
13. **fall in line** (phrase) – conform with, comply with, abide by.
14. **behemoth** (noun) – a large and powerful organization.
15. **aberration** (noun) – discrepancy, deviation/departure, mistake.
16. **pertain to** (verb) – concern, relate to, be connected with.
17. **whereabouts clause** (noun) – This World Anti-Doping Agency (WADA) clause requires players to give their whereabouts (location) details a month in advance for out of competition testing.
18. **credence** (noun) – acceptance, belief/truth, confidence.
19. **allegation** (noun) – charge, accusation, indictment.
20. **conflict of interest** (noun) – a situation in which a person cannot do his/her job fairly because he/she has the power to decide something in a way that would be to his/her advantage, although this may not be the best decision.
21. **come to a boil** (phrase) – to reach a crucial point.
22. **back-dated** (adjective) – retroactive, ex post facto, backward-looking.
23. **terbutaline** (noun) – an oral drug used to treat asthma.
24. **over the counter** (phrase) – relating to retail sale without prescription & license.
25. **bred** past & past participle of **breed** (verb) – cause, bring about, give rise to.
26. **scepticism** (noun) – doubt, mistrust, lack of conviction.
27. **naivety** (noun) – innocence, simplicity, naturalness.
28. **cover-up** (noun) – whitewash, deception, suppression/concealment.
29. **therapeutic** (adjective) – healing, curing, remedial.
30. **silver-lining** (noun) – consoling and hopeful aspect of a difficult/unpleasant situation.
31. **hasten** (verb) – speed up, accelerate, expedite.
32. **ambit** (noun) – scope, limits, range.
33. **clear the decks** (phrase) – removing hindrances/barriers while preparing for a course of action.
34. **belatedly** (adverb) – later than expected; tardily.
35. **unerring** (adjective) – unfailing, assured, certain.
36. **gaze** (noun) – observance, inspection, scrutiny.
37. **hyper-kinetic** (adjective) – hyperactive.
38. **fallacy** (noun) – misconception, misbelief, false notion.
39. **stress** (verb) – emphasize, draw attention to, underline.
40. **muscular** (adjective) – strong, powerful, potent.

41. a level playing-field (phrase) – a situation in which everyone has the equal chance of succeeding.

Dealing with doping: On BCCI consent to come under WADA

Cricket bodies must keep the game free of performance enhancing drugs

Sport is expected to operate at a higher moral plane where the effort is honest and transparency remains an abiding principle. It is a utopian ideal leaning on pure performance, copious sweat and relentless training. But in a practical world greased with greed, besides match-fixing, there is another terrible offence: ingestion of performance-enhancing drugs. Athletes like Canada's Ben Johnson were labelled as drug-cheats and rightly denied their Olympic medals. The World Anti-Doping Agency (WADA), since its inception in 1999, has imposed stringent measures so that sport stays drug-free. In India, WADA's rules have been enforced by the Government-run National Anti-Doping Agency (NADA) and almost all sports federations had fallen in line except one behemoth — the Board of Control for **Cricket** in India (BCCI). But that aberration was erased as the BCCI accepted NADA's supervision following a meeting between its CEO Rahul Johri, General Manager Saba Karim and Sports Ministry officials led by Sports Secretary Radhey Shyam Julaniya. Indian cricket's governing body finally agreed to subject its players to NADA's testing routines. Before its turn-around, the BCCI had resisted NADA's intervention. The main objection pertained to the 'whereabouts' clause, which made it mandatory for a player to reveal where he would be on a daily basis. The need for privacy was offered as an excuse.

Earlier, the BCCI had its in-house dope-tests but it only lent credence to the allegations about conflict of interest. The issue came to a boil when Prithvi Shaw was given a back-dated eight-month suspension after he tested positive for a banned drug, Terbutaline. The 19-year-old batsman, who was checked in February, claimed that the substance was present in an over-the-counter cough syrup. Shaw's excuse and the BCCI's quick acceptance of his self-medication, bred scepticism. It is either naivety or a classic cover-up from an Indian cricketer, who had been advised about the chemicals that have to be avoided even for therapeutic purposes. The silver-lining is that the episode hastened the BCCI's move into the NADA's ambit and also cleared the decks for the Indian women's cricket team to

compete in the 2022 Commonwealth Games at Birmingham. With the BCCI belatedly allowing NADA to monitor its domestic cricketers, by extension the International Cricket Council too has finally come under the WADA's unerring gaze. In these hyper-kinetic times, it is a fallacy to stress that cricket is just a reflection of skill and that drug-enhanced muscular efficiency cannot influence match results. **Sport** has to be a level playing-field and it is finally one with the willow-game subjecting itself to universal drug-testing rules.