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Level 5 – 13th December, 2020

India sees the biggest protest in history

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<https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2012/201213-farmers-protests-5.html>

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Please try Levels 4 and 6. They are (a little) harder.

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THE READING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2012/201213-farmers-protests-5.html>

A protest has taken place in India that could be the largest in human history. Tens of thousands of farmers went to India's capital city to voice concerns about new legislation. This number is nothing out of the ordinary for a protest. However, up to 250 million people from a cross-section of society joined in a 24-hour general strike. The protestors came from all walks of life to show solidarity with the farmers. The scale of the protest made the government change its tactics. It met the protesters face-to-face. Protests are usually met with a show of force from the police.

India's farmers are up in arms about three reforms to the country's agriculture industry. They will cause great upheaval to India's farming society. Furious farmers are on the streets. They are accusing the government of selling them out for the benefit of big agri-business. They have set up protest camps around Delhi. It looks like a blockade of the city. A farmers' union said: "We will block rail tracks if our demands are not met." It said agriculture was too important to play party politics with. The agriculture minister said he was optimistic about finding a compromise.

Sources: <https://slate.com/news-and-politics/2020/12/india-farmer-protests-modi.html>
<https://gulfnews.com/opinion/op-eds/why-indias-protesting-farmers-are-right-in-fearing-for-their-livelihoods-1.75807944>
<https://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/india/farmers-protest-govt-asks-unions-to-reconsider-proposals-says-its-open-to-talks/articleshow/79670838.cms>

PHRASE MATCHING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2012/201213-farmers-protests-5.html>

PARAGRAPH ONE:

- | | |
|--------------------------|-----------------------|
| 1. A protest has taken | a. face-to-face |
| 2. voice | b. ordinary |
| 3. nothing out of the | c. from the police |
| 4. people from a cross- | d. concerns |
| 5. show solidarity | e. place in India |
| 6. The scale of | f. section of society |
| 7. It met the protesters | g. the protest |
| 8. a show of force | h. with the farmers |

PARAGRAPH TWO:

- | | |
|-------------------------------|-------------------------|
| 1. India's farmers are up | a. selling them out |
| 2. the country's agriculture | b. upheaval |
| 3. They will cause great | c. a compromise |
| 4. Furious farmers are | d. industry |
| 5. accusing the government of | e. blockade of the city |
| 6. They have set | f. in arms |
| 7. It looks like a | g. up protest camps |
| 8. optimistic about finding | h. on the streets |

LISTEN AND FILL IN THE GAPS

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2012/201213-farmers-protests-5.html>

A protest has (1) _____ India that could be the largest in human history. Tens of thousands of farmers went to India's capital city (2) _____ about new legislation. This number is nothing out (3) _____ for a protest. However, up to 250 million people from (4) _____ society joined in a 24-hour general strike. The protestors came from all walks of life to (5) _____ the farmers. The scale of the protest made the government change its tactics. It met the protesters face-to-face. Protests are usually met with a (6) _____ from the police.

India's farmers are (7) _____ about three reforms to the country's agriculture industry. They will cause (8) _____ India's farming society. Furious farmers are on the streets. They are accusing the government of selling them out for (9) _____ big agri-business. They have set up protest camps around Delhi. It looks like a blockade of the city. A farmers' union said: "We will (10) _____ if our demands are not met." It said agriculture was too important to (11) _____ with. The agriculture minister said (12) _____ about finding a compromise.

PUT A SLASH (/) WHERE THE SPACES ARE

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2012/201213-farmers-protests-5.html>

A protest has taken place in India that could be the largest in human history. Tens of thousands of farmers went to India's capital city to voice concerns about new legislation. This number is nothing out of the ordinary for a protest. However, up to 250 million people from a cross-section of society joined in a 24-hour general strike. The protesters came from all walks of life to show solidarity with the farmers. The scale of the protest made the government change its tactics. It met the protesters face-to-face. Protests are usually met with a show of force from the police. India's farmers are up in arms about three reforms to the country's agriculture industry. They will cause a great upheaval to India's farming society. Furious farmers are on the streets. They are accusing the government of selling them out for the benefit of big agri-business. They have set up protest camps around Delhi. It looks like a blockade of the city. Farmers' unions said: "We will block rail tracks if our demands are not met." It said agriculture was too important to play party politics with. The agriculture minister said he was optimistic about finding a compromise.

PROTESTS SURVEY

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2012/201213-farmers-protests-4.html>

Write five GOOD questions about protests in the table. Do this in pairs. Each student must write the questions on his / her own paper. When you have finished, interview other students. Write down their answers.

| | STUDENT 1 _____ | STUDENT 2 _____ | STUDENT 3 _____ |
|------|--------------------|--------------------|--------------------|
| Q.1. | | | |
| Q.2. | | | |
| Q.3. | | | |
| Q.4. | | | |
| Q.5. | | | |

- Now return to your original partner and share and talk about what you found out. Change partners often.
- Make mini-presentations to other groups on your findings.

WRITE QUESTIONS & ASK YOUR PARTNER(S)

Student A: Do not show these to your speaking partner(s).

a) _____

b) _____

c) _____

d) _____

e) _____

f) _____

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WRITE QUESTIONS & ASK YOUR PARTNER(S)

Student B: Do not show these to your speaking partner(s).

a) _____

b) _____

c) _____

d) _____

e) _____

f) _____

