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## VOCABULARY

1. Dawn: come into existence.

- Synonyms: commence, begin
- Antonyms: cease, conclude
- Example: The excitement in the room began to dawn as the event drew nearer.

2. Stalemated: brought to or caused to reach a situation in which further action or progress seemed impossible.

- Synonyms: stalled, hindered
- Antonyms: advanced, progressed
- Example: The debate between the two candidates eventually stalemated with no clear winner.

3. Sagging: becoming weaker or fewer.

- Synonyms: ebbing, abating
- Antonyms: heightening, mounting
- Example: As the day wore on, her energy levels began sagging, and she felt the need for a break.

4. Singe: to burn slightly on the surface, without producing flames.

- Synonyms: sear, scorch
- Antonyms: freeze, extinguish

- Example: Be careful not to singe your fingers when lighting the candles.
5. Buoyed: made someone feel happier or more confident about a situation.
- Synonyms: heartened, uplifted
  - Antonyms: dispirited, damped
  - Example: A sincere compliment has the power to buoy someone's self-esteem.
6. Preclude: to prevent something or make it impossible, or prevent someone from doing something.
- Synonyms: forestall, avert
  - Antonyms: facilitate, encourage
  - Example: The rainstorm may preclude our outdoor picnic this weekend.
7. Misplaced: not appropriate or correct in the situation.
- Synonyms: misconceived, misguided
  - Antonyms: fitting, felicitous
  - Example: Her misplaced perception of his intentions caused unnecessary worry.

### PHRASAL VERBS

8. Resort to: to do something that you do not want to do because you cannot any other way of achieving something.
9. Harp on: to keep talking about something in a boring or annoying way.

10. Embark upon: to start to do something new or difficult.

### IDIOMS

11. In the wake of: following (someone or something), especially as a consequence.

12. Open a Pandora's box: do something that causes a lot of problems to appear that did not exist or were not known about before.

### PHRASES

13. Throw of the dice: a risky attempt to do or achieve something.

14. Prairie fire: (figuratively) a rapidly spreading or intense situation, idea, or emotion.

15. Black swan: an unpredictable or unforeseen event, typically one with extreme consequences.



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## CURRENT AFFAIRS

**16<sup>th</sup> January, 2024**

1. Kachchhi Kharek, the indigenous variety of dates of Kutch, has become the second fruit of Gujarat to get a geographical indication (GI) tag from the Controller General of Patents, Designs and Trade Marks (CGPDT) of India.
2. Maldivian President Mohamed Muizzu has asked India to withdraw its troops from the island nation by March 15.
3. The Climate Conference 2024 occurred on January 12, 2024, in Mumbai, Maharashtra. It had the theme "Decoding the Green Transition for India."
4. The Indian Army has launched Operation Sarvashakti in Jammu and Kashmir. It involves security forces on both sides of the Pir Panjal range. The goal is to flush out terrorists who have ambushed Indian troops in Rajouri and Poonch.

- 5.** The Himalayan Wolf (*Canis lupus chanco*), a distinct lupine species inhabiting the Himalayas, has recently been classified as 'Vulnerable' on the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN)'s Red List.
- 6.** Pongal is widely celebrated in Tamil Nadu, Pondicherry and Sri Lanka. The festival derives its name from the Tamil word meaning 'spilling over.' This year, the Pongal celebrations will begin on January 15 and conclude on January 18.
- 7.** Indian Light Tank Zorawar begins trials for high altitude warfare, and the DRDO is expected to hand it over to the Indian Army for further testing by April of this year. The tank, equipped with a new engine, is being developed and produced by DRDO in partnership with Larsen and Toubro.
- 8.** PM Modi releases first instalment of PM JANMAN Sceme for Pucca Homes. Which allocates ₹540 crore, the initial installment under this scheme, benefiting one lakh Particularly Vulnerable Tribal Group (PVTG) families.



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- 9.** Munawwar Rana, a celebrated Urdu poet, passed away at the age of 71 due to cardiac arrest in Lucknow.
- 10.** India eclipsed Japan in auto sales last year, according to the latest industry data, making it the third-largest auto market for the first time.
- 11.** ISRO presented with 'INDIAN OF THE YEAR AWARD' for 2023.

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