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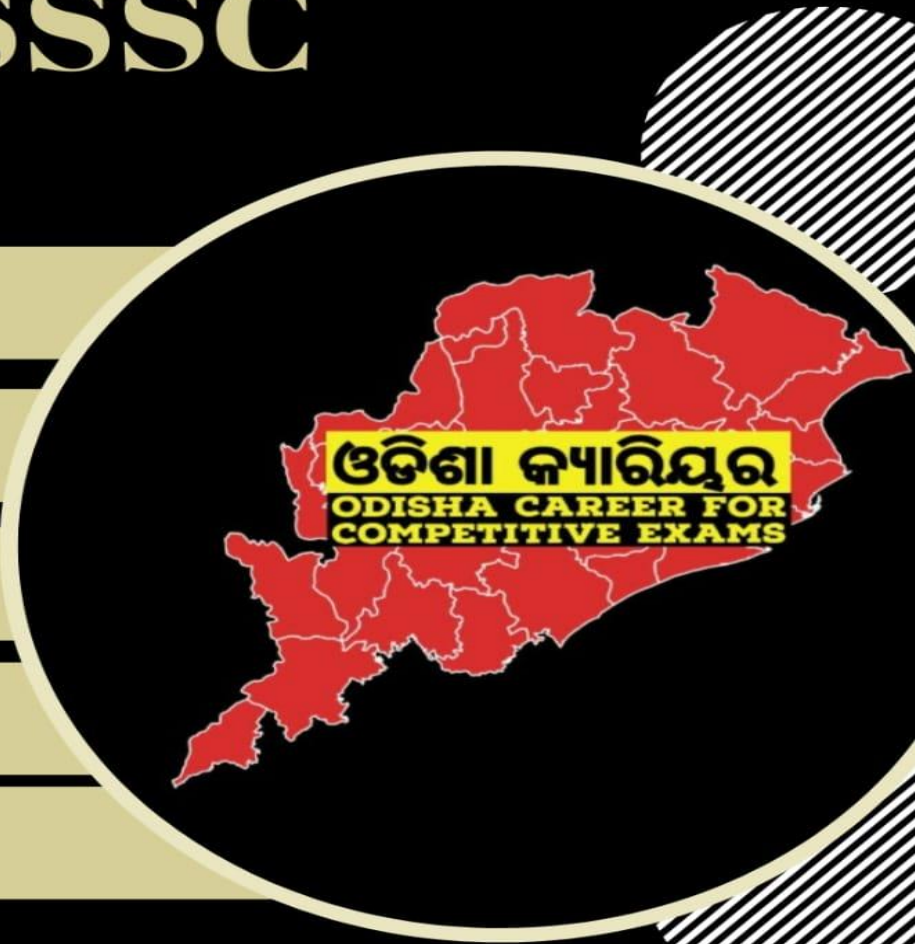
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VOCABULARY

1. Pioneering: using ideas and methods that have never been used before.
 - Synonyms: groundbreaking, revolutionary
 - Antonyms: primitive, imitative
 - Example: Jonas Salk's development of the polio vaccine was a pioneering contribution to public health.
2. Ascertain: to find out the true or correct information about something.
 - Synonyms: establish, determine
 - Antonyms: disprove, contradict
 - Example: Can you ascertain the reason for the delay in the project?
3. Bygone: happening or existing a long time ago.
 - Synonyms: extinct, past
 - Antonyms: modern, present
 - Example: In the museum, artifacts from bygone eras tell stories of the past.

4. Choppy: interrupted by ups and downs.

- Synonyms: turbulent, tumultuous
- Antonyms: steady, stable
- Example: The global economy faced challenges, leading to a choppy trade environment.

5. Baulking: being unwilling to do something or becoming involved in something because it is difficult, dangerous, etc.

- Synonyms: vacillating, dithering
- Antonyms: acceding, complying
- Example: Please don't balk at offering your opinion during the meeting.

6. Offshoot: something that has developed from something larger that already existed.

- Synonyms: subsidiary, derivative
- Antonyms: source, parent
- Example: The new bakery downtown is an offshoot of the popular family-owned patisserie.

7. Abates: to become less intense or severe; to make something less intense or severe.

- Synonyms: wane, ebb
- Antonyms: intensify, mount

- Example: With each passing day, her anxiety started to abate.

8. Dovetail: fit or cause to fit together easily and conveniently.

- Synonyms: unite, join
- Antonyms: clash, conflict
- Example: The plans for the project dovetail seamlessly with our overall strategy.

9. Championed: supported, defended, or fought for a person, belief, right, or principle enthusiastically.

- Synonyms: advocated, endorsed
- Antonyms: opposed, protested
- Example: Let's champion a healthier lifestyle by promoting exercise and good nutrition.

10. Bolstering: supporting or improving something or make it stronger.

- Synonyms: buttressing, fortifying
- Antonyms: undermining, hindering
- Example: He spent the afternoon bolstering his arguments with compelling evidence.

Phrasal verbs

11. Touch down: (of a plane, spacecraft, etc.) to make contact with the ground as it lands.
12. Beef up: to make something stronger or more important.
13. Flesh out: to provide more information about something.

Idiom

14. Deal a blow: to cause someone or something, usually a plan or hope, to fail or to be affected very badly.

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CURRENT AFFAIRS

22th January, 2024

- 1.** Prime Minister Narendra Modi will preside over the 'Pran Pratishtha' ceremony of the Ram temple in Ayodhya on Monday, January 22. The prime minister has adopted a strict regime, sleeping on the floor and has been consuming only coconut water.
- 2.** PM MODI inaugurates Boeing's Global tech campus in Bengaluru. Aerospace-giant Boeing inaugurated it with an investment of ₹1,600 crore (\$200 million).
- 3.** The World Economic Forum's annual meeting was held on 15-19 January 2024 at Davos, Switzerland where India's participation with the ambitious aim of "Vasudhaiva Kutumbakam" was appreciated by the world forum. The theme of the World Economic Forum's annual meeting was 'Rebuilding Trust'.
- 4.** Andhra Pradesh Chief Minister Y.S. Jagan Mohan Reddy will inaugurate the 125-foot-tall statue of Dr. B.R. Ambedkar at Swarajya Maidan of Vijayawada

on January 19, Andhra Pradesh State Scheduled Castes Finance Corporation Chairman M. Victor Prasad has said and described the event as a 'historic moment' not only for the State, but also for the entire nation.

- 5.** The Centre appointed senior Indian Police Service (IPS) officer Daljit Singh Chaudhary as the director of general of the Sashastra Seema Bal (SSB).
- 6.** A project to deploy artificial reefs in sea to enable sustainable fishing has been launched in the Kerala with a pilot project at Vizhinjam port.
- 7.** The Indian Vice President recently inaugurated the 12th General Assembly of the Asian Buddhist Conference for Peace in New Delhi.
- 8.** Kokborok Day, observed annually on January 19th, is a significant cultural event in Tripura, India. The 2024 celebration marks the 46th anniversary of Kokborok's recognition as an official language.

- 9.** Rameshbabu Praggnanandhaa, an 18-yearold chess prodigy from Chennai, achieved a historic milestone in his career by defeating World Champion Ding Liren from China.
- 10.** Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi inaugurated the 13th KheloIndia Youth Games in Chennai, Tamil Nadu, showcasing his active participation and support.
- 11.** Gol Mela Festival commenced at Jagannath Temple, Uddhampur.
- 12.** TATA Group secures IPL Title Sponsorship for next 5 years.