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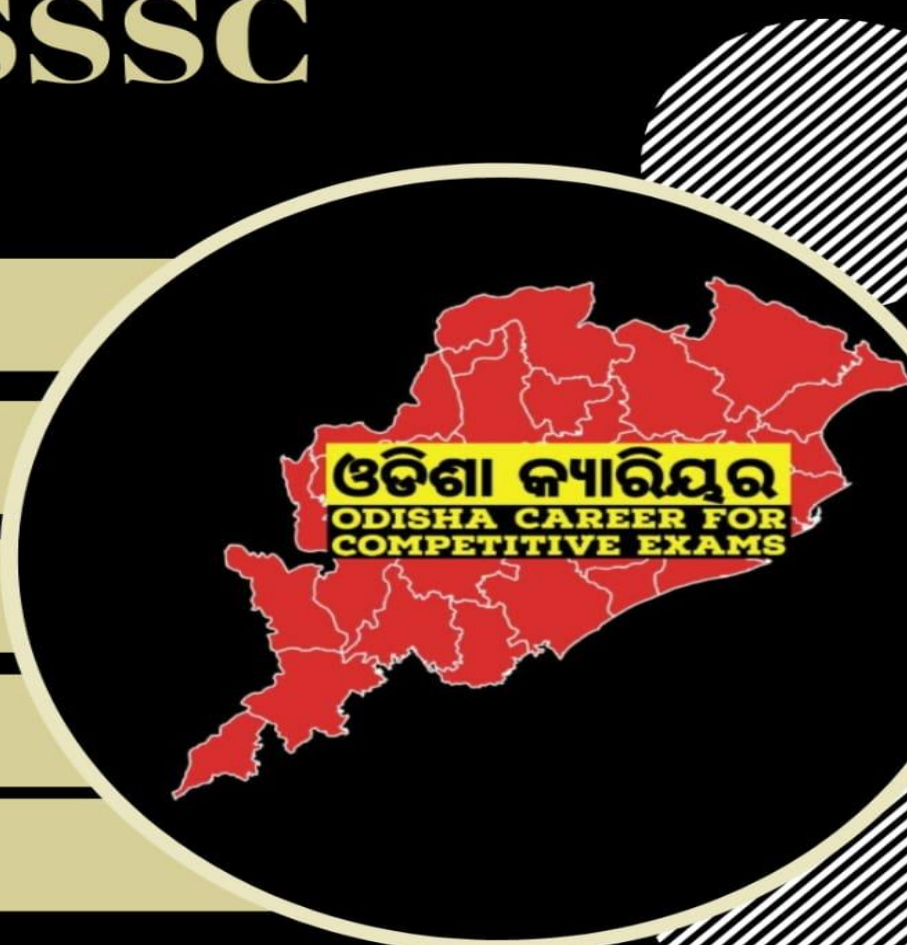
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VOCABULARY

- 1. Formidable:** Inspiring fear or respect through being impressively powerful, intense, or capable.
 - Synonyms: Intimidating, fearsome, daunting
 - Antonyms: Easy, simple, approachable
 - Example: The formidable opponent in the chess match seemed unbeatable.
- 2. Facets:** Distinct features or aspects.
 - Synonyms: Aspects, sides, elements
 - Antonyms: Whole, entirety
 - Example: The issue has many facets that need to be considered before making a decision.
- 3. Acumen:** The ability to make good judgments and quick decisions.
 - Synonyms: Insight, shrewdness, intelligence
 - Antonyms: Stupidity, ignorance
 - Example: Her business acumen helped the company succeed in a competitive market.

4. **Metaphorically:** In a way that uses metaphor; not in a literal sense.
 - Synonyms: Symbolically, figuratively
 - Antonyms: Literally
 - Example: He described the relationship as a ship sailing through stormy seas, metaphorically expressing its challenges.

5. **Multifaceted:** Having many facets or aspects.
 - Synonyms: Diverse, varied, complex
 - Antonyms: Single, one-dimensional
 - Example: Her personality is multifaceted, with talents in both art and science.

6. **Myriad:** A very large number; countless.
 - Synonyms: Countless, innumerable, numerous
 - Antonyms: Limited, few
 - Example: The garden was filled with a myriad of colourful flowers.

7. **Intricate:** Very detailed and complicated.
 - Synonyms: Complex, complicated, elaborate
 - Antonyms: Simple, straightforward
 - Example: The intricate design of the jewellery showcased the craftsman's skill.

- 8. Iterative:** Involving repetition or recurrence.
- Synonyms: Repeated, recurrent, repetitive
 - Antonyms: One-time, non-repetitive
 - Example: The software development process is often iterative, with multiple rounds of testing and refinement.
- 9. Bedrock:** a strong base for something, especially the facts or principles on which it is based.
- Synonyms: Foundation, base, groundwork
 - Antonyms: Unstable ground
 - Example: Trust is the bedrock of a strong relationship.

Phrasal Verbs

- 10. Building bridges:** Symbolically connecting or bridging gaps and disparities.
- 11. Call to action:** A phrase indicating an appeal or request for immediate and meaningful action.

Idioms

- 12. Many hands make light work:** a task becomes easier when many people contribute to it.

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CURRENT AFFAIRS

2nd FEBRUARY, 2024

1. For the first time, WHO has awarded certificates recognizing advancements in eliminating both industrially produced and naturally occurring trans fatty acids (TFA).
2. Neuralink, the neurotechnology company cofounded by Elon Musk, has successfully implanted its first brain chip into a human being.
3. Hemant Soren resigned as Jharkhand Chief Minister: After being questioned by the ED for a land scam, Hemant Soren stepped down as Chief Minister.
 - Senior JMM leader and Transport Minister- Champai Soren will replace Hemant Soren.
 - Following his resignation, Hemant Soren was arrested by the Enforcement Directorate in connection with the land scam case.
4. Indian Coast Guard Day is observed on February 1.
 - The day aims to honour the contribution of the Coast Guard. The Indian Coast Guard Day is dedicated to the officers and personnel who look after maritime security.


5. Tamil Nadu has set a new benchmark in environmental conservation and biodiversity protection by securing two more Ramsar sites, thus achieving the highest number of such designated areas in the country.
6. On February 3, Visakhapatnam's Naval Dockyard will witness a momentous occasion as Defence Minister Rajnath Singh presides over the commissioning ceremony of INS Sandhayak.
7. Malaysia's Sultan Ibrahim from the southern state of Johor was installed as the country's 17th king on Wednesday, taking the oath of office in a ceremony at the national palace in Kuala Lumpur.
8. Taiwan's National Central University announced the country's first lunar mission, revealing that a Deep Space Radiation Probe (DSRP) developed by its faculty and students is scheduled to launch in Japan as early as the fourth quarter of this year.
9. Two-year-old Carter Dallas of Scotland made history as the youngest to reach Mount Everest's base camp, a remarkable feat in mountaineering annals.

10. Nirmala Sitharaman delivered her shortest budget speech ever on February 1, 2024 as she presented the interim Budget of the government. The speech began at 11am and was over even before an hour.

- The speech lasted for exactly 58 minutes, the shortest by her record. Until now, Nirmala Sitharaman's shortest speech among the six budgets she presented was in 2023 when she spoke for 87 minutes.

BUDGET 2024

KEY TAKEAWAYS

-  FY25 capex target set at Rs 11.1 lakh crore, up 11.1%
-  No change in direct, indirect taxation
-  FY25 fiscal deficit target set at 5.1% of GDP
-  FY24 fiscal deficit revised down to 5.8% of GDP



BUDGET 2024 ₹

KEY TAKEAWAYS

- ₹ Govt to support EV manufacturing, charging infrastructure
- ₹ Golden era for tech-savvy youth, 50-yr interest free loans to be rolled out
- ₹ Ayushman Bharat cover extended to all Anganwadi and Asha workers



BUDGET 2024 ₹

KEY TAKEAWAYS

- ₹ Focus on four major pillars -- poor, women, youth and annadatas
- ₹ Tax receipts estimated at Rs 26.02 lakh crore in FY25
- ₹ Average GST monthly collection has doubled to Rs 1.66 lakh crore
- ₹ Projects for tourism to be taken up in islands including Lakshadweep



BUDGET SPEECH DURATION

<u>Year</u>	<u>Duration</u>
● 2019	2 hours 17 minutes(137 min)
● 2020	2 hours 40 minutes(160 min)
● 2021	1 hour 50 minutes(110 min)
● 2022	1 hour 33 minutes(93 min)
● 2023	1 hour 27 minutes(87 min)
● 2024	58 minutes

11. Banaras Hindu University(BHU) is creating North-India's first Indian DNA Bank.