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#### **VOCABULARY**

- 1. Thwart: To prevent someone from doing something.
  - Synonyms: Hinder, Impede, Sabotage, Obstruct.
  - Antonyms: Foster, Support, Encourage, Facilitate.
  - sentence: The detective's clever tactics managed to thwart the criminal's escape plan.
- 2. Outdid: To surpass someone or something.
  - Synonyms: Excelled, Outperformed, Outpaced, Beat.
  - Antonyms: Underperformed, Fell short, Lagged.
  - sentence: John's determination and hard work outdid everyone else's efforts in the project.
- 3. Disclosure: The act of revealing information that was previously unknown.
  - Synonyms: Exposure, Unveiling, Divulgence.
  - Antonyms: Secrecy, Camouflage, Obfuscation.
  - sentence: The disclosure of sensitive information caused quite a stir among the employees.
- 4. Slapgate: Incidents involving slapping or physical confrontation.
  - Synonyms: Altercation, Argument, Clash, Squabble.
  - Antonyms: Harmony, Amity, Peace, Truce.

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- sentence: The tabloids are buzzing with the latest slapgate between the two rival actors.
- 5. Construed: To understand the meaning of something.
  - Synonyms: Interpreted, Assessed, Analyzed, Deciphered.
  - Antonyms: Overlooked, Ignored, Misjudged, Disregarded.
  - sentence: His silence was construed as agreement by the others in the room.
- 6. Drearily: Something done in a dull manner.
  - Synonyms: Bleakly, Dismally, Unhappily, Mournfully.
  - Antonyms: Lively, Energetically, Cheerfully, joyfully.
  - sentence: She looked out the window drearily, wishing for some sunshine to brighten her day.
- 7. Ceasefire: A temporary halt in fighting.
  - Synonyms: Truce, Armistice, Suspension, Cessation.
  - Antonyms: Confrontation, Warfare, Combat, Conflict.
  - sentence: The ceasefire allowed civilians to evacuate safely from the conflict zone.
- 8. Proximity: The state of being close to something.
  - Synonyms: Nearness, Vicinity, Approximity.
  - Antonyms: Isolation, Distant, Remoteness, Separation.
  - sentence: The proximity of the grocery store to my house makes it convenient for me to shop for essentials.

- 9. Ruffle: A state of annoyance or to disorder the smoothness of something.
  - Synonyms: Irritate, Agitate, Perturb, Vex, Disrupt.
  - Antonyms: Calm, Pacify, Tranquilize, Comfort, Soothe.
  - sentence: The sudden change in plans didn't ruffle his calm demeanor at all.
- 10. Chime: The action of agreeing with something.
  - Synonyms: Harmonize, Concur, Accord, Coalesce.
  - Antonyms: Contradict, Disagree, Diverge, Differ.
  - sentence: Their laughter seemed to chime perfectly with the joyful atmosphere of the party.

#### **IDIOMS AND PHRASES**

- 11. Once in blue moon (Idiom): An event that happens infrequently.
- 12. Make hay while the sun shines (Idiom): Take advantage of all opportunities.
- 13. Off the mark (Phrase): Something that is not right or inaccurate.
- 14. Rolled out (Phrasal verb): To launch or implement something.
- 15. Slag off (Phrasal verb): To speak badly about someone.

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### CURRENT AFFAIRS 12<sup>th</sup> March, 2024

1.



- INS Tir, the lead ship of the First Training Squadron (1TS), participated in Exercise Cutlass Express 24 (CE-24) held at Port Victoria, Seychelles, from February 26 to March 8.
- The exercise was inaugurated by the President of the Seychelles in the presence of dignitaries from India, the USA and African countries. As part of Cutlass Express, the Indian Navy actively engaged with participants from 16 friendly foreign countries.

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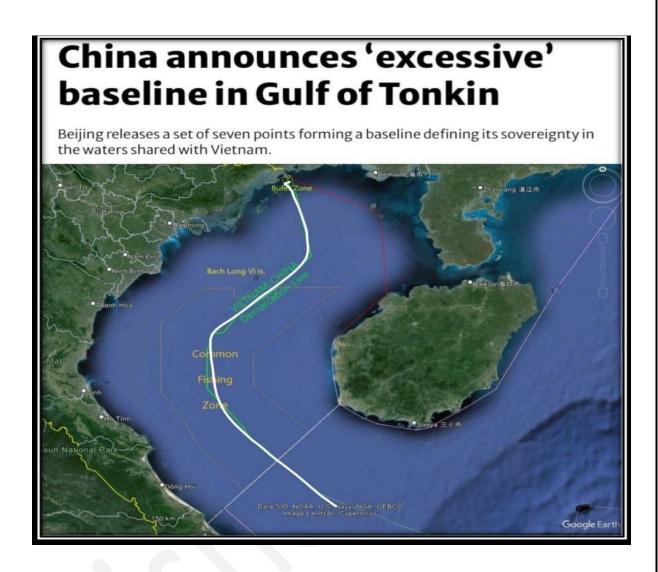


 On International Women's Day on 8 March 2024, the Indian Army announced the formation of 2 Army Girls Sports Companies (AGSC). AGSC will be formed in a phased manner by the Indian Army keeping in mind the national vision of women empowerment and demonstration of women power.

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- PM Modi inaugurated the Sela Tunnel in Itanagar, Arunachal Pradesh.
- The PM had laid the foundation of the Sela Tunnel in 2019.
- It is the world's longest bi-lane tunnel at 13,000 feet, and consists of two tunnels and a link road.
- It is aimed at providing all-weather connectivity to the Tawangregion.

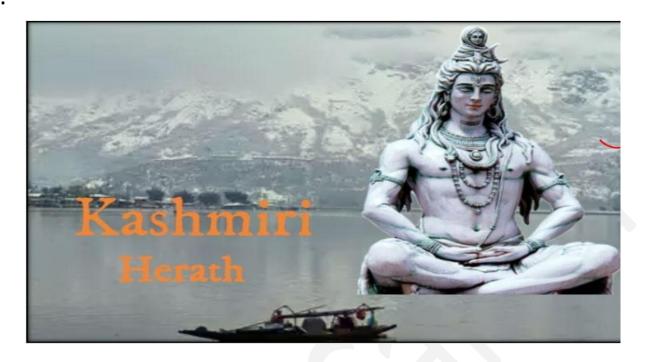


 China has officially disclosed a new baseline outlining its territorial claims in the northern part of the Gulf of Tonkin, an area shared with Vietnam.

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- Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Saturday unveiled a 125-foot bronze statue of 'Ahom general' Lachit Borphukan in Assam's Jorhat.
- The 'Statue of Valour' was unveiled by the PM at the Lachit Barphukan Maidam Development Project at Hollongapar near Teok.



- Kashmiri Pandits celebrated the annual festival of 'Herath' or Maha Shivaratri in the Valley on Friday.
   Scores of Muslims from the Valley also joined in to wish the Pandits on the occasion.
- Pandits were seen busy with the festivities on Friday.
   Special pujas were held at Shankaracharya temple in Srinagar and the Kheer Bhawani temple in Ganderbal.

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 PM Modi inaugurated Chhattisgarh's 'Mahtari Vandan Yojana,' disbursing Rs1,000 to 70,12,417 women.
 The scheme aims to provide Rs1,000 per month to approximately 70 lakh women in the state.

8.



- In the 77th National Football Championship, Services lifted the Santosh Trophy for the seventh time, beating Goa 1-0 in the Santosh Trophy final at the Golden Jubilee Stadium at Papum Pare District in Arunachal Pradesh.
- More than 15,000 passionate fans thronged the stadium to witness an exciting final.

9.



- Satwiksairaj Rankireddyand Chirag Shetty clinched their second men's doubles badminton title at the tournament.
- The Indian top seed registered a straight games victory over Chinese Taipei's Lee Jhe-Huei and Yang Po-Hsuan in the final.
- With this win, the Indian combo has maintained a 3-0 clean sheet against Lee and Yang.

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- After 16 years of negotiations, involving 21 formal rounds, India and the four European Free Trade Association (EFTA) countries on Sunday signed a free-trade agreement (FTA), which may be instrumental in India receiving \$100 billion as foreign direct investment (FDI) in 15 years with 1 million jobs.
- 11. Amitav Ghosh received Erasmus Prize for highlighting Climate crisis.
- 12. North India's first government Homeopathic College to be established in Kathua, J & K.

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