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VOCABULARY

- 1. Polarising: something that causes disagreement.
 - Synonyms: Divisive, Discordant, Splitting, Factional.
 - Antonyms: Unifying, Bridging, Reconciling, Consensual.
 - sentence: The controversial decision was polarising for the community.
- 2. Rhetoric: Art of using language persuasively in speech or writing.
 - Synonyms: Diction, Articulation, Eloquence, Oratory.
 - Antonyms: Austerity, Modesty, Silence, Taciturnity.
 - sentence: Her rhetoric was so compelling that it convinced even the skeptics.
- 3. Impede: To obstruct the progress of something.
 - Synonyms: Hamper, Inhibit, Thwart, Hinder, Block.
 - Antonyms: Assist, Foster, Promote, Facilitate.
 - sentence: The narrow hallway impeded our progress.
- 4. Lynchpin: A crucial element for a system.
 - Synonyms: Keystone, Indispensable, Backbone, Cornerstone, Mainstay.
 - Antonyms: Insignificant, Marginal, Secondary, Unimportant.
 - sentence: The new safety regulations are the lynchpin of our workplace security.

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- 5. Accentuated: To emphasize something which brings attention.
 - Synonyms: Intensified, Amplified, Highlighted, Enhanced.
 - Antonyms: Concealed, Reduced, Diminished, Mitigated.
 - sentence: The sunlight accentuated the vibrant colors of the flowers in the garden.
- 6. Mooted: To bring up for discussion or debate.
 - Synonyms: Proposed, Considered, Introduced, Raised.
 - Antonyms: Concluded, Finalized, Settled, Decided.
 - sentence: The possibility of a company retreat was mooted by the HR department.
- 7. Aversion: A strong feeling of dislike.
 - Synonyms: Disgust, Hatred, Antipathy, Abhorrence.
 - Antonyms: Liking, Fondness, Affinity, Admiration.
 - sentence: She has a strong aversion to spicy food.
- 8. Unveiled: Revealed something which was previously hidden.
 - Synonyms: Disclosed, Unfolded, Exposed, Displayed.
 - Antonyms: Concealed, Hidden, Obscured, Cloaked.
 - sentence: The company's new logo was unveiled during the annual meeting.
- 9. Parleys: discussions or negotiations between parties.
 - Synonyms: Dialogues, Diplomacy, Consultations.
 - Antonyms: Conflicts, Standoffs, Clashes, Disputes.

- sentence: The two countries engaged in parleys to resolve the border dispute peacefully.
- 10. Augury: practice of interpreting signs.
 - Synonyms: Omen, Portent, Harbinger, Prediction.
 - Antonyms: Certainty, Clarity, Stability, Precision.
 - sentence: The dark clouds gathering on the horizon were seen as as augury of an impending storm.

IDIOMS AND PHRASES

- 11. Gray area (Idiom): A situation in which it is difficult to judge what is right and what is wrong.
- 12. Put pen to paper (Idiom): To sign a contract formally.
- 13. On the table (Phrase): Something which is under discussion or consideration.
- 14. Slipped off (Phrasal verb): Losing one's grip or balance.
- 15. Dusted off (Phrasal verb): To revive something that has been neglected for a period of time.
- 16. Take off (Phrasal verb) Meaning: To become successful.

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CURRENT AFFAIRS 14th March, 2024

1.



• INS Tushil, India's latest naval asset, begins sea trials from Russia's Baltiysk naval base, marking a milestone in India's naval modernization efforts.

2.



- On March 12, 2024, Prime Minister Narendra Modi observed the "Bharat Shakti" exercise held in Pokhran. This exercise showcased the capabilities of indigenously manufactured defense weapons as part of the "atma nirbharta" (self-reliance) campaign. The demonstration highlighted the integrated firepower and maneuvering capabilities of the Army, Navy, and Air Force at the Pokhran field firing range.
- During the exercise, the indigenous prowess of the three services was demonstrated through a variety of weaponry. The skies reverberated with the sounds of the LCA Tejasand ALH Mk-IV helicopters, showcasing the aerial capabilities. On the ground, main battle tanks such as the Arjun and K-9 Vajra, as well as artillery gun systems like the Dhanush and Sharang, dominated the firing ranges, demonstrating the ground-based firepower.

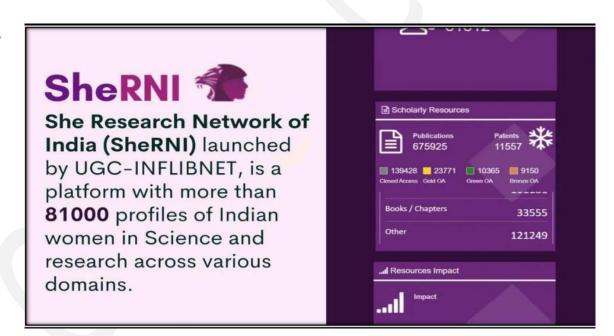
3.



Indian Air Force aircraft crashes in Rajasthan

Indian Air Force's Light Combat Aircraft Tejas crashed near Jaisalmer in Rajasthan during an operational training sortie on Tuesday. The pilot ejected safely. A Court of Inquiry has been ordered to ascertain the cause of the accident. Reports said that the aircraft crashed near a students' hostel.

4.



The UGC's Information and Library Network (INFLIBNET)
 Centre launched 'She Research Network in India' (SheRNI)
 to tackle gender disparity in science, promoting equal representation.

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 Mr. Srinivasan Swamy was honored with the prestigious IAA Golden Compass Award by Governor Tun Ahmad Fuzi Abdul Razak at the 45th IAA World Congress in Penang, Malaysia.

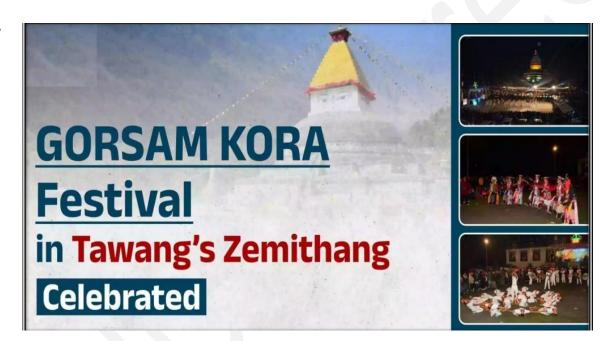
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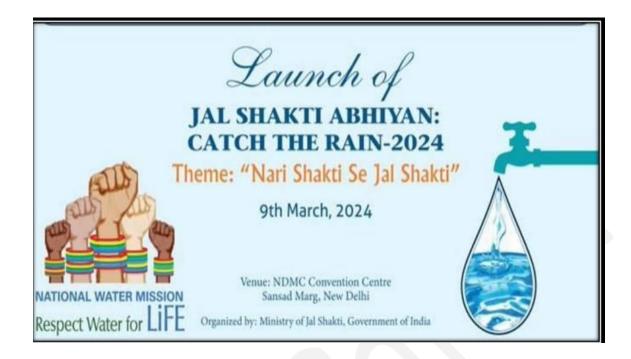
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- The Prime Minister of India, Shri Narendra Modi, visited Sabarmati Ashram where he inaugurated the Kochrab Ashram and launched the Master Plan of the Gandhi Ashram Memorial.
- During his visit, he paid his respects to Mahatma Gandhi's statue and toured Hriday Kunj. He also walked through an exhibition and planted a sapling.

7.



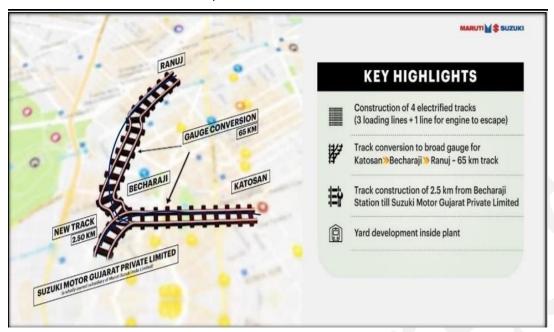
 Gorsam Kora festival was celebrated in Tawang district from 7-10 March, symbolising the enduring friendship between India and Bhutan and highlighting the region's cultural richness. 8.



- On March 11, 2024, the Union Minister for Jal Shakti, Gajendra Singh Shekhawat, launched the fifth edition of the "Jal Shakti Abhiyan: Catch the Rain" campaign at the NDMC Convention Centre in New Delhi.
- The campaign, themed "Nari Shakti se Jal Shakti," highlights the crucial role of women in water conservation and management.

9.





 Prime Minister Narendra Modi inaugurated the firstever automobile in-plant railway siding at Suzuki Motor Gujarat Private Limited, a wholly-owned subsidiary of Maruti Suzuki India Limited (MSIL).

10.



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 The 6th National Para Badminton Championship 2023-2024 will be held from March 19-23, 2024 at Mohan Ahuja Stadium, Jamshedpur. The championship will bring together athletes from across the nation to showcase their exceptional athleticism and determination.

11.



 In the latest FIH world rankings, the Indian men's hockey team occupy 4th rank, and Indian women's hockey team occupy 9th rank.

FIH Men's World rankings

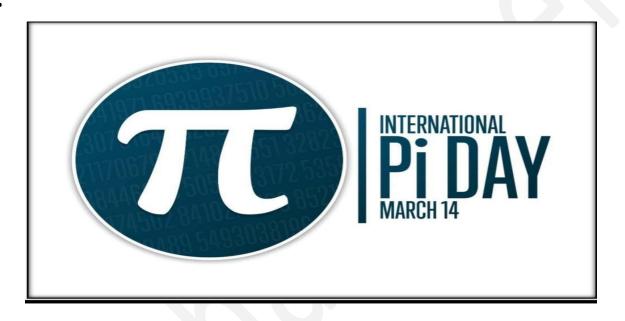
- Netherlands (3060)
- Belgium (2848)
- Germany (2786)
- India (2761)

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FIH Women's World rankings

- Netherland (3422)
- Argentina (2827)
- Germany (2732)
- Australia (2678)

12.



13.



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14. Vada Pav ranks 19th in the list of world's top 50 best Sandwiches.

