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VOCABULARY

1. **Blowback:** Unintended result of something.
 - Synonyms: Consequences, Repercussions, Fallout.
 - Antonyms: Benefit, Gain, Advantage.
 - sentence: The new policy had unforeseen blowback, causing chaos in the market.

2. **Insurgency:** Uprising against established authority.
 - Synonyms: Rebellion, Revolt, Mutiny.
 - Antonyms: Obedience, Compliance, Conformity.
 - sentence: The government deploys additional troops to quell the insurgency in the region.

3. **Shackles:** Anything that restricts or confines someone's freedom.
 - Synonyms: Restraints, Handcuffs, Fetters.
 - Antonyms: Liberty, Freedom.
 - sentence: The shackles restricted the movement, making escape impossible.

4. **Rejuvenated:** To feel refreshed.
 - Synonyms: Revitalized, Revived, Energized.
 - Antonyms: Exhausted, Drained, Fatigued.
 - sentence: A good night's sleep can leave you feeling rejuvenated in the morning.

5. Prevails: To exist or occur commonly.

- Synonyms: Widespread, Rampant, Rife, Persists, Endures.
- Antonyms: Surrenders, Succumbs, Fails.
- sentence: Hope prevailed amidst the chaos.

6. Obliterate: To utterly destroy or eliminate something.

- Synonyms: Demolish, Annihilate, Wipe out, Eradicate.
- Antonyms: Preserve, Protect, Conserve, Save.
- sentence: The tsunami had the power to obliterate coastal villages within moments.

7. Ensnared: To become caught in a situation.

- Synonyms: Trapped, Entangled, Captured.
- Antonyms: Released, Liberated, Unbound.
- sentence: She found herself ensnared in a complicated love triangle.

8. Pretext: A false reason.

- Synonyms: Excuse, Pretense, Ruse.
- Antonyms: Truth, Reality, Candor, Honesty.
- sentence: He arrived late to the meeting, using traffic as a pretext for his tardiness.

IDIOMS AND PHRASES

- 9.** Taken on a war footing: To approach a situation with the same urgency as one would in times of war.
- 10.** Go for the jugular: To criticize someone unkindly by talking about something that can hurt one's feelings.
- 11.** An arm and a leg: Be very expensive.
- 12.** Spell out: Explain in clear and simple terms.
- 13.** Bail out: To provide financial assistance or to rescue.

CURRENT AFFAIRS

23rd March, 2024

1. India begins Operation Indravati to evacuate its nationals from Haiti to the Dominican Republic. 12 citizens have been successfully rescued in the Caribbean nation.
 - The Caribbean nation of Haiti has been plagued by widespread gang violence for over two years since the July 2021 assassination of President Jovenel Moise. There are between 75 and 90 Indians in Haiti to be rescued.
2. India and Brazil recently held their inaugural '2+2' defence and foreign ministerial dialogue, marking a significant milestone in their bilateral relations. The talks aimed to deepen cooperation across various sectors, emphasizing energy, critical minerals, technology, and counter-terrorism.
3. INS Tirand INS Sujata are set to partake in the 2nd Tri-Lateral Exercise from 21-29 Mar 24, enhancing naval cooperation and maritime security among the 3 nations.
 - Activities will focus on Damage Control, Fire Fighting, and other crucial maritime operations, aiming to strengthen the navies' capabilities in maintaining maritime security and conducting effective search and rescue operations.

4. ISRO's recent feat includes the successful landing of Pushpak, India's premier Reusable Launch Vehicle, validating its advanced technology and precision.
5. The general election for 543 Lok Sabha seats will be held in seven phases from April 19, with counting to be held on June 4.
 - Media persons on election duty carrying authorisation letters from the Election Commission, and those working in essential services such as healthcare can vote using postal ballots in the Lok Sabha and four state assembly polls, the Election Commission said on Tuesday.
6. A first-ever dedicated portal launched in Jaipur last week will provide real time information on the water level in dams and reservoirs and the quantity of water available in canals in different parts of Rajasthan.
7. Bihar Diwas2024, celebrated on 22nd March 2024 in India, holds immense historical and cultural significance for the state of Bihar. It commemorates the founding of Bihar as a separate state in 1912, marking its separation from the Bengal Presidency.
 - The inception of Bihar Diwas dates back to 2010, when the state government initiated the celebrations to honor Bihar's 112th statehood anniversary. Since then, Bihar-Diwas has evolved into a vibrant occasion, reflecting the essence of Bihar's rich heritage and traditions.

8. Naveen Jindal, Chairman of Jindal Steel and Power, has been unanimously elected as the President of the Indian Steel Association (ISA) by the apex committee, which is the governing body of the ISA.
 - Ashwani Kumar elected as new president of FIEO.
9. Chennai Super Kings beat Royal Challengers Bengaluru by 6 wickets in Chennai.
 - IPL 2024: Virat Kohli becomes 1st Indian to cross T20 batting milestone.
 - Virat Kohli becomes 1st Indian player to complete 12,000 Runs in T20 cricket.
10. Paris Olympics: Russian and Belarusian athletes are not allowed to Participate in the parade of nations in the opening ceremony of Paris games.
 - Mary Kom appointed as India's Chef De Mission, Sharath Kamal to be India's flag bearer.