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VOCABULARY

1. **Obviated:** To remove or avoid something.
 - Synonyms: Averted, Eliminated, Prevented, Sidestepped.
 - Antonyms: Sustained, Continued, Perpetuated.
 - sentence: The new software update obviated many of the previous system's glitches.

2. **Inclement:** Harsh or unfavourable weather conditions.
 - Synonyms: Unfavorable, Unpleasant, Tempestuous.
 - Antonyms: Pleasant, Mild, Favorable.
 - sentence: The hikers were forced to turn back because of the inclement weather.

3. **Derailing:** causing something to go off course.
 - Synonyms: Deviating, Diverting, Deflecting.
 - Antonyms: Guiding, Sustaining, Maintaining.
 - sentence: The unexpected power outage derailed our plans for the evening.

4. **Feigned:** Actions or emotions that are not sincere but intentionally created.
 - Synonyms: Simulated, Pretended, Faked.
 - Antonyms: Genuine, Authentic, Candid.
 - sentence: She feigned interest in the conversation, but her mind was elsewhere.

- 5. Imperial:** To put someone or something at risk or in danger.
- Synonyms: Jeopardize, Menace, Threaten.
 - Antonyms: Safeguard, Protect, Preserve, Defend.
 - sentence: His reckless behavior could imperil his chances of getting promoted.
- 6. Sojourn:** A temporary stay.
- Synonyms: Stopover, Visit, Reside.
 - Antonyms: Permanence, Long-term stay.
 - sentence: We enjoyed a peaceful sojourn in the countryside last weekend.
- 7. Turmoil:** A state of great disturbance.
- Synonyms: Chaos, Upheaval, Tumult, Confusion.
 - Antonyms: Serenity, Tranquility, Calm, peace.
 - sentence: The storm's arrival brought turmoil to the peaceful town.
- 8. Remedial:** something intended as solution to a problem.
- Synonyms: Rectifying, Corrective, Therapeutic.
 - Antonyms: Destructive, Detrimental, Adverse.
 - sentence: She enrolled in remedial classes to improve her math skills before the final exams.

IDIOMS AND PHRASES

9. To get under the skin: To annoy or provoke someone.
10. Tie up loose ends: To complete unfinished tasks.
11. Nip it in the bud: To take action to stop a problem from becoming worse.
12. Brushed aside :To ignore something or someone.
13. Stand out : Someone or something that attracts attention or easily distinguishable.

CURRENT AFFAIRS

25th March, 2024

1. HDFC Bank sold its stake in HDFC Credila, its education finance arm, for Rs 9553 crore (USD 1.15 billion) to private equity firms BPEA EQT and ChrysCapital.
 - This sale, announced in June 2023, was a regulatory requirement before the merger of Housing Development Finance Corp with HDFC Bank.
2. The Multi Commodity Exchange of India Limited (MCX) and Jakarta Futures Exchange (JFX) entered into a Memorandum of Understanding to bolster collaboration in key areas such as knowledge sharing, research, education, training, awareness creation, and market development initiatives.
 - This collaboration signifies a milestone in enhancing opportunities for traders in both countries' derivatives markets.
3. The Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) and Europol have entered into a significant Working Arrangement aimed at combating crime and fostering cooperation between the two agencies.

4. Tech Mahindra and IBM have joined forces to inaugurate a Synergy Lounge in Singapore, aimed at accelerating digital adoption for enterprises across the Asia-Pacific region.
 - Tech Mahindra and IBM announce the opening of a Synergy Lounge in Singapore.
 - The Lounge will focus on technologies such as AI, Intelligent Automation, Hybrid Cloud, 5G, Edge Computing, and Cybersecurity.

5. The Comptroller and Auditor General of India has signed a Memorandum of Understanding with the Indian Institute of Technology (IIT) Delhi in New Delhi on Artificial Intelligence.
 - Under this MoU, CAG and IIT-Delhi would partner in four key areas, such as the use of AI in audits, audits of AI systems, capacity building, and knowledge sharing.

6. The Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) has been honored with the prestigious Aviation Week Laureates Award for its remarkable achievements in the Chandrayaan-3 mission.
 - Sripriya Ranganathan, Deputy Ambassador at the Indian Embassy in the US, accepted the award on behalf of ISRO.

7. Bina Agarwal and James Boyce have been awarded the first “Global Inequality Research Award” for their significant contributions to understanding global inequalities, specifically in the areas of social and environmental inequalities.
8. The Surat Diamond Bourse (SDB) has appointed Govind Dholakia, a Rajya Sabha MP from Gujarat, as its new chairman.
 - Previous chairman, Vallabhbhai Patel (Lakhani) resigned from his position.
9. Mariam Mammen Mathew, CEO of Manorama Online, has been appointed as the Chairperson of the Digital News Publishers Association (DNPA) for a two-year.
 - She succeeds Tanmay Maheshwari, Managing Director of Amar Ujala.
 - Puneet Gupta, COO of Times Internet, appointed as the new ViceChairman.
 - Puneet Jain, CEO of Digital HT Media, continues in his role as the Treasurer.
10. MV Rao Chief Executive Officer and Managing Director of the Central Bank of India, was elected as the Chairman of the Indian Banks’ Association for the term 2023-2024.
 - He succeeds Atul Kumar Goel MD & CEO of Punjab National Bank who served as chairman of IBA (2022-23).

- Dinesh Kumar Khara, Chairman of the State Bank of India(SBI), has been re-elected as one of the three deputy Chairmen of IBA.
- SL Jain, MD & CEO of Indian Bank, and N Kamakodi, MD & CEO of City Union Bank have been elected as the other two Deputy Chairmen of IBA.
- Madhav Nair, Country Head & CEO of the Bank of Bahrain and Kuwait, will serve as the honorary secretary of IBA. He served as the Deputy Chairman of IBA for 2022-2023.

11. Indonesian Defence Minister Prabowo Subianto Djojohadikusumo has been elected as the new President of Indonesia through General Election. He is scheduled to become the eighth president of Indonesia in October 2024 and will replace Joko Widodo.

12. World Tuberculosis (TB) Day is an annual observation celebrated on March 24th.

- Tuberculosis (TB) is an infectious disease that mainly affects the lungs. It is caused by a type of bacteria called Mycobacterium tuberculosis.
- The theme for World TB Day 2024 is “Yes! We can end TB”.

13. Every year, on March 24, the International Day for the Right to the Truth concerning Gross Human Rights Violations and for the Dignity of Victims is observed.

- The date of March 24 was chosen to commemorate Monsignor Óscar Arnulfo Romero, who was assassinated on March 24, 1980.
14. Every year on March 23rd, the World Meteorological Day is celebrated. This day marks the establishment of the World Meteorological Organization (WMO) in 1950.
- The WMO is a specialized agency of the United Nations.
 - The theme for World Meteorological Day 2024 is “At the Frontline of Climate Action”.
15. Shaheed Diwas, or Martyr’s Day, is a solemn occasion observed in India to pay homage to the brave souls who laid down their lives for the nation’s freedom struggle.
- Among the various dates commemorating sacrifices, March 23 holds a significant place in history.
 - this date marks the execution of three iconic freedom fighters – Bhagat Singh, Shivaram Rajguru, and Sukhdev Thapar – by the British colonial government.