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VOCABULARY

1. Defamation: The act of damaging someone's reputation.
 - Synonyms: Vilification, Slander, Calumny, Smear.
 - Antonyms: Acclaim, Commendation, Admiration.
 - sentence: She faced legal consequences for spreading defamation about her former colleague.

2. Ramification: The result of an action.
 - Synonyms: Consequence, Outcome, Repercussion.
 - Antonyms: Insignificance, Irrelevance, Triviality.
 - sentence: The unexpected change had serious ramifications for our plans.

3. Impair: To damage the quality of something.
 - Synonyms: Weaken, Diminish, Undermine.
 - Antonyms: Strengthen, Enhance, Improve, Fortify.
 - sentence: The medication may impair your ability to drive safely.

4. Stifling: Causing difficulty in breathing.
 - Synonyms: Suffocating, Suppressing, Smothering, Inhibiting.
 - Antonyms: Unleashing, Liberating, Stimulating, Encouraging.
 - sentence: The intense heat was stifling, making it difficult to breathe comfortably.

- 5. Admonition:** A gentle warning given to someone for their actions.
- Synonyms: Reprimand, Scolding, Rebuke, Chastisement.
 - Antonyms: Praise, Commendation, Applause, Endorsement.
 - sentence: Despite the admonition, he proceeded with his reckless behavior.
- 6. Apposite:** Highly appropriate.
- Synonyms: Suitable, Relevant, Pertinent, Accurate.
 - Antonyms: Irrelevant, Inapt, Improper, Inappropriate.
 - sentence: His timely remark was apposite to the situation, easing tensions in the room.
- 7. Pejorative:** Negative attitude towards someone or something
- Synonyms: Derogatory, Offensive, Degrading, Insulting.
 - Antonyms: Flattering, Admiring, Praiseworthy, Appreciative.
 - sentence: The use of pejorative language can be hurtful and divisive.
- 8. Unprecedented:** Something that has never happened before.
- Synonyms: Novel, Groundbreaking, Exceptional.
 - Antonyms: Ordinary, Conventional, Traditional.
 - sentence: The company's rapid growth in such a short time is unprecedented in the industry.

IDIOMS AND PHRASES

9. To throw obstacles in someone's path: To make things difficult for someone.
10. To put a lid on something: To try to suppress or control something.
11. To hit the nail on the head: To describe or identify something accurately.
12. Setting aside: To ignore or disregard something temporarily in order to focus on other matters.
13. Stand for: To endure or tolerate something.

CURRENT AFFAIRS

28th March, 2024

1. After eight years of Socialist rule in Portugal, Luis Montenegro, leader of the centre-right Democratic Alliance (AD), has been appointed as the new prime minister. However, his minority government faces challenges due to his refusal to ally with the far-right Chega party.
2. The Norwegian Academy of Science and Letters has awarded the 2024 Abel Prize to Michel Talagrand of the French National Center for Scientific Research (CNRS), Paris, France.
3. Chris Brown of Britain has become the first person in history to reach Point Nemo, the oceanic pole of inaccessibility in the Pacific Ocean. The Point Nemo is located in the southern Pacific Ocean east of New Zealand.
4. Budget airline IndiGo is named as the 'Airline of the Year' at the Air Transport Awards 2024 held in Greece's Athens last week. The high-profile event witnessed the participation of some of the most prominent names in the industry.

5. The Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare released a new dwarf coconut variety named 'Kalpa Suvarna' and two new hybrid varieties of cocoa developed by the Central Plantation Crops Research Institute (CPCRI).
6. The Archaeological Survey of India (ASI) is conducting excavations at two mounds in Nachnevillage, located in the Panna district of Madhya Pradesh. The goal of these excavations is to uncover what could potentially be the oldest temple in India.
7. The entire 22-member crew of the cargo ship that struck a major bridge in Baltimore early on March 26, causing it to snap and plunge into the river below are Indians, the company said.
 - The Singapore-flagged container ship "Dali" collided with one of the pillars of the Francis Scott Key Bridge in Baltimore at approximately 1:30 am local time.
8. The Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) has achieved another milestone with the successful re-entry of the PSLV Orbital Experimental Module-3 (POEM-3) into the Earth's atmosphere, leaving no debris in orbit.
 - The PSLV-C58/XPoSat mission, which took place on January 1, 2024, has demonstrated ISRO's commitment to responsible space operations and debris mitigation.

9. The Border Roads Organisation (BRO) on Tuesday connected strategically important allweather 298-km long road from Manali to Leh through Darcha and Nimmu on the Kargil– Leh Highway.
10. Eveready Industries India (EIL) has announced a partnership with Neeraj Chopra, the reigning Olympic gold medalist and World no. 1 in men's javelin throw, as its new brand ambassador.
11. 83% of Jobless Indians are youth : report published by ILO.