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VOCABULARY

- Bewilderment (Noun):** a state of confusion.
 - Synonyms: Perplexity, Astonishment, Dismay, Bafflement.
 - Antonyms: Enlightenment, Decisiveness, Clarity.
 - sentence: Her unexpected question caused him bewilderment.
- Robust (Adjective):** something that is strong.
 - Synonyms: Vigorous, Resilient, Sturdy, Sound.
 - Antonyms: Fragile, Vulnerable, Flimsy, Fragile.
 - sentence: The robust sales figures indicated a strong demand for the new product in the market.
- Gauging (Verb):** act of measuring something.
 - Synonyms: Estimating, Assessing, Evaluating, Calculating.
 - Antonyms: Disregarding, Overlooking, Ignoring.
 - sentence: The engineer was gauging the depth of the river before constructing the bridge.
- Reconcile (Verb):** to restore a harmonious relationship.
 - Synonyms: Unite, Rectify, Mediate, Resolve.
 - Antonyms: Antagonize, Conflict, Alienate, Divide.
 - sentence: They tried to reconcile their conflicting schedules to find time to meet.

5. **Veto (Verb)**: to reject or prohibit a decision.

- Synonyms: Overrule, Quash, Decline, Deny.
- Antonyms: Sanction, Allow, Approve, Endorse.
- sentence: The President vetoed the bill citing concerns about its economic impact.

6. **Dismantle (Verb)**: to demolish something.

- Synonyms: Take apart, Break down, Disassemble.
- Antonyms: Create, Assemble, Establish, Built.
- sentence: Before closing the factory, they need to dismantle the machinery.

7. **Posed (Verb)**: the action of presenting oneself or an idea in a certain way.

- Synonyms: Put forward, Constituted, Proposed.
- Antonyms: Withdrew, Renounced, Abstained.
- sentence: The sudden storm posed a danger to the hikers on the mountain.

8. **Ambivalence (Noun)**: having mixed feelings or contradictory attitudes toward someone or something.

- Synonyms: Uncertainty, Doubtfulness, Equivocation.
- Antonyms: Certainty, Clarity, Single-mindedness.
- sentence: His ambivalence about the decision is clear from his conflicted expression.

9. **Stampede (Noun/ Verb)**: a sudden rush of people causing chaos and resulting in injuries.
- Synonyms: Tumult, Panic, Frenzy, Mob.
 - Antonyms: Serenity, Calm, Stability, Tranquility.
 - sentence: The noise of the fireworks caused a stampede as people rushed to exit the crowded stadium.
10. **Famine (Noun)**: an extreme scarcity of food in a particular region.
- Synonyms: Starvation, Hunger, Paucity, Deprivation.
 - Antonyms: Plenty, Opulence, Affluence, Surplus.
 - sentence: The famine ravaged the countryside leaving people desperate for food.

IDIOMS AND PHRASES

11. **Uphill task (Idiom)**: something that is very difficult.
12. **Without any ifs and buts (Idiom)**: Being straightforward or decisive without any hesitation.
13. **Silver lining (Idiom)**: a ray of hope or positive aspect in a difficult situation.
14. **Brush off (Phrasal verb)**: to ignore someone or something.
15. **Scaling down (Phrasal verb)**: the action of reducing the size or scope of something.

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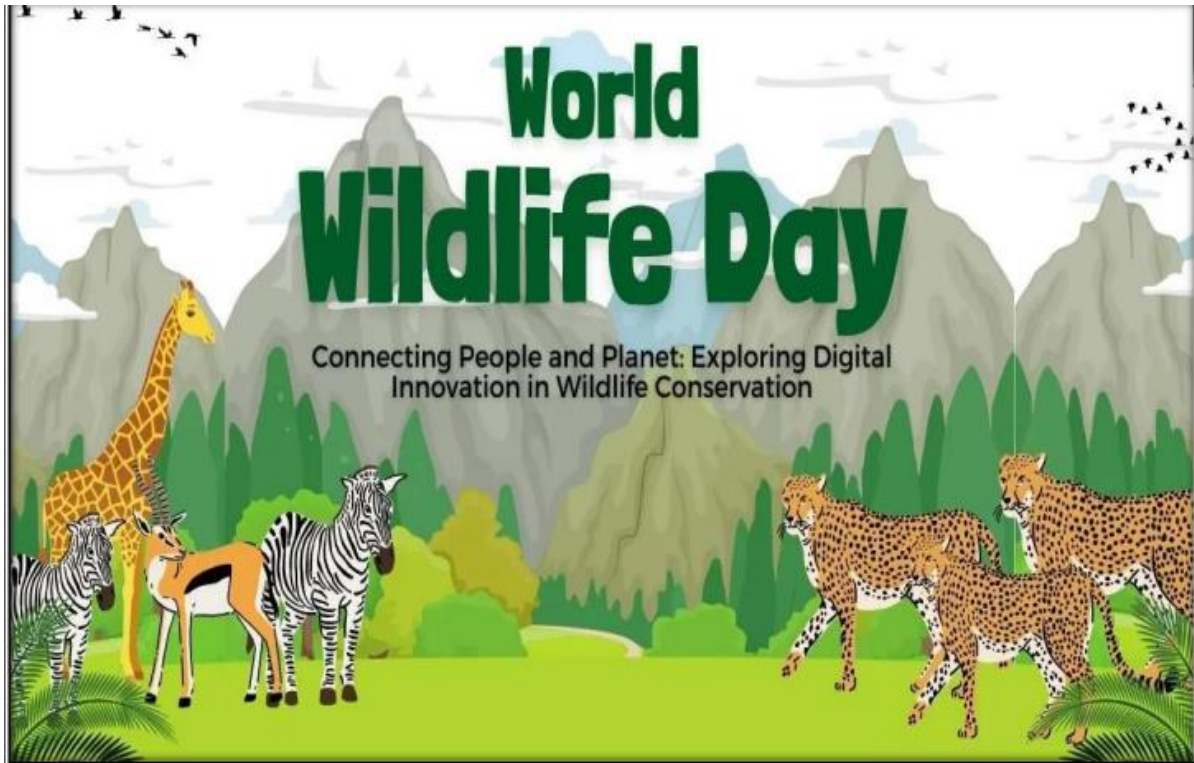
4th March, 2024



1. Iran announced the successful launch of its domestically manufactured 'Pars-I' remote sensing satellite into orbit using a Russian Soyuz-2.1b rocket.
 - The event marks growing strategic space cooperation between both nations amid shared Western sanctions.



2.



- World Wildlife Day, celebrated annually on March 3, serves as a poignant reminder of the urgent need to protect and preserve the world's fauna and flora.
- The theme for World Wildlife Day 2024, “Connecting People and Planet: Exploring Digital Innovation in Wildlife Conservation.”



3. A team of archaeologists from Oxford University have excavated a new Harappan site near Dholavira called Lodrani.
4. From February 20 to 28, over 1500 military personnel participated in the Eastern Command Anti Tank Guided Missile (ATGM) field firing exercise at Teesta Field Firing Range, West Bengal, India.
 - This annual training operation aimed to enhance proficiency in employing ATGMs under various tactical scenarios.
 - The exercise saw the firing of over 260 missiles, emphasizing the 'One Missile, One Tank' strategy, and included participation from various units of the Infantry and Mechanised Infantry Battalion.
5. The Zoological Survey of India named a new marine species of head-shield sea slug with ruby red spot which was discovered from West Bengal and Odisha coast after President of India Droupadi Murmu.
6. The Exercise Samudra Laksamana kicked off on February 28 and will continue until March 2, taking place at or off the coast of Visakhapatnam.

7. The Indian government has taken a significant step toward becoming self-reliant in semiconductor production by approving the establishment of 3 semiconductor fabrication units.
 - The approvals involve an investment of Rs 1.26 lakh crore (\$15.2 billion) including Rs 76,000 crore support under the 'Development of Semiconductors and Display Manufacturing Ecosystem' programme.
8. Prime Minister Narendra Modi inaugurated the Hindustan Urvarak & Rasayan Ltd (HURL) Sindri Fertiliser Plant in Dhanbad, Jharkhand, marking a milestone since its foundation in 2018.
9. The Khelo India University Games 2023 concluded on February 29, 2024, in Guwahati.
 - Chandigarh University emerged as the overall champion of the games with 71 medals, including 32 gold, 18 silver, and 21 bronze.
10. In the first UEFA Women's Nations League Final Spain emerged victorious with a 2-0 win.
11. 21-ft Maharana Pratap statue unveiled in Hyderabad.
12. Cuttack silver Filigree (Chandi Tarakashi) gets Geographical Indication Tag.