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VOCABULARY

- 1. Impair:** To weaken or damage the quality of something.
 - Synonyms: Diminish, Undermine, Sabotage, Harm.
 - Antonyms: Strengthen, Repair, Bolster, Enhance.
 - sentence: The medication can impair your judgement.

- 2. Lacuna:** A gap or missing part.
 - Synonyms: Void, Absence, Blank, Vacancy.
 - Antonyms: Completion, Entirety, Unity, Wholeness.
 - sentence: The library's collection has a lacuna in its records from the 18th century.

- 3. Concurring:** To agree or express agreement.
 - Synonyms: Conforming, Harmonizing, Aligning, Assenting.
 - Antonyms: Opposing, Dissenting, Objecting, Differing.
 - sentence: Despite their differences, they were concurring on this particular issue.

- 4. Indispensable:** Absolutely necessary or essential.
 - Synonyms: Crucial, Critical, Vital, Fundamental.
 - Antonyms: Optional, Dispensable, Secondary, Expendable.
 - sentence: Water is indispensable for life.

- 5. Reverting:** To return to a previous state or condition.
 - Synonyms: Returning, Regressing, Readopting.
 - Antonyms: Progressing, Evolving, Advancing, Improving.
 - sentence: She promised not to revert to her old habits.

6. Reiterate: To say or do something again.

- Synonyms: Repeat, Recapitulate, Reaffirm, Echo.
- Antonyms: Modify, Change, Alter, Edit, Revise.
- sentence: Let me reiterate, Punctuality is key to success.

7. Tampering: Unauthorized alterations to something.

- Synonyms: Manipulating, Meddling, Fiddling, Disturbing.
- Antonyms: Preserving, Upholding, Protecting, Maintaining.
- sentence: The athlete was disqualified for tampering with his blood sample.

8. Toiled: Work hard continuously.

- Synonyms: Struggled, Labored, Grinded, Sweated.
- Antonyms: Relaxed, Rested, Lounged, Slacked.
- sentence: She toiled all day in the garden, planting flowers and weeding the beds.

9. Apprehension: A feeling of anxiety or fear that something unpleasant will happen.

- Synonyms: Unease, Nervousness, Worry, Concern.
- Antonyms: Calmness, Serenity, Tranquility, Composure.
- sentence: He felt a twinge of apprehension before stepping onto the stage.

- 10.** Suspicion: A feeling of doubt or mistrust toward someone or something.
- Synonyms: Skepticism, Cynicism, Wariness, Hunch.
 - Antonyms: Trust, Faith, Confidence, Belief.
 - sentence: The detective had a suspicion that suspect was not telling the truth.

IDIOMS AND PHRASES

- 11.** Bone of contention: A subject or issue that causes conflict between people or groups.
- 12.** Bring to the floor: To introduce a topic for discussion in a formal setting.
- 13.** Teeth one needs to carry forward: Essential qualities that someone needs to maintain future situations.
- 14.** Shot down: To be rejected or disapproved.
- 15.** Push back against: To resist or oppose something.

CURRENT AFFAIRS

27th April, 2024

1. Recently Papua New Guinea (PNG) has appointed its first defence advisor to India. PNG has appointed 'Colonel Edison Napyo' to this post. Colonel Edison Napyo succeeds Commodore Philip Polewara, PNG's acting Chief of Defense Forces in India.
2. The first in-person Ocean Decade Conference was held in Barcelona, Spain, from 10 to 12 April 2024.
 - It was organised by the government of Spain with UNESCO's Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission.
 - The theme of the 2024 Ocean Decade Conference in Barcelona was: Delivering the science we need for the ocean we want.
3. World Intellectual Property Day, celebrated annually on April 26, is a global observance that highlights the significance of intellectual property (IP) rights.
 - The theme for World Intellectual Property Day 2024 is "IP and the SDGs: Building our common future with innovation and creativity."

4. India takes a significant step in renewable energy with the inauguration of its first multi-purpose green hydrogen pilot project at the 1,500 MW NathpaJhakri Hydro Power Station (NJHPS) in Himachal Pradesh's Jhakri. Spearheaded by Satluj Jal Vidyut Nigam (SJVN), the project aims to produce green hydrogen through renewable energy sources.
5. The fourth session of the Intergovernmental Negotiating Committee (INC-4) to develop an international legally binding treaty on plastic pollution commenced recently in Ottawa, Canada.
 - The objective of this penultimate round of negotiations is to refine the text of the draft agreement, aiming to finalize the treaty at the fifth session (INC-5) in November 2024.
6. The Reserve Bank of India has barred Kotak Mahindra Bank from onboarding new customers through its online and mobile banking channels and issuing fresh credit cards for failing to build IT systems and controls commensurate with its growth leading to serious deficiencies and non-compliances with regulatory requirements.
7. The Indian Historical Records Commission (IHRC) has adopted a new logo and motto in April 2024. The new motto of IHRC has been adopted 'Yatraitihasaam Bhavishyaam Prasakshantah'.

Logo Consolation Prizes:

- Ms. Manaswee Chandwaskar (Indore, Madhya Pradesh)
- Ms. Deepika Mandal (Bengaluru, Karnataka)
- Ms. Nonanda Verma (Jodhpur, Rajasthan)
- Ms. Shivanshi Chauhan (Chuttmalpur, Uttarakhand)

Motto Consolation Prizes:

- Ms. Jasneet Kaur (SAS Nagar, Punjab)
- Naresh Agrawal (Indore, Madhya Pradesh)
- Shri Raju Chatterjee (Kolkata, West Bengal)
- Shri Rinkal (Bharuch, Gujarat)

8. In a remarkable literary odyssey, P.S. Sreedharan Pillai, the Governor of Goa, has embarked on a mission to unveil the state's rich natural heritage through a series of captivating books. His latest offering, "Heavenly Islands of Goa," is a testament to his dedication to preserving and promoting the state's lesser-known facets.

9. A road is being constructed by China in a part of illegally occupied Kashmir close to the Siachen Glacier - considered the world's highest battlefield, as shown by satellite pictures, which could have security implications for India.

10. Former Commonwealth Games gold medalist Narsingh Pancham Yadav was elected the Chairman of the Athletes Commission of the Wrestling Federation of India (WFI) on 24 April 2024. With Narsingh Yadav's election to this post, the process mandated by the world governing body of sports was completed.

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