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VOCABULARY

1. Impeding: Slowing down the progress of something.
 - Synonyms: Hindering, Obstructing, Thwarting, Inhibiting.
 - Antonyms: Assisting, Fostering, Facilitating, Supporting.
 - sentence: The construction work is impeding traffic flow.

2. Pessimistic: Having a negative outlook.
 - Synonyms: Melancholic, Gloomy, Fatalistic, Bleak.
 - Antonyms: Optimistic, Hopeful, Rosy, Cheery.
 - sentence: Despite his pessimistic predictions, the project ended up being a great success.

3. Dampened: To decrease the intensity or enthusiasm of something.
 - Synonyms: Diminished, Lessened, Subdued.
 - Antonyms: Stimulated, Energized, Invigorated.
 - sentence: The negative feedback dampened her enthusiasm for the project.

4. Portentous: Something that forebodes a significant event.
 - Synonyms: Premonitory, Ominous, Predictive.
 - Antonyms: Insignificant, Mundane, Trivial.
 - sentence: His portentous warning left us feeling uneasy about the future.

- 5. Perfunctory:** Something done with little interest or effort.
- Synonyms: Half-hearted, Lackluster, Unenthusiastic.
 - Antonyms: Thorough, Meticulous, Diligent, Attentive.
 - sentence: The student's perfunctory answers showed a lack of understanding of the topic.
- 6. Clement:** Merciful in disposition or character.
- Synonyms: Lenient, Mild, Benevolent, Kind.
 - Antonyms: Punitive, Stern, Harsh, Rigid.
 - sentence: Even in the face of adversity, his clement demeanor remained unchanged.
- 7. Stubbornly:** Doing something in a determined manner.
- Synonyms: Obstinate, Firmly, Rigidly, Resolutely.
 - Antonyms: Flexibly, Compliantly, Submissively.
 - sentence: He stubbornly refused to admit he was wrong.
- 8. Advent:** The arrival of a significant event.
- Synonyms: Onset, Inception, Commencement.
 - Antonyms: Conclusion, Termination, Closure.
 - sentence: The advent of spring brings warmer weather with blooming flowers.
- 9. Negotiable:** Something that can be discussed or settled through discussion.
- Synonyms: Adjustable, Flexible, Amenable, Variable.
 - Antonyms: Inflexible, Non-negotiable, Fixed, Rigid.
 - sentence: Most terms of the contract are negotiable

except for the deadline.

- 10.** Decelerate: To reduce the speed of something.
- Synonyms: Slacken, Retard, Slow down, Languish.
 - Antonyms: Escalate, Accelerate, Hasten, Expedite.
 - sentence: She gently applied the brakes to decelerate as she approached the red light.

IDIOMS AND PHRASES

- 11.** Elephant in the room : An obvious problem that everyone is aware but chooses not to address openly.
- 12.** Loses traction: A situation where something begins to lose grip or effectiveness.
- 13.** Augur well: To indicate a favourable outcome.
- 14.** Mulls over: To consider or think about something carefully.
- 15.** Run into : To encounter unexpectedly.

CURRENT AFFAIRS

8th April, 2024

- 1.** World Health Day is observed annually on 7 April to raise awareness about global health issues and promote healthy living. This day is celebrated as the anniversary of the establishment of the World Health Organization (WHO).
 - The purpose of this day is to make people aware about the importance of health. This day is celebrated all over the world to make people aware of health.
 - Every year a certain theme is declared to celebrate World Health Day. The theme of this year 2024 is 'My Health, My Rights'.
- 2.** The Indian Coast Guard ship Samudra Paheredar, which is on overseas deployment at Ho Chi Minh city, conducted joint training on marine oil pollution response with the Vietnam Coast Guard.
- 3.** S.A.R.A.H. (Smart AI Resource Assistant for Health) is an innovative digital health promoter prototype launched by the WHO, leveraging generative AI to provide empathetic, personalized health support across multiple languages and devices.

4. First batch of 64 Indian workers from Haryana and Uttar Pradesh leave for Israel: The recruitment process in India sped up after Israel banned Palestinian workers following October 7 attacks; safety, ethical concerns raised by workers' groups; no clarity on whether workers will be posted in conflict zones.
5. India aims to construct its first commercial crude oil strategic storage to bolster results as a precaution against potential supply interruptions.
 - Indian strategic Petroleum Reserve Limited (ISPRL) has invited bids for building 2.5 million tonnes of underground storage at Padur in Karnataka.
6. On April 4, 2024, the Army inducted 'Akashteer Command and Control System' into the Air Defence Corps of the Indian Army to strengthen air defence security. The Army has prepared this air defence system to meet new challenges.
7. Former judge Najmi Waziri has been appointed by the Delhi High Court to head a committee tasked with protecting the forests in the national capital, addressing concerns over lack of cooperation.
8. Kodaikanal Solar Observatory celebrated its 125th birth anniversary. Over the years, it has played a crucial role in advancing our understanding of solar activity and its impact on Earth's climate and space weather.

9. The rock paintings at Kumittipathi village near Coimbatore are significant testimonies to the prehistoric Kongu region.
 - Believed to be around 3,000 years old, these cave paintings depict an elephant, a chariot, and scenes from the lives of early inhabitants. Despite their cultural and historical importance, the paintings are at risk due to damage caused by miscreants.
10. Bilquis Mir, a canoeist from Jammu and Kashmir, is set to make history as the first woman from India to represent the country as a jury member at the upcoming Summer Olympics in Paris.
11. Chess: India has a new No. 1 as Arjun Erigaisi climbs to No. 9 in the world.