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VOCABULARY

- 1. Incumbent:** Currently holding office or a position.
 - Synonyms: Current, present, in office.
 - Antonyms: Former, previous, ex.
 - Example: The incumbent president is running for re-election next year.
- 2. Denouement:** The final resolution of a dramatic or narrative plot; the outcome of a complex sequence of events.
 - Synonyms: Conclusion, resolution, outcome.
 - Antonyms: Beginning, introduction, start.
 - Example: The novel's denouement was both surprising and satisfying.
- 3. Imbroglio:** An extremely confused, complicated, or embarrassing situation.
 - Synonyms: Entanglement, predicament, quandary.
 - Antonyms: Solution, clarity, simplicity.
 - Example: The political imbroglio caused by the scandal lasted for months.
- 4. Churn:** A state of disorder or confusion.
 - Synonyms: Turmoil, upheaval, unrest.
 - Antonyms: Stability, calm, tranquility.
 - Example: The market churn following the financial crisis was unprecedented.

5. **Accrue:** To increase or accumulate over time, especially in terms of benefits or interests.
- Synonyms: Accumulate, gather, amass.
 - Antonyms: Diminish, decrease, lose.
 - Example: Interest will accrue on the savings account at a rate of 3% annually.
6. **Protracted:** Lasting for a long time or longer than expected or usual.
- Synonyms: Prolonged, extended, lengthy.
 - Antonyms: Short, brief, concise.
 - Example: The protracted negotiations finally came to an end.
7. **Impediment:** A hindrance or obstruction in doing something.
- Synonyms: Obstacle, barrier, hurdle.
 - Antonyms: Aid, assistance, support.
 - Example: A lack of funding is a serious impediment to scientific research.
8. **Relentless:** Continuing in a severe or extreme way without stopping.
- Synonyms: Unyielding, persistent, unceasing.
 - Antonyms: Intermittent, sporadic, occasional.
 - Example: The relentless heat wave lasted for weeks.

9. Extermination: Complete destruction or killing of a group of people or animals.
- Synonyms: Annihilation, eradication, genocide.
 - Antonyms: Preservation, protection, saving.
 - Example: The extermination of the pests was necessary to save the crops.
10. Efficacy: The ability to produce a desired or intended result.
- Synonyms: Effectiveness, efficiency, potency.
 - Antonyms: Ineffectiveness, inefficacy, inadequacy.
 - Example: The efficacy of the new drug was proven in clinical trials.

IDIOMS AND PHRASES

11. A mare's nest – A false invention.
12. A man of straw - A weak person.
13. Call a spade a spade– Straight talks.
14. Field day - An enjoyable day or circumstance.
15. Doing the rounds – To be passed from one person to Another.

CURRENT AFFAIRS

24th May, 2024

- 1.** The 10th World Water Forum under the theme of "Water for Shared Prosperity" officially opened on Indonesia's island of Bali.

 - Meanwhile ANTARA reported that President Joko Widodo (Jokowi) chaired the 10th World Water Forum High Level Meeting at the Bali International Convention Centre (BICC), Nusa Dua, Bali. Meanwhile ANTARA reported that President Joko Widodo (Jokowi) chaired the 10th World Water Forum High Level Meeting at the Bali International Convention Centre (BICC), Nusa Dua, Bali.
- 2.** The National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) is set to launch its latest mission known as the Polar Radiant Energy in the Far-Infrared Experiment (PREFIRE).

 - The space agency will launch twin shoebox-size climate satellites which will study two of the most remote regions on Earth - the Arctic and Antarctic.
- 3.** Norway, Ireland and Spain said Wednesday they are recognizing a Palestinian state in a historic move that drew condemnation from Israel and jubilation from the Palestinians. Israel immediately ordered back its ambassadors from Norway and Ireland and appeared ready to do the same with its ambassador to Spain.

4. The winner of the International Booker Prize 2024 was announced in London's Tate Modern on Tuesday, May 21, 2024. German author Jenny Erpenback and translator jointly won the International Booker Prize 2024 for the book 'Kairos'.
5. The auspicious festival of Buddha Purnima marks the birth of Prince Siddhartha Gautama, who became the Gautama Buddha and founded Buddhism.
 - The sacred festival is also known as Buddha's birthday, Buddha Day or Buddha Jayanti. Primarily a Buddhist festival, the day is celebrated in most of South, Southeast and East Asia, including India, Sri Lanka, Nepal, Bhutan, Tibet, Thailand, Tibet, China, Korea, Laos, Vietnam, Mongolia, Cambodia, Indonesia, and more.
6. CDS Gen Anil Chauhan attended 'Exercise Cyber Suraksha – 2024' to strengthen India's cyber defence.
 - The comprehensive cyber defence exercise is being conducted by Defence Cyber Agency from 20 - 24 May 2024. It aims to further develop Cyber Defence Capability of all Cyber security organisations and promote synergy amongst all stakeholders. It focusses on enhancing collaboration and integration among participants from various military and prominent national organizations.

- 7.** The Reserve Bank of India Board has recently decided to transfer the surplus amount in a windfall gain for the Centre, around ₹2,10,874 crores to the Union Government for the accounting year 2023-24.

 - In this accounting year, RBI is going to transfer the double amount that it had transferred to the Union Government last year which was ₹87,416 crores.
- 8.** Indian Oil Corporation Ltd. (IOCL) has exported its first consignment of 100 octane premium fuel, XP100, to Sri Lanka. This high-quality fuel is designed for premium vehicles .
- 9.** The Bay of Bengal Initiative for Multi-Sectoral Technical and Economic Cooperation (BIMSTEC) can now accept new members and observers. This follows after the first charter of BIMSTEC came into force on May 20.
- 10.** Virat Kohli became the first batter in the history of the Indian Premier League (IPL) to score 8000 runs, during the IPL 2024 Eliminator between Rajasthan Royals (RR) and Royal Challengers Bengaluru (RCB) at the Narendra Modi Stadium in Ahmedabad on Wednesday.
- 11.** Spain becomes 99th member of International Solar Alliance.