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VOCABULARY

1. **Bounty:** a generous gift or reward, often given by a government
 - Synonyms: reward, generosity
 - Antonyms: penalty, deprivation
 - Sentence: The government issued a bounty for information leading to the capture of the fugitive.

2. **Surplus:** an amount of something left over when requirements have been met; excess
 - Synonyms: excess, overflow
 - Antonyms: shortage, deficit
 - Sentence: The warehouse had a surplus of goods after the sudden decline in demand.

3. **Pencilled:** to write down or schedule tentatively
 - Synonyms: scheduled, noted
 - Antonyms: confirmed, finalized
 - Sentence: The meeting was pencilled in for next Thursday.

4. **Lingering:** lasting for a long time or slow to end
 - Synonyms: persistent, enduring
 - Antonyms: fleeting, brief
 - Sentence: The fragrance of her perfume had a lingering effect in the room.

5. Overseas: located in a foreign country, especially across a sea or ocean
- Synonyms: abroad, international
 - Antonyms: domestic, local
 - Sentence: He had to travel overseas for his company's new project.
6. Prudence: the quality of being cautious and wise in practical affairs
- Synonyms: wisdom, caution
 - Antonyms: recklessness, imprudence
 - Sentence: Prudence in financial management can prevent future crises.
7. Contingency: a future event or circumstance that is possible but cannot be predicted with certainty
- Synonyms: possibility, eventuality
 - Antonyms: certainty, inevitability
 - Sentence: A good business plan includes strategies for dealing with any contingency.
8. Bonanza: a situation or event that creates a sudden increase in wealth, good fortune, or profits
- Synonyms: windfall, jackpot
 - Antonyms: misfortune, loss
 - Sentence: The discovery of oil in the area proved to be a bonanza for local residents.

- 9. Consolidation:** the act of combining several items into a single more effective or coherent whole
- Synonyms: merger, unification
 - Antonyms: separation, division
 - Sentence: The consolidation of the firms resulted in a stronger competitive position in the market.
- 10. Resilience:** the capacity to recover quickly from difficulties; toughness
- Synonyms: toughness, flexibility
 - Antonyms: fragility, vulnerability
 - Sentence: Her resilience helped her overcome the challenges she faced after the accident.

IDIOMS AND PHRASES

- 11. Shot in the arm** - Something that boosts or revitalizes.
- 12. Elbow room** - Sufficient space to move or work in; freedom to alter plans or make decisions.
- 13. Paved the path** - Made progress or preparation easier; prepared the way.
- 14. Set aside** - To reserve something, usually time or money, for a particular purpose.

CURRENT AFFAIRS

25th May, 2024

1. South Korea's science and information technology minister said on Wednesday the world must cooperate to ensure the successful development of AI, as a global summit on the rapidly evolving technology hosted by his country wrapped up.
 - The AI summit in Seoul, which is being co-hosted with Britain, discussed concerns such as job security, copyright and inequality on Wednesday, after 16 tech companies signed a voluntary agreement to develop AI safely a day earlier.
2. The Indian Army, under its initiative Project Udbhav, is delving into the epic battles of the Mahabharata and the strategic brilliance of past Indian dynasties, shaping India's rich military heritage.
3. BRO's Project Vijayak in Kargil successfully utilized the REJUPAVE technology for road construction in Drass, among the world's coldest regions.
 - REJUPAVE, developed by CSIR-CRRI, enhances bituminous road durability and reduces heat requirements, lowering greenhouse gas emissions.
 - This innovation allows construction at extreme altitudes, improving road lifespan & environmental sustainability.

4. SIDBI and Airbus Helicopters have joined forces to provide financing for helicopter purchases in India, aiming to boost accessibility for civil operators.
5. Saga Dawa, the most sacred Buddhist festival marking Buddha Shakyamuni's birth, enlightenment, and parinirvana, was celebrated in Sikkim.
 - The festival occurs annually on 15th day of the fourth month of the Northern Buddhist Calendar, known as the 'Triple Blessed Occasion'.
 - Sikkim's Governor, Lakshman Prasad Acharya, extended warm greetings and good wishes to the people of Sikkim on this day.
6. Aligning with the quota policy applied in permanent government positions, the State government has now made it mandatory to provide 33% reservation for women in services and posts that are being outsourced by various government departments and organisations.
7. According to a recent report by the Wildlife Institute of India, there are more than 4000 dolphins in the Gangetic River basin. Out of the 4000 river dolphins found in the Ganga River and its tributaries, more than 2000 are found in Uttar Pradesh alone. In Uttar Pradesh, the dolphins are mainly found in the Chambal River.

- According to experts, the marked increase in the number of river dolphins in Gangetic river basins indicates that the river's pollution level is declining and the government's conservation effort is paying off.
8. The International Olympic Committee (IOC) has launched the "Let's Move India" campaign in collaboration with the Reliance Foundation and the Abhinav Bindra Foundation.
- The International Olympic Committee (IOC) has launched the "Let's Move India" campaign in collaboration with the Reliance Foundation and the Abhinav Bindra Foundation.
9. Neanderthals who lived 50,000 years ago were infected with three viruses that still affect modern humans today, researchers have discovered.
10. Tinkesh Kaushik, a 30-year-old man from Goa, has become the world's first triple amputee to reach the Mount Everest Base Camp. Despite his physical disabilities, he said he managed to achieve the feat owing to his mental strength