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VOCABULARY

1. Turnout: the number of people attending an event or participating in an activity
 - Synonyms: Attendance, crowd
 - Antonyms: Absence, shortage
 - Sentence: The turnout for the concert was much higher than expected.
2. Conundrum: a confusing and difficult problem or question
 - Synonyms: Puzzle, riddle
 - Antonyms: Solution, answer
 - Sentence: The detectives faced a conundrum when all the evidence pointed to different suspects.
3. Stocktaking: the action or process of reviewing and assessing one's current situation or position
 - Synonyms: Inventory, audit
 - Antonyms: Neglect, overlook
 - Sentence: Year-end stocktaking is essential for the business to plan for the next year.
4. Dampen: make less strong or intense
 - Synonyms: Lessen, diminish
 - Antonyms: Encourage, intensify
 - Sentence: The sudden rain did little to dampen the spirits of the parade-goers.

5. Absolute: complete and total

- Synonyms: Total, utter
- Antonyms: Conditional, partial
- Sentence: He had absolute confidence in his team's ability to win.

6. Delimitation: the action of fixing the boundary or limits of something

- Synonyms: Demarcation, boundary setting
- Antonyms: Opening, unlimiting
- Sentence: The delimitation of urban growth zones has been a topic of heated debate among city planners.

7. Unprecedented: never done or known before

- Synonyms: Unmatched, novel
- Antonyms: Common, familiar
- Sentence: The athlete's performance was unprecedented in the history of the sport.

8. Enthusiasm: intense and eager enjoyment, interest, or approval

- Synonyms: Zeal, fervor
- Antonyms: Apathy, indifference
- Sentence: Her enthusiasm for the project was contagious and motivated the entire team.

9. Outnumber: be larger in number than another group

- Synonyms: Exceed, surpass
- Antonyms: Undergo, trail
- Sentence: In the wild, predators are usually outnumbered by their prey.

IDIOMS AND PHRASES

10. Closer look - Detailed examination or analysis.
11. Cause for concern - A situation that is worrying or problematic.
12. Bump in - A sudden increase in something.

CURRENT AFFAIRS

29th May, 2024

1. Leaders of China, Japan, and South Korea will meet for their ninth trilateral summit in Seoul. This is the first summit being held in four years between the Nations. The meeting comes a day after the leaders met separately for bilateral talks with each other on Sunday.
 - According to Seoul officials, the leaders are expected to release a joint statement on six areas including the economy and trade, science and technology, people-to-people exchanges and health and the aging population. Meanwhile, Japan said North Korea has given notice that it plans to launch a rocket to deploy a satellite.
2. France completed the first force assessment firing of its new nuclear air launched cruise missile, the upgraded medium-range air-to-ground strategic missile (ASMPAR).
 - The ASMPAR was launched without its military payload from a Rafale B at the end of a flight “representative of a nuclear raid”, according to a release from the French Ministry of Defense.
3. Six NATO countries—Finland, Norway, Poland, Estonia, Latvia, and Lithuania—are planning to build a coordinated drone defence system because of increased security worries and tensions along their borders with Russia.

- The goal of this project, which is often called the “drone wall,” is to make the border safer from possible threats like military provocations and drug trafficking.
4. The Appointments Committee of the Cabinet, Government of India, headed by Prime Minister Narendra Modi, has approved the extension of the tenure of the current Army Chief General Manoj Pande for one more month. General Manoj Pande was to retire on 31 May 2024, and his term was extended until 30 June 2024.
 5. A Papua New Guinea government official has told the United Nations that more than 2,000 people are believed to have been buried alive by last Friday’s landslide and has formally asked for international help.
 6. Purnima Shrestha, a 32-year-old mountaineer from Gorkha, Nepal, and a photojournalist become first woman to climb Mount Everest three times in the same season.
 - Achieved the triple ascent in just 13 days.
 - Surpassed the previous record of any woman summiteer for climbing Everest thrice in a single season.
 - Has climbed Everest four times, with her first summit in 2018.
 - Her achievement symbolizes the empowerment of female climbers and serves as an inspiration for women to pursue their dreams.

7. Idol Wing CID (IW-CID) of Tamil Nadu police will bring back an antique Chola-era bronze idol of 'Kaliya Kalki' also called as Kaliya Narthana Krishna (Dancing Krishna) which was stolen several years ago and now recovered from Bangkok.
8. The Adani Group's Adani Ports and Special Economic Zone Ltd (APSEZ) will be added to the Sensex on the Bombay Stock Exchange (BSE) on June 24.
 - With this important step forward, APSEZ is the first company under the Adani Group's control to join the Sensex, replacing the technology firm Wipro.
 - This happened after APSEZ and another Adani company, Adani Enterprises, were added to the National Stock Exchange's (NSE) Nifty index. Adani prices went up after a rough time when they dropped a lot because of claims by Hindenburg Research that there were financial problems, which Adani has denied.
9. A 4.4 magnitude earthquake struck Italy's Campi Flegrei super volcano Monday evening, causing mild damage in the town of Pozzuoli, the epicenter, and as far away as the city of Naples, some 20 kilometers (12 miles) away, according to Italy's National Institute of Geophysics and Volcanology (INGV).

10. A portion of the Virupaksha temple in Karnataka collapsed following torrential rains on Tuesday (May 21). Located at the historical site of Hampi, the temple's pavilion or the saalu mantap was damaged, leading some conservationists to blame Archaeological Survey of India (ASI) officials for allegedly neglecting its protection and conservation.

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