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VOCABULARY

1. Deference: Humble submission and respect.
 - Synonyms: esteem, respect, regard, attention
 - Antonyms: dishonor, ignorance, disrespect, defiance
 - Example: She treated her hosts with due deference.

2. Countenance: Admit as acceptable or possible.
 - Synonyms: Tolerate, permit, accept
 - Antonyms: Deny, oppose, reject
 - Example: The school does not countenance cheating during exams.

3. Interminably: Endless or seemingly endless.
 - Synonyms: Incessantly, perpetually, unceasingly
 - Antonyms: Temporarily, briefly, shortly
 - Example: The lecture went on interminably, and students grew restless.

4. Conflate: Combine two or more texts, ideas, etc., into one.
 - Synonyms: Merge, blend, fuse
 - Antonyms: Separate, divide, split
 - Example: The author conflates historical facts with fiction in his novel.

5. **Invoking:** Cite or appeal to someone or something as an authority.
- Synonyms: Summoning, calling upon, appealing
 - Antonyms: Disregarding, ignoring, neglecting
 - Example: He invoked his right to remain silent during the interrogation.
6. **Substantiate:** Provide evidence to support or prove the truth of.
- Synonyms: Validate, confirm, verify
 - Antonyms: Disprove, refute, invalidate
 - Example: The scientist was able to substantiate his hypothesis with clear evidence.
7. **Anomalous:** Deviating from what is standard, normal, or expected.
- Synonyms: Irregular, abnormal, atypical
 - Antonyms: Normal, typical, regular
 - Example: The anomalous weather patterns have puzzled scientists.
8. **Tampering:** Interfere with something to cause damage or make unauthorized alterations.
- Synonyms: Meddling, interfering, altering
 - Antonyms: Protecting, preserving, safeguarding
 - Example: The security system showed no signs of tampering.

9. Scrutinise: Examine or inspect closely and thoroughly.

- Synonyms: Inspect, examine, investigate
- Antonyms: Glance, overlook, skim
- Example: The auditor will scrutinise the financial records for any discrepancies.

IDIOMS AND PHRASERS

10. A mare's nest: A false invention
11. A damp squib: Complete failure
12. An eyewash: A pretence
13. Bits and Pieces: small things of different types
14. Bite your tongue: To avoid talking

CURRENT AFFAIRS

31st May, 2024

1. India assumes chair of Colombo process for 2024-26:

- India has become chair of regional grouping Colombo process for the 1st time since its inception in 2003.
- Colombo process is a Regional Consultative Process of migrant worker origin countries from South and South-East Asia. It serves as a forum for exchange of best practices on overseas employment.

2. New algal species discovered in Western Ghats:

- A group of phycologists from the Department of Botany at Catholicate College in Pathanamthitta has discovered a new algal species in the Western Ghats.

3. India successfully test-fires RudraM-II air to surface missile

- DRDO successfully test-fired a RudraM-II air to surface missile from a Su-30 fighter jet of the Indian Air Force off the coast of Odisha.
- RudraM-II is an indigenously developed anti-radiation missile developed by DRDO.

4. RBI launches PRAVAAH Portal and Mobile app for G secs trading:

- The Reserve Bank of India launched 3 major initiatives, including a mobile app, to enable retail investors to participate in the government securities (G-Secs) market
- The Central bank launched the PRAVAAH portal for any individual or entity to apply online for various regulatory approvals in a seamless manner.
- Fintech Repository, launched by RBI Governor Shaktikanta Das will be a data storehouse of Indian FinTech firms for a better understanding of the sector from a regulatory perspective and facilitate in designing appropriate policy approaches.

5. Reliance Industries to begin construction on India's 1st multimodal logistics park near Chennai:

- Conceptualised 12 years ago, India's 1st Multimodal Logistics Park at Mappedu near Chennai will see the limelight as Reliance Industries starts construction in June, 2024.
- In 2022, the company beat Adani Group to win the bid for the Rs 1,424 crore project on 184.27 acres of land in Tiruvallur district.

6. After analysing the archived from NASA's Magellan mission, scientist say they observed new lava flows on Venus, suggesting that the planet was volcanically active between 1990 and 1992.

7. PM Modi to meditate at Tamil Nadu's Vivekananda Rock Memorial to mark culmination of Lok Sabha campaign:

- PM Narendra Modi will be on a spiritual retreat for 2 days after the Lok Sabha election campaign ends.
- He will visit Kanyakumari in Tamil Nadu to meditate ahead of the poll results on June 4. He will meditate at the Dhyana Mandapam from the evening from May 30 to the evening of June 1, 2024.
- PM Modi will arrive at the rock memorial and will be meditating through the day and night at the place which was also the place where Swami Vivekananda is said to have meditated and was visited by the vision of "BHARAT MATA".

8. Praggnanandhaa clinches 1st classical chess win over world no. 1 Carlsen:

- Indian Grandmaster R Praggnanandhaa claims his maiden classical game victory over world no. 1 Magnus Carlsen to take the sole lead in the Norway Chess tournament here.

- The 18-year-old Indian, who has beaten Carlsen in the rapid /exhibition games quite a few times, took the leader's position with 5.5 points after 3 rounds.

9. **India bags seven medals at the Asian Armwrestling Championship 2024:**

- The Indian Armwrestlers performed creditably in the recently concluded Asian Armwrestling Championship by winning seven medals i.e. one gold and six bronze.
- The Asian Armwrestling Championship was held in Tashkent, Uzbekistan.

10. Telengana bans Pan Masala, Gutka containing Tobacco & Nicotine with immediate effect for one year.