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VOCABULARY

- 1. Undermining:** To make someone less confident, less powerful, or less likely to succeed, or to make something weaker, often gradually/ Eroding the base or foundation of something; weakening.
 - Synonyms: Eroding, Disable, Undercut, Sabotaging, weakening
 - Antonyms: Strengthening, Fortifying, Supporting, Reinforcing
 - Sentence: Constant criticism can have the effect of undermining someone's confidence.

- 2. Legitimate:** Reasonable, Conforming to the law or to rules; acceptable.
 - Synonyms: Licit, Permitted, Legal, Lawful, Valid
 - Antonyms: Illegal, Illegitimate, Unlawful, Invalid
 - Sentence: The company must ensure that all its business practices are legitimate.

- 3. Overhaul:** A thorough examination of machinery or a system, with repairs or changes made if necessary.
 - Synonyms: Renovation, repair, improvement
 - Antonyms: Neglect, damage, ruin
 - Sentence: The company decided to overhaul its outdated computer system.

4. Teething: Relating to the early stages of development; initial problems or difficulties.

- Synonyms: Initial, early, preliminary
- Antonyms: Advanced, mature, developed
- Sentence: The new project is experiencing some teething problems, but they should be resolved soon.

5. Mitigating: Making something less severe, serious, or painful.

- Synonyms: Alleviating, reducing, lessening
- Antonyms: Aggravating, worsening, intensifying
- Sentence: Effective policies are essential for mitigating the impact of climate change.

6. Enchantment: A feeling of great pleasure; delight.

- Synonyms: Delight, fascination, allure
- Antonyms: Disgust, repulsion, disenchantment
- Sentence: The children watched in enchantment as the magician performed his tricks.

7. Unfettered: Free from restrictions; not controlled.

- Synonyms: Unrestricted, unrestrained, free
- Antonyms: Restricted, restrained, limited
- Sentence: The artist enjoyed unfettered creative freedom.

8. Enforcement: The process of making people obey a law or rule, or making a particular situation happen or be accepted.

- Synonyms: Accomplish, Invoke, Administer, Execution Implementation, Imposition
- Antonyms: Neglect, disregard, oversight
- Sentence: Strict enforcement of the new policies is essential to the Institute.

9. Reinforcing: Strengthening or supporting an object, structure, or idea.

- Synonyms: Supporting, Bolstering, Strengthening, Fortifying
- Antonyms: Weakening, undermining, reducing
- Sentence: Our camp is reinforcing with supplies flown in by helicopter.

IDIOMS AND PHRASES

- 10.** Play hardball: Act aggressively and ruthlessly
- 11.** Jack of all trades: A person who can do many different types of work.
- 12.** Gift of the gab: The ability to speak with eloquence and fluency.
- 13.** Man of his word: A man who keeps promises, who can be trusted.
- 14.** Top dog: The most important person or organization in a particular situation.

CURRENT AFFAIRS

29th July, 2024

1. The Town Official Language Implementation Committee (TOLIC) honored Public Sector Undertakings (PSUs) in Visakhapatnam with the 'Rajbhasha Gaurav Samman' for the year 2023-24. The event was hosted by NTPC and was presided over by Atul Bhatt, Chairman of TOLIC and CMD of RINL.

Category I

- First Prize: HPCL-Visakha Refinery
- Second Prize: NTPC Simhadri
- Third Prize: Airport Authority of India

Category II

- First Prize: GAIL
- Second Prize: HPCL-Visakha Regional Office
- Third Prize: SAIL – Branch Transport & Shipping Office
- Consolation Prize: FCI-Regional Office

Category III

- First Prize: MSTC
- Second Prize: HPCL LPG
- Third Prize: ECGC (Export Credit Guarantee Corporation of India)

2. Sri Lanka secured their first Women's Asia Cup title win on Sunday, beating India with a clinical run-chase in front of home fans. This was also just the second time in their nine final appearances that India failed to win the Women's Asia Cup.

Player of the Match

- Harshitha Samarawickrama

Player of the Tournament

- Chamari Athapaththu

3. Hamzah Haz, the vice-president of Indonesia from 2001 to 2004, has died. He was aged 84. Hamzah, who served under President Megawati Soekarnoputri, died at a hospital in Jakarta on July 24, a politician from the Development Planning Party, known as PPP, said in a locally televised interview.

4. India's first integrated agri-export facility will come up at Jawaharlal Nehru Port, Mumbai. Shipping ministry has approved a Rs 284 crore public-private partnership (PPP) project to revolutionise agri-logistics and reduce wastage.

- 5.** International Tiger Day, also known as Global Tiger Day, is observed on 29 July every year. It was established to raise awareness about tiger conservation and to promote the protection of their natural habitats. Tigers are among the most iconic and endangered species on Earth, facing numerous threats such as habitat loss, poaching, and human-wildlife conflict.
- The day serves as a reminder of the importance of preserving these majestic big cats and their ecosystems. Conservation efforts aim not only to safeguard tigers but also to protect biodiversity and maintain healthy ecosystems that benefit all species, including humans.
- 6.** The Central Reserve Police Force (CRPF) is the largest paramilitary force in India, playing a pivotal role in maintaining internal security. Its journey began on July 27, 1939, when it was established as the Crown Representative's Police. Post-independence, it was renamed the Central Reserve Police Force in 1949.
- CRPF Raising Day is a tribute to the indomitable spirit of the force and its commitment to serving the nation. Their selfless dedication makes them true guardians of India.

7. On the eve of the six-day monsoon session, the Jharkhand Assembly Speaker's Tribunal on Thursday disqualified two legislators under the anti-defection law with effect from July 26, 2024.

- Jharkhand Mukti Morcha(JMM) MLA Lobin Hembrom represents the Borioseat in Sahibganj district whereas BJP MLA J.P. Patel represents the Mandu Assembly seat in Ramgarh district.

8. President Cyril Ramaphosa of South Africa signed a major climate change act into law in October 2023. This law tries to limit the amount of pollution big polluters can make and requires every municipality to make a plan for dealing with climate change. This makes South Africa's efforts more in line with the Paris Climate Agreement.

9. Myanmar's acting President has taken medical leave and transferred his duties to Military Chief Min Aung Hlaing, the junta said on Monday.

- Myanmar has been in turmoil since the military seized power in 2021, deposing the government of democracy leader Aung San Suu Kyi.

- 10.** Typhoon Gaemi has made landfall in mainland China after wreaking havoc in Taiwan and the Philippines.
- More than 150,000 people living in the south-eastern Chinese province of Fujian have been relocated to safer areas in anticipation of the storm.
 - It comes after widespread flooding and landslides across Taiwan and the Philippines, killing at least 21 people.
 - The Philippines says it is "racing against time" to contain an oil spill after a tanker carrying 1.5 million litres of industrial fuel capsized and sank off of the country's coast.
- 11.** Quad Leaders' Summit is proposed to be held in India in 2024. The dates are yet to be decided.
- Quad is a plurilateral framework comprising India, Australia, Japan, and the USA, with a shared commitment to upholding a free, open, and inclusive Indo-Pacific.
 - The next Quad Summit will seek to address the priorities of the Indo-Pacific countries pertaining to climate, critical and emerging technologies, infrastructure and connectivity, health, humanitarian assistance and disaster relief, maritime security, counterterrorism and other aspects.
 - With its positive and constructive agenda, Quad has emerged as a force for global good. Quad's initiatives are aimed at complementing the region's development priorities, accelerating the implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals, and delivering public goods to countries in the Indo-Pacific region.

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