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## VOCABULARY

1. Cohesive: Forming a united whole.
  - Synonyms: Unified, united, integrated
  - Antonyms: Divided, disjointed, fragmented
  - Sentence: The team worked as a cohesive unit, which was key to their success.
  
2. Legatee: A person who receives a legacy.
  - Synonyms: Heir, inheritor, beneficiary
  - Antonyms: Predecessor, ancestor, forebear
  - Sentence: As the legatee of the family estate, he was responsible for its upkeep.
  
3. Conundrum: A confusing and difficult problem or question.
  - Synonyms: Enigma, puzzle, riddle
  - Antonyms: Solution, answer, clarification
  - Sentence: The CEO faced a conundrum when the company's profits began to decline unexpectedly.
  
4. Acrimony: Bitterness or ill feeling.
  - Synonyms: Bitterness, rancor, hostility
  - Antonyms: Harmony, kindness, goodwill
  - Sentence: The acrimony between the two political parties was evident during the heated debate.

5. Intertwined: Twisted or twined together.
- Synonyms: Entwined, interwoven, interconnected
  - Antonyms: Separated, untangled, unconnected
  - Sentence: Their lives were so closely intertwined that they could hardly function independently.
6. Espoused: Adopt or support (a cause, belief, or way of life).
- Synonyms: Embrace, advocate, promote
  - Antonyms: Reject, oppose, deny
  - Sentence: She espoused the principles of equal rights and justice for all.
7. Posturing: Behavior intended to impress or mislead.
- Synonyms: Pretending, posing, feigning
  - Antonyms: Sincerity, genuineness, authenticity
  - Sentence: The politician's posturing was aimed at gaining public approval rather than addressing real issues.
8. Garnered: Gather or collect (something, especially information or approval).
- Synonyms: Accumulated, gathered, collected
  - Antonyms: Dispersed, scattered, lost
  - Sentence: The researcher garnered significant data to support her thesis.

9. Stalemate: A situation in which no progress can be made or no advancement is possible.
- Synonyms: Deadlock, impasse, standstill
  - Antonyms: Breakthrough, progress, advancement
  - Sentence: Negotiations reached a stalemate, with neither side willing to compromise.
10. Reprise : A repeated passage in music; a recurrence or repetition of an action.
- Synonyms: Recurrence, repetition, echo
  - Antonyms: Original, new occurrence, debut
  - Sentence: The actor's reprise of his famous role delighted long-time fans.

### **IDIOMS AND PHRASES**

11. When pigs fly : something that will never happen.
12. A piece of cake : something is very easy.
13. See eye to eye : this means agreeing with someone.
14. Blue in the face : To be exhausted due to strain or anger.
15. Time is money : To work quickly.

## CURRENT AFFAIRS

9<sup>th</sup> July, 2024

1. The Yogi Adityanath govt has announced the launch of 'Mitra Van' as part of Vriksharopan Jan Abhiyan-2024 along the border of Uttar Pradesh and Nepal.
  - For this initiative, at least 35 forest divisions will identify locations for the establishment of 'Mitra Vans'.
2. The Ministry of Culture has initiated Project PARI (Public Art of India) on the occasion of the 46th Session of the World Heritage Committee Meeting.
  - The 46th session of the World Heritage Committee Meeting will take place in New Delhi from July 21-31.
3. The high level committee constituted under chairmanship of Orissa High Court judge Justice Biswanath Rath for supervising the inventorisation of jewelleries and other valuables stored in Ratna Bhandar of Shree Jagannath Temple, Puri has fast-tracked the process of opening the temple treasury after 46 years.
  - The committee's first meeting was convened at Puri on July 6. "Based on the official records available to the committee, it has been confirmed that a duplicate key exists for the Ratna Bhandar locks. A follow-up meeting has been scheduled for July 9, during which the key will be presented to the committee," said Justice Rath.

4. Eruptions at Italy's Mount Etna and the smaller Stromboli volcano spewed hot ash and lava, raising alert levels on the Mediterranean island of Sicily and forcing a temporary shutdown of Catania Airport on Friday.
- Etna, one of the world's most active volcanoes, has seen intense activity in recent days, lighting up the sky near the city of Catania, while Stromboli off the northern Sicilian coast has spilled lava into the sea.
5. The prototype of the country's indigenous light tank Zorawar is ready and will soon be subjected to extensive trials, Defence officials said. The tank was unveiled on July 6.
- It was jointly developed by the Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) along with Larsen & Toubro (L&T) as the lead integrator.
  - The tank is currently powered by a Cummins engine and DRDO has taken up a project to develop a new engine domestically, officials said.
  - "It has been developed from the drawing board within shortest possible time and capable of operation in the most challenging environment on the earth, i.e. extreme weather and extreme height with minimal logistic support in high altitude area along the northern border of India," a Defence official said. First prototype is ready after factory acceptance. Shortly, it will be subjected to internal trials in the field area and thereafter handed over to the users for trials, the source stated.

- 6.** On July 7th, 2024, the world will come together to celebrate the 3rd World Kiswahili Language Day at UNESCO Headquarters in Paris.
  - This year's theme, "Kiswahili: Education and Culture of Peace," highlights the important role of this African language in promoting understanding and harmony across cultures.
- 7.** LIC on June 4, announced the launch of 'Jeevan Samarth', an initiative aimed at transforming the agency ecosystem. To achieve this, Life Insurance Corporation (LIC) has partnered with a global consulting firm, which will undertake this agency transformation project by reviewing its existing agency framework on an end-to-end basis.
- 8.** National Commission for Protection of Child Rights (NCPCR) declared the mica mines of Jharkhand 'child labour-free' at an event in Koderma, Jharkhand. NCPCR chairperson Priyank Kanoongo announced this as the first-ever successful endeavor to cleanse a supply chain of child labour in mica mining.
- 9.** Dhruv Sitwala defeated Pankaj Advani to win the 2024 Asian Billiards Championship in Riyadh, Saudi Arabia. The Asian Championship was organised by the Asian Confederation of Billiard Sports (ACBS) in Riyadh, Saudi Arabia, from 27th June to 5th July 2024.

- The Asian Championship included the Men's Snooker Team Championship, Men's Billiards Championship and Women's Asian Snooker Championship events.
- 10.** Lewis Hamilton has won the British Grand Prix 2024. He became the first F1 driver to win on any track nine times and also extended his F1 record to 104 wins.
- 11.** Rachel Reeves, 45, becomes 1<sup>st</sup> woman UK Finance-Minister.

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