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## VOCABULARY

1. **Traversing:** Traveling across or through.
  - Synonyms: Crossing, navigating, moving through
  - Antonyms: Staying, remaining
  - Sentence: The expedition team spent months traversing the Arctic tundra in harsh conditions.
  
2. **Prolific:** Producing many works, results, or offspring; highly productive.
  - Synonyms: Productive, creative, abundant
  - Antonyms: Unproductive, barren, unfruitful
  - Sentence: The prolific author published three books in a single year.
  
3. **Eclectic:** Deriving ideas, style, or taste from a broad and diverse range of sources.
  - Synonyms: Diverse, varied, comprehensive
  - Antonyms: Narrow, limited, homogeneous
  - Sentence: The artist's eclectic style was influenced by a wide range of cultural traditions.
  
4. **Duopoly:** A situation in which two companies or entities dominate a market or sector.
  - Synonyms: Pair, partnership, oligopoly
  - Antonyms: Monopoly, competition
  - Sentence: The tech industry was dominated by a duopoly of two major firms for years.

5. Buoyant: Able to float or rise; cheerful and optimistic.
- Synonyms: Cheerful, lively, optimistic
  - Antonyms: Depressed, gloomy, pessimistic
  - Sentence: The company's buoyant financial reports led to a surge in investor confidence.
6. Aegis: The protection, backing, or support of a particular person or organization.
- Synonyms: Protection, support, patronage
  - Antonyms: Opposition, attack
  - Sentence: The project was developed under the aegis of the National Science Foundation.
7. Nuanced: Characterized by subtle differences or variations.
- Synonyms: Subtle, delicate, refined
  - Antonyms: Obvious, clear-cut, straightforward
  - Sentence: The actor's nuanced performance captured the complexity of the character.
8. Touted: Attempted to sell or promote something, often aggressively.
- Synonyms: Promoted, advertised, recommended
  - Antonyms: Discouraged, downplayed
  - Sentence: The new smart phone was widely touted as a groundbreaking innovation.

- 9. Clamour:** A loud and confused noise, especially that of people shouting.
- Synonyms: Outcry, uproar, din
  - Antonyms: Silence, calm, quiet
  - Sentence: The clamour from the protestors could be heard from several blocks away.
- 10. Adept:** Very skilled or proficient at something.
- Synonyms: Skilled, proficient, expert
  - Antonyms: Inept, unskilled, novice
  - Sentence: She is adept at solving complex mathematical problems quickly.

### IDIOMS AND PHRASES

- 11. Pitch in:** to start to do something.
- 12. Cutting corners:** to do something in the quickest or cheapest way.
- 13. Break the bank:** to cost too much
- 14. Cash cow:** a product or service that makes a lot of money.
- 15. Out of pocket:** having lost money in a transaction.

## CURRENT AFFAIRS

11<sup>th</sup> September, 2024

1. On September 9, 2024, Nepal officially became the 101st member of the International Solar Alliance (ISA). The Instrument of Ratification was handed over by Nepal's Chargé d'Affaires, Surendra Thapa, to the ISA officials in New Delhi. This membership marks a significant step for Nepal in its commitment to promoting renewable energy and addressing climate change.
  - The International Solar Alliance (ISA) is a coalition of solar resource-rich countries, initiated by India and France during the COP21 Paris Agreement in 2015. The ISA aims to promote solar energy and reduce dependence on fossil fuels by facilitating the deployment of solar technologies globally.
2. The government of Telangana has taken a significant step towards establishing itself as a global AI hub by signing a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with the World Trade Centres' Association for the creation of a World Trade Centre (WTC) within the proposed AI City near Hyderabad.

- 3.** Researchers from the Indian Institute of Science Education and Research (IISER) Bhopal have made an exciting discovery by uncovering three new species of ginger in the Eastern parts of India, particularly in the states of Mizoram and Meghalaya.

  - These new types of ginger are special because of their unique flower shapes, and together, they are called the “dancing girls” ginger species.
- 4.** The first legally binding AI treaty, signed by the US, EU, and UK, prioritizes human rights and democracy, adopting a risk-based approach to AI regulation across public and private sectors.

  - The Framework Convention on AI by the Council of Europe aims to mitigate AI threats to human rights, democracy, and the rule of law. Unlike the EU AI Act, it ensures AI lifecycle activities align with these principles.
- 5.** In a first, India and the United Arab Emirates (UAE) on Monday signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) for civil nuclear cooperation. The deal between the Nuclear Power Corporation of India Limited (NPCIL) and the ENEC (Emirates Nuclear Energy Company)-led Barakah Nuclear Power Plant Operations and Maintenance took place during the Indian visit of Sheikh Khalid bin Mohamed bin Zayed Al Nahyan, the Crown Prince of Abu Dhabi.

- During the August 2015 visit of Prime Minister Narendra Modi to the UAE, both countries had agreed to cooperate in “peaceful use of nuclear energy”, including in areas of “safety, health, agriculture, and science and technology.” Diplomatic sources pointed out that nothing like the agreement between the NPCIL and the ENEC had been signed before. The NPCIL-ENEC agreement is part of the UAE’s policy of expanding investments into the nuclear energy sector.
6. The 54th meeting of the Goods and Services Tax (GST) Council, chaired by union Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman, concluded at the Sushma Swaraj Bhawan, New Delhi.
  7. Launched in 2019, PM-KMY provides a monthly pension of Rs. 3,000 to small and marginal farmers aged 60 and above. Farmers contribute monthly, with equal matching from the government. The scheme has reached 23.38 lakh farmers, enhancing financial stability and social security for rural communities.
  8. Shri Amit Shah has been unanimously re-elected as Chairperson of the Parliamentary Committee on Official Language. In his address, Shah outlined his vision for promoting Hindi alongside local languages, highlighting efforts to enrich Hindi and develop translation technology.

9. Syria defeated India 3-0 in the last round-robin match to win the 4th Intercontinental Cup men's football championship. India, the defending champions, could not score a single goal in the match.
- The Chief Minister of Telangana, Revanth Reddy, presented the winners' trophy to Syrian captain Mahmoud Al-Mawas, also named the Syed Abdul Rahim Player of the Tournament.
  - The best player of the tournament is given the Syed Abdul Rahim trophy.
  - The All India Football Federation organised the 4th Intercontinental Cup football championship from 3 to 9 September 2024 at the GMC Balayogi Gachibowli Stadium in Hyderabad, Telangana.
  - In the final round-robin match of the Intercontinental Cup, Syria took an early lead with Mahmoud AlAswad's goal in the seventh minute of the match. Later goals from Daleholrandust and Pablo Sabbag turned the match irrevocably in the favour of the visiting Syrian team.
10. Indian boxer Deepali Thapa has made history by becoming the first-ever Asian Schoolgirl Champion in Al Ain, UAE. Her victory led India to secure seven female titles at the Asian Championships. In the 33 kg weight category, Thapa defeated Ukraine's Liudmyla Vasylenko in the final.

- In the 35 kg category, Bhoomi defeated Kazakhstan's Assel Jalimbekova in the final to secure India's second title. Nischal Sharma continued India's winning streak in the 37 kg weight class, overcoming Ukraine's Maria Matsiurain a closely contested final that claimed India's third title.
- In the 43 kg title, Rakhi beat Ukraine's Veronika Holub using close-distance strategies and finishing the bout strong to earn India's fourth title. In the 52kg final, Naitik won against Kazakhstan's Arina Orazymbet, adding another title to India's tally. In the 67kg final, India's Trushana Vinayak Mohite secured a comfortable victory over Ukraine's Anna Hornostal. The day concluded with India's Gurseerat Kaur winning the last of the 15 titles in the schoolgirls' category.