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VOCABULARY

- 1. Crackdown:** Severe measures to restrict or discourage undesirable behavior or enforce laws.
 - Synonyms: Repression, clampdown, suppression
 - Antonyms: Leniency, tolerance, permissiveness
 - Sentence: The government launched a crackdown on illegal mining activities.
- 2. Incitement:** The action of provoking unlawful or violent behavior.
 - Synonyms: Provocation, encouragement, instigation
 - Antonyms: Discouragement, deterrence, prevention
 - Sentence: His speeches were seen as an incitement to rebellion.
- 3. Legitimacy:** Conformity to the law or to rules; the quality of being justified or accepted.
 - Synonyms: Lawfulness, validity, authenticity
 - Antonyms: Illegitimacy, unlawfulness, invalidity
 - Sentence: The legitimacy of the election results was questioned by the opposition.
- 4. Suo motu:** An action taken by a court on its own without a formal request by another party.
 - Synonyms: On its own initiative, self-initiated, self-acting
 - Antonyms: Upon request, reactive, upon appeal
 - Sentence: The court took suo motu action to investigate the illegal land deals.

5. Diplomatic: Concerning the management of relationships between countries; tactful and sensitive in dealing with others.
- Synonyms: Political, tactful, strategic
 - Antonyms: Undiplomatic, blunt, insensitive
 - Sentence: The ambassador's diplomatic skills helped resolve the conflict between the two nations.
6. Scarcity: The state of being in short supply; a shortage.
- Synonyms: Shortage, dearth, insufficiency
 - Antonyms: Abundance, plenty, surplus
 - Sentence: The scarcity of food and medicine led to widespread suffering among the people.
7. Clampdown: A sudden and strict enforcement of regulations or laws, often to limit or stop undesirable behavior.
- Synonyms: Suppression, repression, crackdown
 - Antonyms: Relaxation, tolerance, leniency
 - Sentence: The government's clampdown on free speech led to protests across the country.
8. Unleash: To release or bring into action something powerful or violent.
- Synonyms: Release, trigger, set off
 - Antonyms: Restrain, suppress, hold back
 - Sentence: The dictator unleashed a wave of violence to silence the opposition.

9. Disputed: Argued about or questioned; contested.
- Synonyms: Contested, challenged, questioned
 - Antonyms: Agreed, accepted, uncontested
 - Sentence: The results of the election were widely disputed by the opposition.
10. Revoke: To officially cancel or annul something, such as a law, permit, or agreement.
- Synonyms: Cancel, withdraw, rescind
 - Antonyms: Enforce, approve, enact
 - Sentence: The government decided to revoke the licenses of companies involved in illegal activities.

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

12th September, 2024

1. The IMF has increased India's GDP growth forecast for FY2024-25 to 7%, up from 6.8%, driven by stronger private consumption, especially in rural areas. India's economy, having grown 8.2% in FY2023-24, is set to remain robust, with projected growth of 6.5% in FY2025-26.
2. **Endangered Elongated Tortoise spotted in Aravallis:**
 - The tortoise is medium-sized with a yellowish brown or olive shell and distinct black blotches at the centre of each scute. The tortoise has on its nostril a pink ring, which appears in the breeding season. Mature individuals of both sexes develop a distinct pinkish colouration surrounding the nostrils and eyes during the season.
3. Switzerland has placed first in the Best Countries Ranking 2024 for the third year in a row, while India ranks at 33, three spots below last year.
 - Switzerland has been ranked as the number one country in the world by US News & World Report in its 'Best Countries Ranking 2024', a feat they have achieved for the third year in a row.
4. As many as 54 settlements of the Pahadi Korwa community will be connected through roads in north Chhattisgarh under the Prime Minister JANMAN scheme, a government official said recently.

- 5.** Renowned filmmaker and conservationist Mike Pandey has been awarded the 2024 Jackson Wild Legacy Award, one of the most prestigious global honours in wildlife and environmental filmmaking.

 - The award, presented at a ceremony in Maryland, USA, celebrates Pandey's 45 years of impactful storytelling that has raised awareness about crucial wildlife and environmental issues, according to a statement.

- 6.** With Saora tribals of Gajapati district getting habitat rights over their ancestral lands, Odisha has become the only state in the country to provide such rights to the highest number of particularly vulnerable tribal groups (PVTGs).

 - Saoras have become the fifth tribal group in the state to get the rights that allow them to protect and preserve natural entities, sacred sites and places of religious and spiritual importance located within their habitat.

- 7.** The Indian Navy's P8I aircraft, led by Captain Ajay Kanwar, has arrived in Darwin, Australia, to participate in Exercise Kakadu 2024. This multinational exercise involves over 30 nations and aims to enhance regional cooperation through trusted partnerships. The event includes warships, helicopters, and maritime patrol aircraft and focuses on interoperability among participating armed forces.

- 8.** The Reserve Bank of India has fined Axis Bank ₹1.91 crore and HDFC Bank ₹1 crore for regulatory non-compliance. Axis Bank's violations include multiple customer identification codes and collateral security for agricultural loans. HDFC Bank's issues involve giving gifts to depositors and contacting customers outside permitted hours.
- 9.** India celebrates Digvijay Diwas every year on September 11, honoring the legacy of Swami Vivekananda and commemorating his historic speech at the World's Parliament of Religions in Chicago in 1893. This day is a tribute to Vivekananda's influential address, which introduced Indian spirituality and the philosophy of Vedanta to a global audience.
- Digvijay Diwas 2024 will be celebrated on September 11, marking 131 years since Swami Vivekananda's speech that profoundly impacted the world's understanding of India's religious and cultural heritage.
- 10.** Odisha Chief Minister Mohan Charan Majhi Friday graced the ground-breaking ceremony of India's first silicon carbide manufacturing facility to be set up in Odisha at an investment of Rs620 crore.
- The project will be developed by RIR Power Electronics Limited, a leader in India's semiconductor power electronics technology at the EMC Park, Infovalley, Bhubaneswar.