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VOCABULARY

- 1. Ramp up:** To increase or cause to increase in amount, speed, or intensity.
 - Synonyms: Increase, boost, escalate
 - Antonyms: Decrease, reduce, diminish
 - Sentence: The company decided to ramp up production to meet the growing demand.
- 2. Impairment:** The state or fact of being weakened or damaged, especially mentally or physically.
 - Synonyms: Deterioration, disability, damage
 - Antonyms: Improvement, enhancement, strengthening
 - Sentence: The accident caused a significant impairment in his cognitive abilities.
- 3. Reciprocation:** The act of responding to an action or gesture with a corresponding one.
 - Synonyms: Return, response, interchange
 - Antonyms: Neglect, disregard, ignorance
 - Sentence: The team's success was a reciprocation of their hard work and dedication.
- 4. Buoyed:** To encourage or uplift; to keep something afloat or supported.
 - Synonyms: Encouraged, uplifted, supported
 - Antonyms: Discouraged, deflated, depressed
 - Sentence: The athlete was buoyed by the crowd's cheers during the final stretch of the race.

5. Curtailing: To reduce or limit something.

- Synonyms: Reducing, cutting down, limiting
- Antonyms: Increasing, expanding, extending
- Sentence: The government is considering curtailing spending on non-essential projects.

6. Subservient: Prepared to obey others unquestioningly; less important or secondary.

- Synonyms: Submissive, obedient, subordinate
- Antonyms: Dominant, superior, independent
- Sentence: He refused to be subservient to anyone and always stood up for his rights.

7. Alienation: The feeling of being isolated or estranged from a group or society.

- Synonyms: Estrangement, isolation, detachment
- Antonyms: Inclusion, integration, acceptance
- Sentence: The policy changes led to a sense of alienation among the employees.

8. chorus: A group of people saying the same thing at the same time; a repeated part of a song.

- Synonyms: Unison, harmony, agreement
- Antonyms: Dissonance, discord, disagreement
- Sentence: There was a chorus of complaints from the employees about the new policy.

9. Exploited: To make full use of and derive benefit from a resource; to use someone or something unfairly for one's own advantage.
- Synonyms: Utilized, abused, taken advantage of
 - Antonyms: Supported, protected, aided
 - Sentence: Workers felt exploited by the company's unfair labor practices.
10. Recurrence: The fact of occurring again or repeatedly.
- Synonyms: Reappearance, repetition, return
 - Antonyms: Termination, cessation, end
 - Sentence: The recurrence of the disease worried the doctors and patients alike.

IDIOMS AND PHRASES

11. Birds of a feather: of the same kind or nature
12. Cover a lot of ground: to discuss everything in detail
13. Drop-in on: make a casual or informal visit to a person or place
14. Go through fire and water: to experience many Difficulties
15. A hard nut to crack: something which is difficult to deal with

CURRENT AFFAIRS

13th August, 2024

1. India is on the brink of commissioning its second nuclear-powered ballistic missile submarine, INS Arighat, and has received approval to construct six additional nuclear submarines to enhance its maritime defense.
2. In an effort to mitigate the rising human-elephant conflict in Assam, state minister Nandita Gorlosa launched the "HaatiApp" on Saturday. The app developed by Aaranyak, a leading biodiversity conservation organisation, aims to reduce conflict between humans and elephants while upholding coexistence, reports Dhrubajyoti Malakar.
 - The app will initially be introduced in high intensity human-elephant conflict zones in Goalpara, Chirang and Baksa, before being tried in other parts of the northeast.
3. Madhya Pradesh has commissioned the largest floating solar project in central and north India, generating 90 MW at Omkareshwar. The project, costing Rs 646 crore, aims to produce 196.5 million units in the first year, reducing carbon emissions significantly. Developed by SJVN Green Energy Limited, it supports India's goal of net zero carbon emissions by 2070.

4. India will host some of the top shooters from around the globe in the ISSF World Cup Final 2024 in October.
 - The Dr Karni Singh Shooting Range in New Delhi will be the venue for the shooting event. The same facility had also hosted the 2017 ISSF World Cup Final.
5. Susan Wojcicki, a pioneering figure in the tech industry and former CEO of YouTube, has passed away at the age of 56 following a two-year battle with cancer. The news of her death was confirmed by her husband, Dennis Troper, on August 9.
6. The two varieties include 'Kalpa Suvarna' and 'Kalpa Shatabdi' varieties of coconuts, and two types of cocoa - 'VTL CH1' and 'VTL CH2' developed by ICAR - Central Plantation Crops research Institute (CPCRI) Kasaragod.
 - "It is a great opportunity for CPCRI as four of our varieties are released by the Prime Minister himself.
7. The Madras High Court recently expanded the scope of treating a deity as a juristic personality in law and held that when an idol in a temple is treated as a living person, closing the temple without allowing the customary pujas would amount to the deity's imprisonment.

- 8.** The Neelakurinji (*Strobilanthes kunthiana*), a remarkable flowering shrub native to the montane grasslands of southwest India, has recently been added to the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN) Red List of Threatened Species. This iconic plant, known for its mass blooming once every 12 years, has been classified as Vulnerable according to the IUCN criteria.
- 9.** Goritsa Gruncharova-Kozhareva has been sworn in as Bulgaria's caretaker prime minister, leaving her to oversee an interim government that has held power in the country since the resignation of former prime minister Nikolai Denkov in March.
- She replaces Dimitar Glavchev, who was appointed on 9th April.
- 10.** India and Maldives have signed an agreement to introduce the Unified Payments Interface in the archipelago nation, which will have a "very positive" impact on its tourism sector, External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar has said