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### **VOCABULARY**

- Apportionment: The act of distributing or allocating something.
  - Synonyms: Allocation, distribution, division
  - Antonyms: Retention, withholding, consolidation
  - Sentence: The apportionment of the funds was carefully managed to ensure every department received its fair share.
- 2. Marquee: A large tent used for outdoor events or a key or leading event/project.
  - Synonyms: Main, prominent, leading
  - Antonyms: Minor, secondary, insignificant
  - Sentence: The new sports stadium was one of the marquee projects in the city's development plan.
- **3.** Speculative: Based on conjecture or guesswork rather than on solid evidence.
  - Synonyms: Conjectural, theoretical, hypothetical
  - Antonyms: Factual, certain, concrete
  - Sentence: The stock market saw a rise in speculative trading as investors guessed on future trends.

- **4.** Taper: To gradually lessen or reduce in intensity or extent.
  - Synonyms: Diminish, reduce, lessen
  - Antonyms: Increase, intensify, amplify
  - Sentence: The Federal Reserve announced it would taper its bond-buying program over the next few months.
- **5.** Volatility: The quality of being subject to frequent changes or fluctuations, especially in financial contexts.
  - Synonyms: Instability, fluctuation, unpredictability
  - Antonyms: Stability, steadiness, predictability
  - Sentence: The volatility of the stock market was evident as prices fluctuated wildly from day to day.
- **6.** Contingency: An unforeseen event or situation that requires a plan of action.
  - Synonyms: Emergency, possibility, backup plan
  - Antonyms: Regularity, predictability, certainty
  - Sentence: The company developed a contingency strategy to handle potential market disruptions.
- 7. Infringement: A violation or breach of a law, agreement, or right.
  - Synonyms: Violation, breach, encroachment
  - Antonyms: Compliance, adherence, respect
  - Sentence: The new policy was challenged in court due to its alleged infringement of privacy rights.

- 8. Augment: To make something greater by adding to it.
  - Synonyms: Increase, enhance, expand
  - Antonyms: Decrease, diminish, reduce
  - Sentence: The company plans to augment its production capacity to meet rising demand.
- 9. Apparent: Clearly visible or understood; obvious.
  - Synonyms: Obvious, evident, clear
  - Antonyms: Hidden, obscure, unclear
  - Sentence: The benefits of the new policy were apparent within the first few months of its implementation.

### **IDIOMS AND PHRASES**

- 10. Climb the ladder: To advance or achieve success in a hierarchy, especially in a career
- 11. Bury the hatchet: To make peace or resolve a conflict, usually after a disagreement
- 12. Water under the bridge: something that happened in the past and cannot now be changed
- 13. Jump on the bandwagon: to join in a popular activity
- 14. The tip of the iceberg: it is one small part of a much larger problem

## **CURRENT AFFAIRS 19<sup>th</sup> September, 2024**

- 1. Afghanistan has officially begun working on the Turkmenistan-Afghanistan-Pakistan-India (TAPI) gas pipeline project, marking a significant milestone in the project's implementation progress.
  - The TAPI project, which spans 1,800 kilometers, aims to bring natural gas from Turkmenistan to Afghanistan, Pakistan, and India.
- 2. The Tokyo-based startup aims to follow the success of US-based Intuitive Machines, which in February made the world's first private moon landing.
  - We are excited to announce that Mission 2, featuring the RESILIENCE lunar lander and TENACIOUS micro rover, is now planned to launch no earlier than December 2024.
- 3. Angkor Wat (Cambodia) has been named the most photogenic UNESCO World Heritage site in Asia by Times Travel. This recognition highlights its visual appeal alongside other notable sites like the Taj Mahal and the Great Wall of China.

#### **Cambodia: Key Points**

• Capital: Phnom Penh

• Current Prime Minister: Hun Manet

Official Language: Khmer

Currency: Cambodian Riel (KHR)

- 4. After parliamentary elections marked by public frustration over Jordan's stance on Israel's war on Gaza, King Abdullah II has accepted Prime Minister Bisher al-Khasawneh's resignation. He has appointed technocrat Jafar Hassan as the new prime minister.
- 5. The 4th Global Bio-India 2024 event successfully concluded on 14 September 2024. The three-day event was held in New Delhi from 12 to 14 September 2024. It showcased India's enormous potential in the biotech sector for research, development, and manufacturing to the world. The first Global Bio-India was held in 2021, and since then, it has been held annually.
- 6. Information and Broadcasting Ministry has instituted a new section as part of the International Film Festival of India (IFFI) 2024 for young filmmakers called the 'Best Debut Indian Film Section 2024.' The 55th IFFI is slated to be held in Goa from November 20th to 28th.

- 7. The National Disaster Management Authority (NDMA), in collaboration with the Southern Command of the Indian Army, is organising a twoday national symposium, 'Exercise AIKYA', on disaster management in Chennai.
  - The exercise will feature simulations, technology discussions, and expert insights into various roles of disaster management. The inaugural session was headed by Lt. Gen. Dhiraj Seth, General Officer Commanding-in-Chief (GOC-in-Chief) Southern Command, Lt. Gen. KaranBir Singh Brar, GOC, Dakshin Bharat Area, P. Amudha, Tamil Nadu State Secretary of Revenue Administration and Disaster Management and Lt. Gen. Syed Atna Hasnani, Member, NDMA.
- 8. Squadron Leader Mohana Singh scripted history by becoming the first woman fighter pilot to join the elite 18 'Flying Bullets' squadron, operating India's indigenously 'Made in India' LCA Tejas fighter jet's squadron.
  - The officer was part of the recent exercise, 'Tarang Shakti'
    in Jodhpur, where she was part of the historic flight by
    three Vice Chiefs of the three forces. Her remarkable feat
    underscores the Indian Air Force's commitment to gender
    equality and empowerment.

- 9. The Union Ministry of Ports, Shipping & Waterway has appointed double Olympic medalist shooter Manu Bhaker as its Brand Ambassador. This was announced by the Union Minister for Port Shipping & Waterways, Sarbananda Sonowal, at the 4th Harnessing of the Nari Shakti for the Development of the Nation event held in Chennai, Tamil Nadu, on 17 September 2024 to facilitate women achievers.
- 10. Pager explosions across Lebanon killed at least nine people and injured 2,800 others. The Lebanese government and Hezbollah accuse Israel of orchestrating the attacks as part of a broader escalation in the ongoing conflict.