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## VOCABULARY

- 1. Perceptible:** Able to be seen or noticed.
  - Synonyms: Noticeable, detectable, observable
  - Antonyms: Imperceptible, invisible, hidden
  - Sentence: There was a perceptible change in his behavior after the meeting.
  
- 2. Mandate:** An official order or commission to do something.
  - Synonyms: Directive, instruction, command
  - Antonyms: Suggestion, request, appeal
  - Sentence: The government received a clear mandate from the people to implement new reforms.
  
- 3. Pragmatism:** A practical approach to problems and affairs.
  - Synonyms: Practicality, realism, common sense
  - Antonyms: Idealism, impracticality, irrationality
  - Sentence: His pragmatism helped the company overcome financial challenges.
  
- 4. Abolishing:** To formally put an end to a system, practice, or institution.
  - Synonyms: Repealing, nullifying, ending
  - Antonyms: Establishing, instituting, founding
  - Sentence: The government is planning to abolish outdated laws that are no longer useful.

- 5. Coercively:** In a manner that uses force or threats.
- Synonyms: Forcibly, aggressively, oppressively
  - Antonyms: Voluntarily, freely, willingly
  - Sentence: The authorities tried to coercively implement the new law, causing public unrest.
- 6. Arbiter:** A person who has the power to settle a dispute or decide an outcome.
- Synonyms: Judge, mediator, umpire
  - Sentence: The CEO acted as the final arbiter in the dispute between the departments.
- 7. Prevalence:** The fact or condition of being widespread or common.
- Synonyms: Ubiquity, commonness, dominance
  - Antonyms: Rarity, infrequency, scarcity
  - Sentence: The prevalence of internet usage has changed how people communicate globally.
- 8. Woes:** Great sorrow or distress.
- Synonyms: Misery, trouble, suffering
  - Antonyms: Joy, happiness, comfort
  - Sentence: The company's financial woes led to widespread layoffs.

**9.** Constraint: A limitation or restriction.

- Synonyms: Restriction, limitation, hindrance
- Antonyms: Freedom, liberty, allowance
- Sentence: Due to budget constraints, the project could not be completed on time.

**10.** Battered: Injured or damaged by repeated blows or hard usage.

- Synonyms: Beaten, worn, damaged
- Antonyms: New, unbroken, undamaged
- Sentence: After years of misuse, the old car looked battered and worn out.

### **IDIOMS AND PHRASES**

**11.** A picture paints a thousand words: an image of a subject conveys its meaning or essence more effectively than a description does.

**12.** Bed of roses: an easy, comfortable situation.

**13.** Be hand and foot: in all possible ways; by all means

**14.** Cast in the same mold: to be very similar in character to someone else

**15.** Vote with one's feet: to show disapproval

## **CURRENT AFFAIRS**

### **23<sup>th</sup> September, 2024**

- 1. Cooperation in healthcare- a key Quad priority.**
  - The four leaders committed to detection, prevention and treatment of cervical cancer in the Indo-Pacific region.
  - In keeping with India's vision of ONE WORLD, ONE HEALTH, PM announced the dedication of a grant of US \$7.5 million to cancer testing, screening and diagnostics in the Indo-Pacific region.
- 2. Every year on 22 September the world comes together to celebrate World Rhino Day, a global initiative dedicated to raising awareness about the plight of rhinos and the urgent need to protect these magnificent creatures. Rhinos, once abundant across the globe, now face the threat of extinction due to poaching for their horns, habitat loss, and other human-induced factors.**
- 3. Air Marshal A.P. Singh has been appointed the next Chief of the Air Staff. He is currently the Vice Chief of the Indian Air Force (IAF) and will take over the top post on**

September 30 when the incumbent Air Chief Marshal V.R. Chaudhari retires on superannuation.

- "The Government has appointed Air Marshal Amar Preet Singh presently serving as Vice Chief of the Air Staff, as the next Chief of the Air Staff, in the rank of Air Chief Marshal, with effect from the afternoon of September 30, 2024," a defence ministry statement said on Saturday.
4. Kerala has once again secured first position in the State Food Safety Index (SFSI) 2024, marking the second consecutive year that the southern state has claimed the spot. The report was released in the inaugural session of FSSAI Global Food Regulators Summit 2024.
  5. The poem "National War Memorial" is to appreciate the spirit behind it. The chapter titled 'Veer Abdul Hameed' honors the Braveheart CQMH (Company Quarter Master Havildar). Abdul Hameed who made the supreme sacrifice fighting for the country during the India-Pakistan war of 1965.
  6. Prime Minister Narendra Modi attended the National PM Vishwakarma Program held in Wardha, Maharashtra, on 20 September 2024 to celebrate the first anniversary of the PM

Vishwakarma Scheme. Prime Minister Narendra Modi launched the Central Sector Scheme "PM Vishwakarma" on 17 September 2023 in New Delhi.

- The Prime Minister also distributed Vishwakarma certificates and loans to the scheme's beneficiaries.
- Prime Minister Modi also launched the Maharashtra Government's Acharya Chanakya Skill Development Scheme and the Punyashlok Ahilyadevi Holkar Women Startup Scheme on this occasion.
- Prime Minister Modi laid the foundation stone of PM Mega Integrated Textile Regions and Apparel (PM MITRA) Park at Amravati, Maharashtra.

7. India has secured Tier 1 status in the Global Cybersecurity Index (GCI) 2024, published by the International Telecommunication Union (ITU). This prestigious recognition places India among the world's top cybersecurity performers showcasing the country's commitment to robust digital safety practices on a global scale.

8. Dhruvi Patel, a Computer Information System student from the USA, has been declared the winner of Miss India Worldwide 2024, the longest running Indian pageant outside of India.

### **Winner in Miss India Category**

- Dhruvi Patel from USA was declared winner,

- Lisa Abdoelhak from Suriname was declared the first runner-up,
- Malvika Sharma from the Netherlands was adjudged the second runner-up in the same race.

### Winner in Mrs category

- SuAnn Mouttet from Trinidad and Tobago was the winner,
- Sneha Nambiar the first runner-up,
- Pawandip Kaur from the United Kingdom the second-runner up.

### Winner in Teen Category

- Sierra Suret from Guadeloupe was crowned Miss Teen India Worldwide.
- Shreya Singh from the Netherlands declared first runner-up
- Shradha Tedjoe from Suriname were declared second runners-up.

9. Defence Minister Shri Rajnath Singh, flagged-in, in New Delhi, a first-of-its-kind Open Water Swimming Expedition to the 21 Islands of the Andaman & Nicobar archipelago named after the Param Vir Chakra (PVC) Awardees.

- Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi had named 21 largest unnamed islands of Andaman & Nicobar after the PVC awardees on January 23, 2023 on Parakram Diwas commemorating the birth anniversary of Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose.

- 10.** Team India fast bowler Jasprit Bumrah has become the sixth Indian pacer to take 400 wickets in international cricket. With his four-wicket haul in the first innings in the first Test against Bangladesh, the 30-year-old took his tally of wickets in international cricket to 400. Bumrah took 227 innings to take 400 international wickets.