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## VOCABULARY

1. Precedent: An earlier event or action that is regarded as an example or guide to be considered in subsequent similar circumstances.
  - Synonyms: Paradigm, Example, Instance, Model, standard
  - Antonyms: Deviation, Following, subsequent, after
  - Sentence: The court's decision set a precedent that will influence future cases.
  
2. Remedy: A means of counteracting or eliminating something undesirable, particularly in legal terms.
  - Synonyms: Treatment, Solution, Therapy, Fix, Redress
  - Antonyms: Exacerbate, Harm, Damage, Injury
  - Sentence: The court ordered a remedy to correct the company's anti-competitive behavior.
  
3. Disincentivises: Discourages someone from doing something.
  - Synonyms: Discourages, deters, dissuades
  - Antonyms: Incentivizes, encourages, motivates
  - Sentence: High taxes disincentivise people from investing in new businesses.
  
4. Sombre: Dark or dull in color or tone; gloomy.
  - Synonyms: Serious, solemn, grave
  - Antonyms: Cheerful, bright, lively
  - Sentence: The mood in the room was sombre as they discussed the unfortunate news.

5. Fizzle out: To gradually fail or end in a weak or disappointing way.

- Synonyms: Fade, die out, peter out
- Antonyms: Succeed, flourish, thrive
- Sentence: The project started strong but began to fizzle out due to lack of interest.

6. Insomnia: The inability to sleep.

- Synonyms: Sleeplessness, wakefulness, restlessness
- Antonyms: Sleep, rest, slumber
- Sentence: She suffered from insomnia and was unable to sleep for several nights.

7. Sacrosanct: Regarded as too important or valuable to be interfered with.

- Synonyms: Sacred, inviolable, untouchable
- Antonyms: Profane, secular, ordinary
- Sentence: The constitution is considered sacrosanct and cannot be easily amended.

8. Angst: A feeling of deep anxiety or dread.

- Synonyms: Anxiety, worry, fear
- Antonyms: Calmness, peace, tranquility
- Sentence: The impending exams filled the students with angst.

9. Stifling: Making it difficult to breathe or suppressing something.
- Synonyms: Suffocating, repressing, smothering
  - Antonyms: Ventilating, encouraging, liberating
  - Sentence: The stifling heat made it difficult to focus on the work at hand.
10. Impending : About to happen; forthcoming.
- Synonyms: Imminent, looming, approaching
  - Antonyms: Distant, remote, past
  - Sentence: The impending storm forced the authorities to issue an evacuation order.

### **IDIOMS AND PHRASES**

11. Draw a longbow: to exaggerate in telling stories
12. Run around the circles: to keep doing or talking about the same thing without achieving anything
13. Boil the ocean: undertaking an impossible task
14. Down for the count: having failed in something that you are doing
15. Step up your game: to enhance performance, quality, skills, or talents

## **CURRENT AFFAIRS**

**9<sup>th</sup> August, 2024**

1. Indian Navy's frontline frigate, INS Tabar during the return leg from St Petersburg, Russia conducted a Maritime Partnership Exercise (MPX) with the German Navy off Kiel Canal on August 5, the Ministry of Defence said in a press release.
  - Prior to this, INS Tabar had visited Hamburg, Germany, from July 17 to 20, furthering the maritime relations between India and Germany. These engagements aim to strengthen the maritime partnership between the two nations.
  - "The conduct of the MPX between the Indian Navy and the German Navy off the Kiel Canal signifies the Indian Navy's outreach and sustainability efforts, marking a significant milestone in maritime cooperation between the two countries," the press release stated.
2. Former chief minister of West Bengal and veteran CPIM leader Buddhadeb Bhattacharjee passed away on August 8, at his residence in Kolkata's Palm Avenue. Buddhadeb, who had been suffering from chronic obstructive pulmonary disease for some years, was 80. He is survived by his wife Mira and daughter Suchetana.

3. Earlier on Thursday, a tsunami advisory was issued for coastal regions on the southern Japanese islands of Kyushu and Shikoku after the 7.1-magnitude quake. As of late Thursday evening, the maximum height of waves recorded reached about a foot and a half off the coast of Miyazaki Prefecture on Kyushu.
4. The Indian Army's 'Parvat Prahaar' exercise in Ladakh focuses on high-altitude warfare, involving various military units and equipment. This strategic drill aims to enhance readiness near the India-China border amid ongoing tensions.
5. Japan's surprise rate hike ended the popular yen carry trade, causing the yen to strengthen sharply and triggering global market turmoil. Investors who borrowed yen to invest elsewhere faced significant losses.
6. Amid the pressing challenge to increase the tiger population in the state, the Chhattisgarh government has cleared the pending project on creating new dedicated Tiger Reserve, which will be the third largest in the country.
  - National Tiger Conservation Authority (NTCA), a statutory authority under the Ministry of Environment, Forests and Climate Change, has already approved the plan. According to latest tiger census report, Chhattisgarh has only 17 tigers left, a steep decline from 46 in 2014.

7. Neeraj Chopra settled for a silver on Friday with a best throw of 89.45 meters in the final of men's javelin throw at the Paris Olympics.
- Pakistan's Nadeem Arshad, who finished 5th at the Tokyo Olympics, clinched gold with a monstrous throw of 92.97 meters, setting a new Olympic record.
  - Chopra's best throw of 89.45 meters came on his second attempt. He committed four consecutive fouls in his final four attempts.
8. The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) Governor Shaktikanta Das on Thursday (August 8) announced the bi-monthly monetary policy statement, keeping the repo rate, which is the central bank's rate for short-term loans to banks, unchanged at 6.5%.
9. Indian men's hockey team secured the bronze medal at the Paris 2024 Olympics after defeating Spain 2-1 in the third-place match at the Yves du Manoir Stadium in Paris.

**10.** Quit India Movement Day, also known as August Kranti Day, is a significant date in India's history that commemorates the launch of the Quit India Movement in 1942.

- This pivotal moment in India's struggle for independence from British colonial rule called for the immediate withdrawal of British forces from India. Led by Mahatma Gandhi, the movement mobilized millions of Indians in a non-violent civil disobedience campaign against British colonialism.

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