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VOCABULARY

1. Precarious: Not securely held or in position; dangerously likely to fall or collapse.
 - Synonyms: Unstable, insecure, uncertain
 - Antonyms: Stable, secure, safe
 - Sentence: The precarious ladder made the workers nervous as they climbed to fix the roof.

2. Vigilance: The action or state of keeping careful watch for possible danger or difficulties.
 - Synonyms: Alertness, caution, watchfulness
 - Antonyms: Negligence, carelessness, inattention
 - Sentence: The security guard's vigilance prevented a potential theft at the store.

3. Deplorable: Deserving strong condemnation; shockingly bad in quality.
 - Synonyms: Disgraceful, shameful, appalling
 - Antonyms: Admirable, commendable, praiseworthy
 - Sentence: The workers' deplorable living conditions sparked outrage among human rights groups.

4. Symptomatic: Serving as a symptom or sign, especially of something undesirable.
- Synonyms: Indicative, suggestive, characteristic
 - Antonyms: Asymptomatic, unrelated, uncharacteristic
 - Sentence: The rise in unemployment is symptomatic of the economic challenges the country is facing.
5. Overhauling: The process of taking apart and improving or repairing something.
- Synonyms: Revamping, renovating, refurbishing
 - Antonyms: Neglecting, damaging, harming
 - Sentence: The company is overhauling its entire production system to improve efficiency.
6. Veil: A piece of fine material worn to cover the face; also used metaphorically to describe something that conceals or disguises.
- Synonyms: Mask, curtain, shroud
 - Antonyms: Reveal, expose, uncover
 - Sentence: The company's financial problems were hidden behind a veil of secrecy.
7. Impediment: A hindrance or obstruction in doing something.
- Synonyms: Obstacle, barrier, restriction
 - Antonyms: Aid, assistance, support
 - Sentence: His lack of experience was an impediment to his promotion.

8. Resilient: Able to recover quickly from difficult conditions.
- Synonyms: Strong, tough, flexible
 - Antonyms: Vulnerable, fragile, weak
 - Sentence: Despite the challenges, she remained resilient and focused on her goals.
9. Optimise: To make the best or most effective use of a situation or resource.
- Synonyms: Enhance, improve, refine
 - Antonyms: Deteriorate, worsen, neglect
 - Sentence: The company is trying to optimise its production process to reduce costs.
10. Mitigate: To make something less severe, serious, or painful.
- Synonyms: Alleviate, reduce, ease
 - Antonyms: Aggravate, intensify, exacerbate
 - Sentence: The government took steps to mitigate the impact of the economic downturn.

PHRASAL VERBS

11. Pick up: To lift something; to collect someone or something; to learn something quickly.
12. Hold on: To wait for a short time; to grip something tightly.
13. Turn up: To appear or arrive; to increase the volume or intensity.
14. Back up: To support someone; to make a copy of data.

IDIOMS AND PHRASES

15. The early bird catches the worm: The person who takes the earliest action gets the best results
16. Kill two birds with one stone: To accomplish two tasks with a single effort
17. Hold out an olive branch: To offer peace or attempt to end a dispute
18. Catch someone red-handed: To catch someone in the act of doing something wrong or illegal.
19. Roll out the red carpet: To give special treatment or a warm welcome, especially to important guests.

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CURRENT AFFAIRS

14th October, 2024

1. World Arthritis Day is celebrated every year on October 12.
 - The aim is to spread awareness about the existence and impact of rheumatic and musculoskeletal diseases. Arthritis can cause swelling in or around a joint, resulting in pain, stiffness, and sometimes difficulty moving.
 - It was first observed in 1996 and this year's World Arthritis Day (WAD), the theme is: 'Informed Choices, Better Outcomes'.
2. The 19th Global Hunger Index (GHI) report for 2024 has ranked India 105th out of 127 countries, placing it among nations with 'serious' hunger problems. India lags behind its neighbours Sri Lanka, Nepal, Myanmar, and Bangladesh, while it ranks just above Pakistan and Afghanistan.
3. General Upendra Dwivedi launched the 'Agniastra,' a portable multi-target detonation device in Gangtok.
 - This device was developed by Major Rajprasad RS from the Indian Army's Corps of Engineers.
 - It was specifically designed to improve the safety and reliability of multiple-target detonations.
 - It comes with a much-improved range of 2.5 km.

4. Nayab Singh Saini is likely to take oath as the Chief Minister of Haryana on October 15. A 10- member committee has been formed by the chief secretary to oversee the oath-taking ceremony arrangements.
5. Saudi Arabia failed to secure a seat, finishing sixth in the Asia-Pacific region, where Cyprus, Marshall Islands, Qatar, South Korea, and Thailand won.
 - In the Asia-Pacific region, five countries were competing for seats on the UNHRC. The countries that won were Cyprus, the Marshall Islands, Qatar, South Korea, and Thailand. Saudi Arabia came in sixth, meaning it didn't secure a seat.
6. In a significant move towards self-reliance, the Indian Army has rolled out its first overhauled T90 Bhishma tank, further enhancing its operational readiness. The T-90 Bhishma, the Army's main battle tank since 2003, is known for its firepower, speed, and protection.
 - With this overhaul, the tank has become even more powerful and lethal. As part of the ongoing Decade of Transformation in the Indian Army, Chief of the Army Staff General, Upendra Dwivedi, witnessed the rollout ceremony of the overhauled T-90 Bhishma tank recently.

7. HAL becomes India's 14th Maharatna PSU, joining companies such as BHEL, ONGC, and Indian Oil. HAL, which operates under the Department of Defence Production (DoDP), achieved a turnover of ₹28,162 crore and a net profit of ₹7,595 crore for the financial year 2023-24.
8. Om Birla will lead India's delegation to the 149th Inter-Parliamentary Union (IPU) Assembly in Geneva from October 11-17.
 - Birla will address the assembly on the theme of "Harnessing science, technology and innovation for a more peaceful and sustainable future."
 - The IPU consists of 180 member parliaments, including large countries like India, China, and smaller nations like Cabo Verde and Palau.
 - Mr. Birla will address the assembly on the theme "Harnessing science, technology and innovation for a more peaceful and sustainable future."
9. Nepal's Nima Rinji Sherpa set a world record by becoming the youngest person to summit all 14 peaks over 8,000 meters at 18 years and 5 months. He completed the feat with his climb of Mount Shishapangma, concluding the ascent series started in September 2022.

10. T20 Highest Score Teams: India's cricket team achieved the second-highest T20I total, scoring 297/6 against Bangladesh. Sanju Samson starred with his maiden T20I century, scoring 111 off 47 balls. Collaborations with Suryakumar Yadav and later Hardik Pandya and Riyan Parag were crucial in reaching the total.

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