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VOCABULARY

- 1. Unprecedented: Never done or known before.
 - Synonyms: Unparalleled, exceptional, unique
 - Antonyms: Common, ordinary, familiar
 - Sentence: The atomic bombings of Hiroshima and Nagasaki were an unprecedented display of destructive power.
- 2. Devastation: Great destruction or damage.
 - Synonyms: Destruction, ruin, havoc
 - Antonyms: Restoration, repair, creation
 - Sentence: The devastation caused by the nuclear bombs left the cities in ruins for decades.
- 3. Retaliation: The action of returning a military attack or responding to an injury or wrong.
 - Synonyms: Revenge, retribution, vengeance
 - Antonyms: Forgiveness, mercy, pardon
 - Sentence: Russia's threat of nuclear retaliation has raised concerns across the globe.
- 4. Surreptitiously: Done in a secret or stealthy way.
 - Synonyms: Secretly, covertly, stealthily
 - Antonyms: Openly, overtly, publicly
 - Sentence: Israel is believed to have surreptitiously developed its nuclear arsenal over the years.

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- 5. Vitiated: Spoiled or impaired the quality or efficiency of something.
 - Synonyms: Corrupted, tainted, marred
 - Sentence: The peace process was vitiated by the constant geopolitical conflicts in the region.
- 6. Escalation: An increase in the intensity or seriousness of something.
 - Synonyms: Intensification, aggravation, amplification
 - Antonyms: Reduction, de-escalation, mitigation
 - Sentence: The escalation of the conflict between Israel and Hezbollah has caused significant casualties.
- 7. Leverage: The exertion of force or influence to achieve a desired outcome.
 - Synonyms: Influence, power, control
 - Sentence: The U.S. holds substantial leverage over Israel due to its military and financial support.
- 8. Prolong: To extend the duration of something.
 - Synonyms: Extend, lengthen, stretch
 - Antonyms: Shorten, curtail, abridge
 - Sentence: Russia's nuclear threats have prolonged the war, causing more suffering.

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- 9. Brazenly: In a bold and shameless way.
 - Synonyms: Shamelessly, audaciously
 - Antonyms: Humbly, modestly, cautiously
 - Sentence: The government brazenly continued its military campaign despite international condemnation.
- 10. Proliferation: Rapid increase in numbers or the spread of something, especially weapons.
 - Synonyms: Expansion, spread, escalation
 - Antonyms: Reduction, containment, decrease
 - Sentence: The proliferation of nuclear weapons in West Asia poses a significant global threat.

PHRASAL VERBS

- 11. Get by: To manage or survive, especially with limited resources.
- 12. Look forward to: To anticipate something with excitement or pleasure.
- 13. Show up: To arrive or appear, often unexpectedly or late.
- 14. Give in: To stop resisting; to surrender or yield to something.

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IDIOMS AND PHRASES

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

CURRENT AFFAIRS 16th October, 2024

- 1. India has surged to become the second-biggest supplier of restricted critical technologies to Russia, US and European officials said, highlighting the challenge in efforts to choke off exports fueling President Vladimir Putin's war machine.
 - Indian exports of restricted items such as microchips, circuits and machine tools surpassed \$60 million in both April and May, about double from earlier months this year, and leaped to \$95 million in July, according to the officials, who asked not to be identified discussing private assessments. India is exceeded only by China.
- 2. The Centre appointed Additional Director General
 - S. Paramesh as the new chief of the Indian Coast Guard.
 - Paramesh will take over following the demise of former DG Rakesh Pal.
 - With over three decades of service, Paramesh has held several key posts, including Deputy Director General (Operations and Coastal Security), and commands of major ICG vessels.
 - Awards President's Tatrakshak Medal.

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- Prime Minister Narendra Modi will inaugurate the International Telecommunication Union ITU – World Telecommunication Standardization Assembly (WTSA) 2024 at Bharat Mandapam in New Delhi tomorrow morning. The Prime Minister will also inaugurate the 8th edition of India Mobile Congress 2024 during the programme.
- 4. World Food Day, observed annually on October 16th, serves as a global call to action in the fight against hunger and malnutrition.
 - The 2024 celebration of World Food Day revolves around the theme "Right to Foods for a Better Life and a Better Future." This powerful message emphasizes the fundamental human right to adequate nutrition and underscores the critical role food plays in shaping our present and future.
- 5. The fourth India-Australia 2+2 Secretary-level Consultations were held today in New Delhi. The Indian delegation was led by Defence Secretary Shri Giridhar Aramane and Foreign Secretary Shri Vikram Misri, while the Australian side was led by Secretary, Department of Defence (DoD) Mr. Greg Moriarty and Secretary, Department of Foreign Affairs & Trade (DFAT) Ms. Jan Adams. The last 2+2 Secretary-level Consultations were held in 2019, following which 2+2 Ministerial Dialogue was initiated in September 2021.

- The two sides reviewed the progress made since the last 2+2 Ministerial Dialogue held in November 2023 and preparations for the next Ministerial Dialogue to be held in 2025.
- 6. Odisha has bagged the best state award in the 5th National Water Awards 2023, which was announced by the Union Minister for Jal Shakti Chandrakant Raghunath Paatilon 14 October 2024 in New Delhi. The winner of the awards in various categories will be conferred in a function to be held on 22 October 2024 in New Delhi. The award functions will be presided over by President Droupadi Murmu.
- 7. We have received a diplomatic communication from Canada yesterday suggesting that the Indian High Commissioner and other diplomats are 'persons of interest' in a matter related to an investigation in that country. The Government of India strongly rejects these preposterous imputations and ascribes them to the political agenda of the Trudeau Government that is centered around vote bank politics.
 - Since Prime Minister Trudeau made certain allegations in September 2023, the Canadian Government has not shared a shred of evidence with the Government of India, despite many requests from our side. This latest step follows interactions that have again witnessed assertions without any facts. This leaves little doubt that on the pretext of an investigation, there is a deliberate strategy of smearing India for political gains.

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- Bollywood stars Jacqueline Fernandez and Riteish Deshmukh have been named India's 'Most Beautiful Vegetarian Celebrities' of 2024 by People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals (PETA) India.
 - The honour comes as a recognition of their dedication to animal welfare and commitment to a compassionate lifestyle.
- 9. World No.2 Aryna Sabalenka of Belarus defeated World No.7 Zheng Qinwen of China to win her third consecutive WTA Wuhan 1000 singles title. The WTA Wuhan 1000 Tennis tournament was held in the Chinese city of Wuhan from 7-13 October 2024. Wuhan Open is played at the Hard Court.
- 10. The top-ranked Indian women's pair of Ayhika Mukherjee and Sutirtha Mukherjee created history on 13 October 2024 at the 27th Asian Table Tennis Championships 2024 in Astana, Kazakhstan, by becoming the first all-Indian women's pair to win a medal.
 - Astana, Kazakhstan hosted the 27th Asian Table Tennis Championships from 7-13 October 2024.