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## VOCABULARY

1. Undernourished: Not having enough food or nutrients for proper health.
  - Synonyms: Malnourished, starving, underfed
  - Antonyms: Nourished, healthy, well-fed
  - Sentence: The report highlights that a significant portion of the population remains undernourished despite high food production.
  
2. Staggering: Very shocking or surprising; overwhelming.
  - Synonyms: Astonishing, overwhelming, astounding
  - Antonyms: Expected, ordinary, unimpressive
  - Sentence: The staggering number of 200 million undernourished people in India is a cause for serious concern.
  
3. Abject: Extremely bad, unpleasant, and degrading.
  - Synonyms: Miserable, wretched, pitiful
  - Antonyms: Excellent, superior, commendable
  - Sentence: The abject failure to address malnutrition reflects poorly on the nation's development efforts.
  
4. Inequality: The state of not being equal, especially in status, rights, and opportunities.
  - Synonyms: Disparity, imbalance, unfairness
  - Antonyms: Equality, fairness, parity

- Sentence: Economic inequality is one of the major reasons for the vast differences in disposable income.
5. Stunting: A condition where a child's height is significantly below the average for their age, due to chronic malnutrition.
- Synonyms: Growth inhibition, dwarfing, retarding
  - Antonyms: Growth, development, flourishing
  - Sentence: High levels of stunting among children reflect poor nutrition in the early stages of life.
6. Wasting: Severe weight loss, often caused by malnutrition or illness.
- Synonyms: Emaciation, thinning, deterioration
  - Antonyms: Gaining, flourishing, strengthening
  - Sentence: Wasting is a critical issue, especially among young children in India, indicating acute malnutrition.
7. Curtailed: Reduced in extent or quantity; imposed a restriction on.
- Synonyms: Reduced, diminished, cut back
  - Antonyms: Increased, expanded, extended
  - Sentence: The diplomatic standoff may result in curtailed travel links between India and Canada.
8. Intimidate: To frighten or overawe someone, especially in order to make them do what one wants.
- Synonyms: Frighten, bully, threaten
  - Antonyms: Encourage, reassure, comfort

- Sentence: Extremist groups in Canada have been accused of trying to intimidate Indian diplomats and community leaders.

9. Outrage: A strong feeling of shock and anger.

- Synonyms: Fury, anger, indignation
- Antonyms: Calmness, peace, contentment
- Sentence: There was an outrage in India over the allegations made by the Canadian authorities.

10. Escalate: To increase rapidly or become more intense.

- Synonyms: Intensify, increase, heighten
- Antonyms: De-escalate, reduce, diminish
- Sentence: Diplomatic tensions between India and Canada are likely to escalate if the issue is not resolved soon.

### PHRASAL VERBS

11. Take on: To accept a responsibility or challenge; to hire someone.
12. Break into: To enter a place by force; to start doing something, especially in a particular field or industry.
13. Call up: To make a phone call; to summon someone for a task, often military service.
14. Come up with Meaning: To think of or produce an idea or solution.

### **IDIOMS AND PHRASES**

15. Wool over the eyes: to trick or deceive someone.
16. Jump through hoops : to do a complicated things in order to get or achieve something
17. Up in the air : (of a plan or issue) still to be settled; unresolved.
18. By the book : exactly according to the rules.
19. To get down to business: to start the work that has to be done.

Odisha Career

## CURRENT AFFAIRS

17<sup>th</sup> October, 2024

1. President Droupadi Murmu was conferred the Degree of Honorary Doctorate in Political Science in Algeria on 15 November 2024. President Droupadi Murmu is on a three-nation tour of the African nations of Algeria, Mauritania, and Malawi from 13-19 October 2024.
  - She will first visit Algeria, then Mauritania, and, in the last leg of her tour, Malawi.
  - President Murmu is the first Indian President to visit these three African countries.
  - During her African visit, the President is accompanied by Sukanata Majumdar, Minister of State, and Members of Parliament, Mukesh Kumar Dalaland Atul Garg.
  - The President of India, Smt Droupadi Murmu, also paid floral tributes to Dr APJ Abdul Kalam on his birth anniversary on 15 October at Algiers.
  - Capital of Algeria: Algiers
  - Currency: Algerian Dinar
  - President : Abdelmadjid Tebboune
2. Climate change is affecting Roopkund Lake in Uttarakhand, causing it to shrink annually. Experts point to altered precipitation patterns as a contributing factor. The lake, known for its ancient human skeletons, is now at risk, necessitating expert intervention to preserve its historical and ecological significance.

3. Islamabad is set to host the 23rd Meeting of the Shanghai Cooperation Organisation (SCO) Council of Heads of Government (CHG) on October 16. Chaired by Pakistan, the meeting will primarily focus on strengthening trade and economic cooperation among member states.
  - “The 23rd Meeting of the SCO Council of Heads of Government (CHG) will be held on 16 October 2024 in Islamabad under the chairmanship of Pakistan. The SCO CHG meeting is held annually and focusses on the trade and economic agenda of the organisation,” the MEA said.
4. The 75th International Astronautical Congress (IAC) opened at the MiCo Convention Center in Milan, Italy. The event has drawn more than 10,000 space experts, scholars, entrepreneurs, and professionals from around the world. Italian President Sergio Mattarella attended the opening ceremony.
5. Larsen and Toubro has launched the first of two multi-purpose vessels for the Indian Navy at Kattupalli shipyard, demonstrating the company's design capabilities and adherence to the 'Make in India' initiative. The vessel, INS 'Samarthak,' will assist in maritime surveillance, developing new weapons and sensors, and providing humanitarian aid.

6. India and the US have signed a contract for the procurement of 31 MQ-9B Predator drones, marking a major step in strengthening India's defense capabilities. The deal includes tri-service acquisition of the MQ-9B Sky Guardian and Sea Guardian drones.

- The Ministry of Defence, along with Defence Secretary Giridhar Aramane, formalized the agreement in New Delhi. A separate contract with General Atomics Global India ensures maintenance and repair within India.
- These next-generation drones, with an operational altitude above 40,000 feet and a speed of 400 km/h, will enhance India's intelligence, surveillance, and strike capabilities, proving to be a significant asset for the defense forces.

7. The National Security Guard (NSG), also known as "Black Cats," was established on 16 October 1984 to combat terrorism and internal disturbances.

- It was formed following Operation Blue Star and is governed by the National Security Guard Act, 1986.
- The NSG recruits from both the Indian Army and Central Armed Police Forces, functioning as a specialized federal contingency unit.



8. On October 14, 2024, NASA launched the Europa Clipper, its largest spacecraft for a planetary mission. The mission's goal is to explore Jupiter's moon Europa, specifically to determine if its subsurface ocean, hidden beneath a thick layer of ice, could support life.

- The solar-powered robotic probe will travel 2.9 billion kilometers over 5 years and 6 months, reaching Jupiter in 2030. Once there, it will operate in the intense radiation environment of Jupiter, the solar system's largest planet, focusing on studying Europa's potential habitability.

9. Sonam Maskar hoisted the Indian flag by winning the women's air rifle silver behind Olympic champion Huang Yuting of China in the shooting World Cup Final at the Dr. Karni Singh Range Tughlakabad, on Tuesday.

- The 22-year-old Sonam qualified strong with 632.1 and showed remarkable assurance in front of the packed crowd while delivering a medal for the host. Huang – who had won the individual silver and the mixed gold in the Paris Games – had to shoot a world record 254.5 to deny the Indian a better medal.