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VOCABULARY

1. **Deliberating:** Thinking about or discussing something carefully; especially before making a decision.
 - Synonyms: Contemplating, Pondering, Discussing
 - Antonyms: Ignoring, Disregarding, Dismissing
 - Sentence: The committee members will start deliberating on the monetary policy.

2. **Contraction:** A reduction in size, amount, range
 - Synonyms: Shrinkage, Decrease, Reduction
 - Antonyms: Surge, Hike, Growth, Increase, Expansion
 - Sentence: The contraction in India's exports has caused concern among trade experts.

3. **Unsettling:** Causing anxiety or uneasiness; disturbing
 - Synonyms: Disquieting, Troubling
 - Antonyms: Soothing, Reassuring, Calming, Placating
 - Sentence: The delay in announcing the MPC members is unsettling for financial markets.

4. **Slump:** A sudden, severe or prolonged fall in the price, value or amount of something
 - Synonyms: Downturn, Decline, Drop
 - Antonyms: Surge, Growth, Rise
 - Sentence: India's merchandise exports are experiencing a severe slump.

5. Remission: The reduction or cancellation of a punishment or debt.
- Synonyms: Emancipate, Alleviation, Reduction, Vindicate
 - Antonyms: Penalty, Retention, Continuation
 - Sentence: The govt. must introduce an open-ended tax remission scheme to help exporters.
6. Precipitating: To cause something to happen suddenly or unexpectedly.
- Synonyms: Hastening, Hurry, Expedite
 - Antonyms: Obstructing, Hindering, Delaying, Preventing
 - Sentence: The sharp contraction in exports precipitated a high trade deficit in August.
7. Augmenting: Making something greater by adding to it
- Synonyms: Enhancing, Increasing, Expanding, Enlarging
 - Antonyms: Reducing, Diminishing, Decreasing
 - Sentence: The govt. is focused on augmenting the country's port capacities.
8. Distinguished: Recognized for excellence or outstanding qualities.
- Synonyms: Eminent, Renowned
 - Antonyms: Obscure, Insignificant, unknown
 - Sentence: The incoming members of the MPC are expected to be distinguished economist.

9. Retrospective: Looking back on or dealing with past events or situations.
- Synonyms: Reflective, Backward-looking, Review
 - Antonyms: Forward-looking, prospective
 - Sentence: The retrospective analysis of India's export performance show signs of structural weaknesses.
10. Mitigating: Making something less severe, serious or Painful.
- Synonyms: Alleviating, Reducing, Easing
 - Antonyms: Worsening, Aggravating, Exacerbating, Intensify
 - Sentence: The govt. is focused on mitigating the logistical challenges faced by exporters.

IDIOMS AND PHRASES

11. Elephant in the room: An obvious problem that people avoid discussing.
12. On top of the world: Happy and elated
13. Get out of hand: To become difficult to control
14. Spill the beans: Reveal a secret
15. Have a method to one's madness: There's a good reason behind someone's actions.

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2nd October, 2024

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