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VOCABULARY

- 1. Reconcile:** To restore friendly relations; to settle a disagreement.
 - Synonyms: Settle, resolve, harmonize
 - Antonyms: Disagree, separate, alienate
 - Sentence: The leaders worked hard to reconcile their differences for the sake of the community.

- 2. Appetite:** A strong desire for something; in this context, a willingness to take risks.
 - Synonyms: Desire, craving, inclination
 - Antonyms: Apathy, indifference, disinterest
 - Sentence: His appetite for adventure led him to explore uncharted territories.

- 3. Laid claim:** To assert or maintain a right to something.
 - Synonyms: Asserted, claimed, proclaimed
 - Antonyms: Renounced, rejected, denied
 - Sentence: The company laid claim to the patent after years of research.

- 4. Ambiguous:** Open to more than one interpretation; not having one obvious meaning.
 - Synonyms: Unclear, vague, equivocal
 - Antonyms: Clear, definite, explicit
 - Sentence: The ambiguous statement left everyone confused about his intentions.

- 5. Grim:** Stern and forbidding; lacking in cheer or comfort.
- Synonyms: Stern, harsh, bleak
 - Antonyms: Cheerful, bright, optimistic
 - Sentence: The grim news about the disaster shocked the entire community.
- 6. Parity:** The state or condition of being equal, especially regarding status or pay.
- Synonyms: Equality, equivalence, balance
 - Antonyms: Inequality, disparity, imbalance
 - Sentence: The two nations sought parity in their trade agreements.
- 7. Dissuaded:** To persuade someone not to take a particular course of action.
- Synonyms: Discouraged, prevented, deterred
 - Antonyms: Encouraged, persuaded, urged
 - Sentence: The teacher dissuaded her students from cheating on the exam.
- 8. Restraint:** The action of holding something back; self-control.
- Synonyms: Self-control, moderation, constraint
 - Antonyms: Indulgence, excess, recklessness
 - Sentence: He showed great restraint by not reacting angrily to the criticism.

- 9. Critical:** Of great importance; crucial.
- Synonyms: Crucial, essential, vital
 - Antonyms: Insignificant, trivial, unimportant
 - Sentence: It is critical to address environmental issues to ensure a sustainable future.
- 10. Retaliate:** To make an attack in return for a similar attack; to seek revenge.
- Synonyms: Avenge, counterattack, take revenge
 - Antonyms: Forgive, pardon, excuse
 - Sentence: After the unjust treatment, she decided not to retaliate but to rise above the conflict.

IDIOMS AND PHRASES

- 11.** On the same wavelength: to have a mutual understanding or shared views with someone
- 12.** Break the internet: to cause a sensation or go viral online, drawing massive attention
- 13.** Bend over backward: to make a great effort to help or accommodate someone
- 14.** Bring to the table: to contribute something of value, especially in a collaborative effort
- 15.** Off the hook: to be relieved from a difficult situation or responsibility

CURRENT AFFAIRS

29th October, 2024

1. Prime Minister Narendra Modi gifted a Jharkhand Sohrai painting to Russian President Vladimir Putin at the recent BRICS summit. The gesture not only enhanced diplomatic relations but also showcased India's rich tribal art. The painting features a peacock and represents harmony with nature, highlighting the cultural significance of the art form.
2. Enhancing Gujarat's wildlife tourism offerings, the inauguration of the Barda Wildlife Sanctuary and Phase-1 of the Barda Jungle Safari will take place on Dhanteras, October 29, at Kapurdi Check Post in Devbhumi Dwarka aiming to ease the burden on Sasan.
3. A cyber-espionage operation allegedly orchestrated by a Chinese hacking group known as "Salt Typhoon" has reportedly targeted the phone data of former President Donald Trump, his running mate JD Vance, and various Democratic figures, including staff from Vice President Kamala Harris's campaign.
 - Sources indicate that investigators are assessing whether the hackers accessed or monitored any communications data through a sophisticated breach of telecom systems. The Trump campaign was informed about the breach earlier this week, highlighting the serious implications for national security amid a contentious election season.

- 4.** Infantry Day is being observed across the country October 27, to acknowledge the contributions of Infantry, the largest fighting arm of the Indian Army. This day has a unique significance, as on this day in 1947, Infantry-men from the Indian Army became the first troops to land at Srinagar airport, forcing the invaders backed by Pakistan to withdraw.
- 5.** Dhanteras 2024, celebrated on October 29, honors Lord Dhanvantari, the physician of the gods and a divine figure in Ayurveda. Worshipped for health and healing, Dhanvantari is believed to have emerged from the Ocean of Milk during cosmic churning, bringing the nectar of immortality. Devotees pray to him for well-being and prosperity, while the festival encourages purchasing auspicious items like gold and silver to invite wealth into homes.
- 6.** The sports ministry has replaced the Dhyan Chand Award for lifetime achievement with the Arjuna Award Lifetime to rationalize sporting honors. This change recognizes long-term contributions to sports and acknowledges grassroots coaches with the Dronacharya Award and universities excelling in the Khelo India Games.

- 7.** The Narendra Modi-led NDA government is likely to begin the long-delayed population census in 2025, with a target for completion by 2026. This will be followed by a nationwide delimitation process for Lok Sabha constituencies, expected to be finished by 2028.

 - A government source told TNIE that preparations are underway to initiate the decennial census—excluding the caste census—in 2025, aiming to deprive the opposition from raising issues related to it ahead of assembly polls in states like Bihar and others.
- 8.** The city of Bhubaneswar was adjudged as the 'City with the Best Public Transport System' at the Urban Mobility India (UMI) Conference & Exhibition 2024 held at the Mahatma Mandir, Gandhinagar, Gujarat.

 - Odisha Housing & Urban Development Minister Dr. Krushna Chandra Mahapatra received the award from Union Housing and Urban Affairs Minister Manohar Lal.
- 9.** Prime Minister Narendra Modi and his Spanish counterpart Pedro Sanchez on Monday inaugurated the Tata Advanced System Limited-Airbus facility to manufacture C-295 military aircraft in India.

- The facility in Gujarat's Vadodara city is the first private sector final assembly line for military aircraft in India. PM Modi said it will not only strengthen the India-Spain relationship but also "boost our mission of 'Make in India, Make for the World'.

10. Indian para-badminton players delivered an impressive performance at the Japan Para-Badminton Internationals 2024 by winning 24 medals-six gold, nine silver and nine bronze. The Japan Para-Badminton Internationals 2024 was held in Tokyo, Japan, from 22-27 October 2024. It was a level 2 category Para-Badminton tournament.