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### **VOCABULARY**

- 1. Laudable: Deserving praise and commendation.
  - Synonyms: Admirable, commendable, praiseworthy
  - Antonyms: Disgraceful, condemnable, blameworthy
  - Sentence: Her efforts to clean up the neighborhood were laudable and inspired others to join.
- 2. Nuanced: Characterized by subtle shades of meaning or expression.
  - Synonyms: Subtle, refined, detailed
  - Antonyms: Simple, straightforward, basic
  - Sentence: The debate was nuanced, with each side presenting complex arguments.
- 3. Clairvoyant: Having the ability to foresee events or understand things beyond the ordinary range of perception.
  - Synonyms: Prophetic, visionary, perceptive
  - Antonyms: Unaware, shortsighted, oblivious
  - Sentence: The leader's clairvoyant policies ensured the country was well-prepared for economic challenges.
- 4. Unequivocally: In a clear and unambiguous manner; without doubt.
  - Synonyms: Clearly, unmistakably, explicitly
  - Antonyms: Ambiguously, uncertainly, vaguely
  - Sentence: The report unequivocally stated the need for immediate environmental action.

- 5. Portend: To be a sign or warning that something, often significant or unpleasant, is likely to happen.
  - Synonyms: Forewarn, foreshadow, predict
  - Antonyms: Conceal, hide, withhold
  - Sentence: Dark clouds on the horizon portend an approaching storm.
- 6. Sagacious: Showing keen mental discernment and good judgment; wise.
  - Synonyms: Wise, insightful, judicious
  - Antonyms: Foolish, unwise, imprudent
  - Sentence: His sagacious decisions helped the company avoid several potential crises.
- 7. Exacerbate: To make a problem, situation, or negative feeling worse.
  - Synonyms: Aggravate, worsen, intensify
  - Antonyms: Alleviate, relieve, ease
  - Sentence: Polluted air exacerbates respiratory conditions, especially in crowded cities.
- 8. Mitigate: To make something less severe, serious, or painful.
  - Synonyms: Alleviate, reduce, ease
  - Antonyms: Aggravate, intensify, worsen
  - Sentence: The government introduced new policies to mitigate the effects of inflation.

- 9. Pegged: To fix or stabilize at a particular level or amount.
  - Synonyms: Fix, stabilize, secure
  - Antonyms: Unsettle, vary, destabilize
  - Sentence: The exchange rate was pegged at a fixed level to control inflation.
- 10. Condemned: To express strong disapproval of something, especially for moral reasons.
  - Synonyms: Criticize, denounce, censure
  - Antonyms: Praise, commend, approve
  - Sentence: The leader condemned the violence and called for peace.

### **PHRASAL VERBS**

- 11. Drop out: to leave school, a class, or an activity before finishing it
- 12. Fall apart: to break into pieces; to become emotionally upset
- 13. Work out: to exercise; to solve a problem
- 14. Account for: to explain or justify something

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### **IDIOMS AND PHRASES**

- 15. Play your cards right: to do things in an intelligent and well-planned way
- 16. A night owl: someone who prefers to be awake and active at night
- 17. Get a grip: keep or recover one's self-control
- 18. Between a rock and a hard place: faced with two equally undesirable alternatives
- 19. A whole new ballgame: a completely different situation



# **CURRENT AFFAIRS**2<sup>nd</sup> November, 2024

### 1. NSE launches mobile app & websites in 8 additional languages:

- The National Stock Exchange (NSE) has launched a mobile app as well as websites in eight additional languages to commemorate 30 years of operations.
- Trading in the equities market commenced on the NSE on 3rd November 1994.
- These languages include Assamese, Bengali, Kannada, Malayalam, Odia, Punjabi, Tamil, and Telugu, bringing the total number of languages supported by the NSE to twelve.

#### 2. Punjab & Sind Bank launches e-Bank Guarantee facility:

- Punjab & Sind Bank has collaborated with National e-Governance Services Ltd (NeSL) to introduce an e-Bank Guarantee (e-BG) facility.
- This new system replaces traditional paper-based BGs with e-stamping and e-signatures, enhancing security and transparency, thus saving time and reducing fraud.
- The initiative aims to improve ease of business for all parties involved.

## 3. <u>Sebi proposes doubling threshold for 'High Value Debt Listed Entities' to</u> Rs 1,000 cr:

- SEBI has proposed raising the threshold for identifying High Value Debt Listed Entities (HVDLEs) to Rs 1,000 crore from Rs 500 crore at present to reduce compliance burdens.
- Currently, an entity having outstanding value of listed non-convertible debt securities of Rs 500 crore and above are referred to as 'High Value Debt Listed Entities'.
- Sebi has proposed introducing a sunset clause that would end governance obligations if an HVDLE's outstanding debt falls below the threshold for a specified period, providing more flexibility.

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 It has suggested a dedicated chapter within LODR (Listing Obligations and Disclosure Requirements) Regulations focused solely on corporate governance norms for HVDLEs distinguishing them from equity-listed entities.

#### 4. India's forex reserves fall to \$684.8 billion, down \$3.4 billion

- India's foreign exchange reserves dipped by \$3.4 billion to \$684.8 billion as of October 25, according to data shared by the Reserve Bank of India (RBI).
- For the previous week, India's foreign exchange reserves dipped by \$2.16 billion to \$688.26 billion as of October 18.
- The Weekly Statistical Supplement released by the RBI showed that the primary contributor to this decline was the drop in Foreign Currency Assets (FCAs), which fell by \$4.48 billion to \$593.75 billion.
- Meanwhile, Gold reserves surged by \$1 billion, bringing the total to \$68.5 billion.
- The Special Drawing Rights (SDRs) dipped by \$52 million, now totaling \$18.2 billion, while the reserve position in the International Monetary Fund (IMF) contracted by \$9 million, standing at \$4.3 billion.

### 5. Govt to launch Digital India Common Service Center Project

- The government is set to launch the Digital India Common Service Center (DICSC) project, starting with Pilibhit and Gorakhpur in Uttar Pradesh.
- Aim: To bridge the digital divide in rural India
- Under this initiative one model DICSC center will be established in nearly all gram panchayats across ten districts, totaling 4,740 centers nationwide.
- Budget: Over 31 crore rupees
- The project is set to run initially for six months, with the possibility of extending it to nine months.
- The primary goal is to create an integrated platform that provides essential e-governance services along with financial and commercial services to rural citizens.

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- The Common Service Center in Pilibhit will offer a variety of services including Aadhaar registration, banking, financial planning, tele-law, telemedicine, education, and e-commerce support.
- 6. Paradip Port sets eyes on complete mechanisation by 2030
  - Paradip Port will develop three new berths, mechanise four existing ones, and establish one berth solely for green hydrogen.
  - These projects are part of the port's strategy to become fully mechanized by 2030.
  - This port aims to exceed 400 MTPA handling capacity, from presently 289 MTPA, by 2030.
  - The long-term target is to raise its capacity to 500 MTPA by 2047.
- 7. Indian Army contingent departs for 15th edition of India-US joint Exercise
  - The Indian Army contingent departed for the 15th edition of India-US joint Special Forces Exercise VAJRA PRAHAR.
  - Date: 2nd November 2024 22nd November 2024
  - Location: Orchard Combat Training Centre in Idaho, US
  - The last edition of the same exercise was conducted at Umroi, Meghalaya, in December 2023.
  - This will be the second exercise of the year between the Indian and the US Army.
  - The previous exercise, YUDH ABHYAS 2024, was conducted in Rajasthan in September 2024.
- 8. Indian Army contingent departs for 9th India-Indonesia joint exercise GARUD SHAKTI 24
  - The Indian Army contingent comprising 25 personnel departed for Jakarta, Indonesia to take part in the 9th edition of India-Indonesia Joint Special Forces Exercise GARUD SHAKTI 24.
  - The Exercise will be conducted from 1st to 12th of November 2024.
  - The Indian contingent is being represented by troops from The Parachute Regiment (Special Forces) and Indonesian contingent comprising 40 personnel is represented by Indonesian Special Forces Kopassus.

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- 9. North Korea successfully tested new ballistic missile Hasong-19
  - North Korea has successfully test-fired the new Hwasong-19 intercontinental ballistic missile (ICBM).
  - The Hwasong-19 traversed 1,001.2 kilometers at a maximum altitude of 7,687.5 kilometers and flew for 86 minutes.
- 10. HM Amit Shah inaugurates Gujarat's largest waste to energy plant
  - Union Home Minister Amit Shah inaugurated Gujarat's largest waste-toenergy plant at Piplaj in Ahmedabad City.
  - The plant has been established on a PPP model at a cost of 375 crore rupees.
  - The largest West-to-Energy Plant is a joint partnership between the Government of Gujarat and the Jindal Urban Waste Management Company.

