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VOCABULARY

- 1. Resent:** Feel bitterness or indignation at a circumstance, action, or person.
 - Synonyms: Begrudge, dislike, envy
 - Antonyms: Accept, forgive, welcome
 - Sentence: He began to resent the constant interruptions during his holiday break.

- 2. Steeped:** Completely surrounded by or filled with a quality or influence.
 - Synonyms: Immersed, soaked, saturated
 - Antonyms: Deprived, lacking, devoid
 - Sentence: The traditions were steeped in history, making them deeply meaningful.

- 3. Extravagant:** Lacking restraint in spending resources; excessive or over-the-top.
 - Synonyms: Lavish, excessive, luxurious
 - Antonyms: Simple, frugal, moderate
 - Sentence: Her extravagant holiday decorations were admired by the entire neighborhood.

- 4. Prolific:** Producing abundant results, works, or offspring.
 - Synonyms: Productive, creative, fertile
 - Antonyms: Unproductive, barren, sparse
 - Sentence: The prolific author managed to write several bestsellers in just a few years.

- 5. Burnout:** A state of emotional, physical, and mental exhaustion caused by prolonged stress.
 - Synonyms: Exhaustion, fatigue, weariness
 - Antonyms: Vitality, energy, enthusiasm
 - Sentence: His burnout from overworking made him realize the importance of rest.

- 6. Fragile:** Easily broken, damaged, or vulnerable.
- Synonyms: Delicate, weak, frail
 - Antonyms: Strong, robust, durable
 - Sentence: She felt emotionally fragile after months of stress and overwork.
- 7. Cliche:** An overused phrase or idea that lacks originality.
- Synonyms: Platitude, stereotype, banality
 - Antonyms: Originality, novelty, innovation
 - Sentence: The phrase "work hard, play hard" has become a cliché in modern workplaces.
- 8. Striving:** Making great efforts to achieve or obtain something.
- Synonyms: Endeavoring, attempting, struggling
 - Antonyms: Idling, relaxing, lounging
 - Sentence: She was always striving for perfection, which left her feeling drained during the holidays.
- 9. Inundated:** To be overwhelmed with a large amount of something, such as tasks or messages.
- Synonyms: Overwhelmed, flooded, swamped
 - Antonyms: Underwhelmed, unburdened, relaxed
 - Sentence: She was inundated with holiday requests from friends and family, making it hard to enjoy the season.

CURRENT AFFAIRS

18th December, 2024

1. Prime Minister Narendra Modi expressed condolences and solidarity with France following the devastation caused by Cyclone Chidoin Mayotte. India offered assistance as France deployed resources to the Indian Ocean territory. Reports indicate potential casualties in the hundreds or thousands after the worst cyclone in nearly a century.
2. The Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) has achieved a milestone by completing a sea-level test of its CE20 cryogenic engine, at the ISRO Propulsion Complex in Mahendragiri, Tamil Nadu, this test is crucial for upcoming space missions. The CE20 engine is designed to power the upper stage of the Launch Vehicle Mark-3 (LVM3).
3. The SLINEX 2024, the bilateral naval exercise between India and Sri Lanka will be conducted under the aegis of the Eastern Naval Command (ENC) off Visakahpatnam coast from December 17 to 20.
 - The exercise will be held in two phases — the Harbour Phase (from December 17 to 18) and the Sea Phase (December 19 to 20).
4. The U.S. military has successfully tested its Long-Range Hypersonic Weapon (LRHW), known as "Dark Eagle," bringing it closer to being used in modern warfare. The test, held at Cape Canaveral Space Force Station in Florida, proved that the missile can travel faster than 3,800 miles per hour (Mach 5).
5. Uttarakhand, known as Devbhoomi, is set to become a global yoga hub with India's first dedicated Yoga Policy. Spearheaded by Chief Minister Pushkar Singh Dhami, the policy aims to integrate Ayurveda and Yoga into healthcare, promote wellness tourism, and generate employment.

6. The World Bank has approved a \$325.10 million loan to the Uttar Pradesh government to boost the farmers' income in the state. The loan will finance the Rs3,903 crore or \$ 500 million. Uttar Pradesh Agricultural Growth and Rural Enterprises Ecosystem Strengthening (UP-AGREES) Project. The project aims to improve crop productivity and increase farmer's income in the state.
 - The loan was approved by the World Bank's Board of Executive Directors in a meeting in Washington, D.C. United States on 12 December 2024.
7. Moldova has recently become a member of the International Solar Alliance (ISA), as announced by the Ministry of External Affairs.
 - This decision reflects Moldova's commitment to promoting sustainability and renewable energy.
 - The agreement was formalized in New Delhi, where India's External Affairs Minister S. Jaishankar and Moldovan Deputy Prime Minister Mihai Popsoi signed the necessary documents.
8. Manipur recently observed Nupi Lal Numit2024 to honor the bravery and strength of women who fought for justice during the Nupi Lal uprisings of 1904 and 1939. The event, led by Chief Minister N. Biren Singh, took place at the Nupi Lal Memorial Complex.
9. Madhya Pradesh's famous Baigatribal artist Jodhaiya Bai, a Padma Shri recipient, died in Umaria district after a prolonged illness, sources said on Monday (December 16, 2024).
 - She was 86. The painter, who was instrumental in getting international recognition to the Baigatribal art, passed away at her native Lodha village in Umaria district on Sunday (December 15, 2024), the sources said.