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## VOCABULARY

1. **Stealthy:** Behaving or done in a cautious manner, so as not to be seen or heard.
  - Synonyms: Sneaky, covert, clandestine
  - Antonyms: Overt, conspicuous, blatant
  - Sentence: The thief made a stealthy exit from the building to avoid detection.
  
2. **Affirmation:** The act of stating something positively or asserting it as a fact.
  - Synonyms: Confirmation, declaration, assertion
  - Antonyms: Denial, negation, refutation
  - Sentence: The government's affirmation of support boosted the confidence of the stakeholders.
  
3. **Arbitrary:** Based on random choice or personal whim, rather than any reason or system.
  - Synonyms: Capricious, whimsical, discretionary
  - Antonyms: Rational, systematic, reasoned
  - Sentence: The manager's arbitrary decisions caused confusion among the employees.
  
4. **Nuanced:** Characterized by subtle differences or distinctions.
  - Synonyms: Refined, subtle, intricate
  - Antonyms: Obvious, blunt, simple
  - Sentence: Her nuanced approach to the issue helped in finding a balanced solution.
  
5. **Empirical:** Based on observation or experience rather than theory or pure logic.
  - Synonyms: Experimental, factual, observational
  - Antonyms: Theoretical, hypothetical, speculative
  - Sentence: The scientist presented empirical evidence to support the new theory.

6. Deterrent: Something that discourages or is intended to discourage someone from doing something.
- Synonyms: Obstacle, hindrance, disincentive
  - Antonyms: Incentive, encouragement, motivation
  - Sentence: Strict laws act as a deterrent against corruption.
7. Reprieve: A cancellation or postponement of a punishment.
- Synonyms: Pardon, suspension, respite
  - Antonyms: Punishment, sentence, continuation
  - Sentence: The court granted a reprieve to the accused on humanitarian grounds.
8. Continuum: A continuous sequence in which adjacent elements are not perceptibly different from each other.
- Synonyms: Spectrum, progression, series
  - Antonyms: Discontinuity, break, separation
  - Sentence: Learning is a continuum that spans a lifetime.
9. Marginally: Slightly, to a small extent or degree.
- Synonyms: Slightly, minimally, insignificantly
  - Antonyms: Significantly, substantially, considerably
  - Sentence: The number of workers in informal firms has fallen only marginally over the past year.
10. Stagnant: Showing little or no activity or progress.
- Synonyms: Inactive, stationary, unchanging
  - Antonyms: Dynamic, active, progressive
  - Sentence: The share of the labor force employed in manufacturing has remained stagnant over the past few years.

## CURRENT AFFAIRS

28<sup>th</sup> November, 2024

1. Every year on November 28th, Red Planet Day commemorates the launch of Spacecraft Mariner 4. It's also a day to learn more about Mars, which is referred to as the red planet.
2. Jammu and Kashmir is celebrating the 'Samvidhan Diwas' on Tuesday for the first time since 1950 when the country's Constitution was adopted by Parliament.
  - Lt Governor Manoj Sinha will lead the Constitution Day celebrations in Jammu and Kashmir. The main event will feature a Preamble reading ceremony at the Sher-eKashmir International Convention Centre (SKICC) in Srinagar.
3. Upamanyu Chatterjee's novel 'Lorenzo Searches for the Meaning of Life' won the JCB Prize for Literature 2024. The book, published by Speaking Tiger Books, follows protagonist Lorenzo Senesi's journey of self-discovery and faith. Chatterjee received INR 25 lakh, a trophy, and was praised by the jury for the novel's exploration of faith and reason.
4. The Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs greenlit two hydropower projects in Arunachal Pradesh totaling Rs 3,689 crore. The 186 MW Tatol and 240 MW Heo projects will boost the state's power supply and stabilize the national grid. The projects are joint ventures between NEEPCO and the Arunachal Pradesh government, with central financial assistance for infrastructure and equity.
5. The Rejang Dewa is a sacred Balinese dance central to the Ngusaba Goreng festival. This two-week thanksgiving festival celebrates a bountiful harvest in Bali, Indonesia. "Rejang" means offering or devotion, while "Dewa" refers to divine entities in Hinduism.

6. The Union Cabinet, led by PM Modi, has approved the 'One Nation One Subscription' (ONOS) scheme to provide nationwide access to over 13,000 scholarly journals. Allocating ₹6,000 crore for 2025-2027, the scheme benefits 6,300 institutions and 1.8 crore students, fostering research excellence. Aligned with NEP 2020, it bridges educational gaps, empowering rural and urban learners alike.
7. President Droupadi Murmu inaugurated the 75th-anniversary celebrations of the Indian Constitution at the old Parliament building. She released a commemorative coin and stamp, unveiled Sanskrit and Maithili versions of the Constitution, and launched two books on its making. Emphasizing its progressive nature, she urged citizens to uphold constitutional ideals and contribute to a developed India by 2047.
8. Anders Antonsen became the first Danish player to win the men's singles title at the China Masters, defeating Indonesia's Jonatan Christie in straight games (21-15, 21-13). The victory marked Antonsen's fourth BWF Tour title of 2024.

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