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VOCABULARY

1. Allure : The quality of being attractive or fascinating.
 - Synonyms: Charm, attraction, appeal
 - Antonyms: Repulsion, unattractiveness, dullness
 - Sentence: The allure of the mountains draws thousands of trekkers each year.
2. Fleeting: Lasting for a very short time.
 - Synonyms: Brief, temporary, transitory
 - Antonyms: Permanent, lasting, enduring
 - Sentence: The sunset's beauty was fleeting, disappearing within minutes.
3. Erode: To gradually wear away or weaken.
 - Synonyms: Deteriorate, wear down, decay
 - Antonyms: Strengthen, fortify, reinforce
 - Sentence: Constant criticism can erode a person's self-confidence over time.
4. Tumultuous: Marked by disorder, chaos, or violent agitation
 - Synonyms: Turbulent, riotous, stormy
 - Antonyms: Calm, peaceful, orderly
 - Sentence: The implementation of GST was tumultuous due to technical failures and political disagreements.
5. Surreptitious: Done secretly or stealthily
 - Synonyms: Clandestine, covert, furtive
 - Antonyms: Open, overt, transparent
 - Sentence: The surreptitious transfer of funds from the Compensation Fund has sparked controversy.
6. Unassailable: Impossible to challenge or attack
 - Synonyms: Indisputable, impregnable, invincible
 - Antonyms: Weak, vulnerable, questionable
 - Sentence: The PAC's findings are based on unassailable evidence of financial mismanagement.

7. Complacency: A feeling of self-satisfaction, often while unaware of potential dangers or problems.
- Synonyms: Smugness, self-satisfaction, contentment
 - Antonyms: Dissatisfaction
 - Sentence: Their complacency after achieving early success led to a decline in performance later.
8. Ominous: Giving the impression that something bad or unpleasant is going to happen.
- Synonyms: Threatening, foreboding, sinister
 - Antonyms: Promising, auspicious, encouraging
 - Sentence: The ominous dark clouds signaled an impending storm.
9. Pent-up: Repressed or held in check; not expressed or released.
- Synonyms: Suppressed, restrained, bottled up
 - Antonyms: Released, expressed, unleashed
 - Sentence: The pent-up demand from the pandemic helped spur economic growth last year.
10. Lynchpin: A person or thing vital to an organization or system.
- Synonyms: Keystone, cornerstone, backbone
 - Antonyms: Nonessential, peripheral, trivial
 - Sentence: Address some of the challenges faced by the lynchpin MSME sector.

CURRENT AFFAIRS

31st March, 2025

1. The UN has warned that humanitarian efforts are being hindered by destroyed roads and hospitals. India has sent relief under "Operation Brahma," offering crucial support. Authorities have declared a national emergency as the country grapples with aftershocks and mounting challenges.
2. President Droupadi Murmu inaugurated the National Conference on Environment held at the Vigyan Bhavan in New Delhi on 29th March 2025. Union Minister for Environment, Forest and Climate Change, Bhupendra Yadav, Chairperson of the National Green Tribunal (NGT), Justice Prakash Shrivastava, Justice Vikram Nath, Judge, Supreme Court of India and R. Venkataramani, Attorney General of India was also present on the occasion.
3. Every year since 2023, 28th March is annually observed worldwide as Universal Acceptance Day. The day is observed to promote a multilingual and inclusive internet where all valid domain names and email addresses work seamlessly. The Universal Acceptance Day is observed to ensure that valid domain names and email addresses, regardless of script, language, or character length, can be used equally by all Internet-enabled applications, devices, and systems.
 - The theme of the 2025 Universal Acceptance Day is Connecting the Unconnected - Building a Multilingual Internet for Viksit Bharat.
4. Ghibli-style art has gone viral online due to AI-generated images that mimic the studio's aesthetic. OpenAI's GPT-4o has allowed users to create Studio Ghibli-style illustrations of themselves, famous personalities, and even historical events.
 - This new AI feature has sparked a wave of viral images, with social media flooded with Ghibli-inspired artwork of public figures, fictional characters, and personal portraits.
 - OpenAI's ChatGPT Studio Ghibli image generator has played a significant role in this trend, enabling users to create highly detailed, AI-generated Ghibli-style images with minimal input. The tool captures the essence of Studio Ghibli's unique visual style, incorporating soft color palettes, whimsical elements, and intricate backgrounds. This has led to a surge in user-generated content, with brands and individuals alike embracing the trend.

5. The Union Government has announced the establishment of a Second National Gene Bank to conserve 10 lakh crop germplasm, under the theme "Investing in Innovations" in Budget 2025–26.
 - The initiative aims to safeguard India's agricultural biodiversity and ensure long-term food and nutritional security.
6. Gudi Padwa, celebrated on March 30, 2025, marks the Hindu New Year in Maharashtra and symbolizes the victory of good over evil. The festival features the hoisting of a decorated Gudi pole, family gatherings, vibrant decorations, and traditional prayers. Associated with Lord Rama's return to Ayodhya, this auspicious day promotes spiritual renewal, unity, and the start of new ventures.
7. The Tamil Nadu government has notified Kasampatty(Veera Kovil) sacred grove as a Biodiversity Heritage Site. The Forest Department has officially published the notification in the Government Gazette to mark the site's recognition under the Biological Diversity Act of 2002.
 - Kasampatty, located near Alagarmalai Reserve Forest in Dindigul district, now joins Arittapatti in Madurai as the second officially designated Biodiversity Heritage Site in Tamil Nadu. The announcement was made on March 27.
8. Top-ranked Aryna Sabalenka overwhelmed American Jessica Pegula 7-5, 6-2 to win the Miami Open on Saturday, relying on her usual playbook and powerful forehand to win an eighth WTA 1000 title.
9. Indian number one-ranked women's squash player Anahat Singh, won the women's singles title at the Indian Open 2025 PSA Copper event in Mumbai. This was her second consecutive title after her victory in the SRFI Indian Tour PSA Challenger event in Chennai.
 - The men's title was won by Egypt's Kareem El Torkey.
10. The Indian Navy and Russian Navy are set to conduct INDRA 2025, the 14th edition of their bilateral maritime exercise, from March 28 to April 2, 2025. Taking place off Chennai and in the Bay of Bengal, the exercise reflects the long-standing strategic partnership between the two nations.