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## VOCABULARY

1. **Emphasise** : To give special importance or attention to something.
  - Synonyms: Stress, highlight, underline
  - Antonyms: Downplay, ignore, overlook
  - Sentence: The teacher emphasised the importance of regular practice for mastering mathematics.
2. **Unrelenting**: Not yielding in strength, severity, or determination.
  - Synonyms: Persistent, relentless, unwavering
  - Antonyms: Lenient, yielding, flexible
  - Sentence: The unrelenting heat of the desert made the journey extremely difficult.
3. **Reiterate**: To say something again for emphasis or clarity.
  - Synonyms: Repeat, restate, reaffirm
  - Antonyms: Withdraw, retract, deny
  - Sentence: The manager reiterated the company's commitment to customer satisfaction.
4. **Hat tip**: A gesture or acknowledgment of recognition or respect.
  - Synonyms: Nod, acknowledgment, tribute
  - Antonyms: Disregard, neglect, indifference
  - Sentence: The scientist gave a hat tip to his mentor for guiding him throughout his research.
5. **Aggressive**: Forceful, determined, and sometimes hostile.
  - Synonyms: Assertive, forceful, combative
  - Antonyms: Passive, gentle, mild
  - Sentence: The company adopted an aggressive marketing strategy to dominate the market.

- 6. Reverberating:** Echoing or having a continuous impact.
- Synonyms: Resounding, echoing, vibrating
  - Antonyms: Muffled, fading, silent
  - Sentence: The consequences of the economic crisis were reverberating across the global markets.
- 7. Malapportionment:** Unequal distribution of representatives or seats in a legislative body.
- Synonyms: Disproportion, imbalance, inequality
  - Antonyms: Proportion, balance, equality
  - Sentence: The issue of malapportionment in the electoral system led to widespread protests.
- 8. Contentious:** Causing or likely to cause an argument or controversy.
- Synonyms: Controversial, debatable, disputable
  - Antonyms: Uncontroversial, agreeable, undisputed
  - Sentence: The new tax policy has become a contentious issue among political parties.
- 9. Apprehension:** Anxiety or fear that something bad might happen.
- Synonyms: Anxiety, dread, fear
  - Antonyms: Confidence, assurance, calmness
  - Sentence: There was a sense of apprehension among the students before the final exam.
- 10. Federal:** Related to a system of government where power is divided between a central authority and regional units.
- Synonyms: National, central, governmental
  - Antonyms: Local, provincial, regional
  - Sentence: The country follows a federal structure, giving autonomy to its states.

## **CURRENT AFFAIRS**

**7<sup>th</sup> March, 2025**

1. The 97th Edition of the Academy Awards – Oscars 2025 was held at the Dolby Theatre in Hollywood, Los Angeles, California, United States of America (USA). The Academy Awards annually hosted by the Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences.
  - The 97th Academy Awards recognized outstanding achievements in 23 categories, honoring films released in 2024. Comedian Conan O'Brien hosted the ceremony, marking his first time in this role.
  - Walt Disney holds the record for the most Oscars ever won, with a total of 26 awards throughout his lifetime.
  - Edith Head, an American costume designer, is the most awarded woman in Oscar history, having won 8 Academy Awards in the 'Best Costume Design' category.
  - The only Indian film to make it to the Oscars shortlist was 'Anuja' , which was nominated for 'Best Live Action Short Film' but lost to 'I'm Not Robot'.
  - 'Laapataa Ladies' , India's official entry in the Best International Feature category at the 97th Academy Awards, The Hindi film, directed by Kiran Rao, is not part of the shortlisted films.
  - Anora emerged as the biggest winner, securing 5 Oscars, including Best Picture, Best Director (Sean Baker), Best Actress (Mikey Madison), Best Film Editing, and Best Writing (Original Screenplay).
2. Government of India and the Government of Nepal signed a Memorandum of Understanding to strengthen cooperation in the Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene (WASH) sector, including waste management.
3. Assam government officially designated the Chirang-Ripu Elephant Reserve located in the Kokrajhar and Chirang districts of Assam as the 8th National Park in the state.



4. India's first World Peace Center was established under the leadership of Ahimsa Vishwa Bharti founder, Jain Acharya Lokesh Muni and the efforts of Ahimsa Vishwa Bharti and inaugurated in Gurugram, Haryana.
5. Dr. Mayank Sharma officially took charge as the Controller General of Defence Accounts who is responsible for monitoring the Defence Accounts Departments under the Ministry of Defence which manages the financial aspects of the Indian Armed Forces and other defense related organisations.
6. Badra Gunba was declared the winner of the runoff presidential election in Abkhazia, a breakaway region of Georgia under de-facto Russian control since the 2008 war between Moscow and Tbilisi.
7. Rupee112 launched India's first fully automated loan disbursement service through WhatsApp, enabling salaried professionals to access unsecured loans immediately.
  - The platform allows borrowers to secure loans ranging from Rs 5,000 to Rs 1,00,000 by messaging Rupee112's official WhatsApp number.
8. Paytm has partnered with RBL Bank Limited to provide its sound box and card machines to RBL Bank's merchants, making transactions easier and more efficient.
9. S&P Global released the S&P Global Corporate Sustainability Assessment (CSA) 2024 and the Carbon Disclosure Project (CDP), where Yes Bank Limited was recognized as India's highest-rated bank in sustainability for the third consecutive year.