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VOCABULARY

1. Overt: Done or shown openly; not secret or hidden.
 - Synonyms: Open, obvious, blatant
 - Antonyms: Covert, hidden, concealed
 - Sentence: The endorsement of sabotage could justify overt military action against rival AI programs.
2. Annihilation: Complete destruction or obliteration.
 - Synonyms: Destruction, eradication, extinction
 - Antonyms: Survival, existence, preservation
 - Sentence: MAD implies mutual annihilation as a consequence of nuclear warfare.
3. Vetting: The process of examining or evaluating someone or something thoroughly.
 - Synonyms: Probe, Screening, scrutiny, examination,
 - Antonyms: Brush off, Overlooking, ignoring, neglecting
 - Sentence: The committee is vetting the applications to select the most suitable candidate.
4. Impoverished: Lacking in quality, strength, or resources.
 - Synonyms: Penurious, Underprivileged, Deprived, deficient, meager
 - Antonyms: Affluent, Opulent, Enriched, abundant, prosperous
 - Sentence: The scholarship about how AI impacts strategic affairs is still severely impoverished, lacking depth and diversity.
5. Concede: Admit that something is true or valid after first denying or resisting it.
 - Synonyms: Adhere, Admit, acknowledge, accept
 - Antonyms: Defy, Resist, Oppose, Deny, dispute, contradict
 - Sentence: The company had to concede that the product was faulty after numerous complaints.

- 6. Prognostication:** A forecast or prediction of a future event.
- Synonyms: Prediction, forecast, prophecy
 - Antonyms: Retrospection, recollection
 - Sentence: The paper is to its credit sedate in its prognostications about signs of life on exoplanets.
- 7. Recalcitrant:** Stubbornly refusing to obey rules or orders.
- Synonyms: Disobedient, resistant, defiant
 - Antonyms: Obedient, compliant, submissive
 - Sentence: Recalcitrant states might disregard AI non-proliferation rules, risking global security.
- 8. Nix:** To reject or cancel something.
- Synonyms: Cancel, veto, reject
 - Antonyms: Approve, allow, endorse
 - Sentence: The White House plans to nix most science funding for NASA's research programs.
- 9. Sabotage:** Deliberately destroying or obstructing something for political or military advantage.
- Synonyms: Subversion, damage, wrecking
 - Antonyms: Support, aid, assistance
 - Sentence: The paper endorses sabotage as a strategic measure, which could justify military interventions.
- 10. Proliferation:** A rapid increase in number or spread.
- Synonyms: Expansion, escalation, multiplication
 - Antonyms: Decline, decrease, reduction
 - Sentence: The idea of AI non-proliferation aims to restrict the uncontrolled spread of dangerous AI technologies.

CURRENT AFFAIRS

18th April, 2025

1. The Supreme Court has instructed all High Courts to gather data on pending child trafficking trials, mandating completion within six months. The court warned against laxity and emphasized strict action, including suspending hospital licenses if newborns are trafficked
2. The Delhi government has announced an increase in the minimum wage rates, effective from April 1, 2025. This move aims to ease the financial burden on workers due to inflation. Unskilled workers will now earn Rs 18,456 per month, while those with graduate qualifications will receive Rs 24,356.
3. Maharashtra Chief Minister Devendra Fadnavis said that, the Flying Training Organisation (FTO) to be established in the Amravati City of Vidarbha, will train 180 pilots each year, through its fleet of 34 training planes. It will be the biggest pilot training institute in Southeast Asia.
 - Mr. Fadnavis was addressing the gathering after inaugurating the Amravati airport. He also flagged off a flight between Amravati and Mumbai under the Regional Connectivity Scheme (RCS)-UDAN (Ude Desh ka Aam Nagrik) today. Civil Aviation Minister K. Ram Mohan Naidu, Minister of State for Civil Aviation Muralidhar Mohol, and the Deputy Chief Ministers of Maharashtra Ekanth Shinde and Ajit Pawar were also present on this occasion.
4. Railways Minister Ashwini Vaishnaw commemorated the 172nd anniversary of India's first train journey, recalling the historic moment when the inaugural train departed from Bori Bunder to Thane in Maharashtra on the 16th of April in 1853

5. The Defence Literature Festival 'Kalam & Kavach 2.0' held in New Delhi on April 15, 2025, provided a platform for discussions on India's defence reforms, with a special focus on defence technology and future warfare. The event, aligned with the Prime Minister's vision for a self-reliant India.
6. In a significant development for international policing and law enforcement diplomacy, the United Arab Emirates (UAE) has been elected as the Chair of the INTERPOL Committee on Governance, marking a pivotal moment in its rise as a global security leader.
 - The election, held at INTERPOL's headquarters in Lyon, France on April 11, 2025, saw Lt. Col. Dana Humaid Al Marzouqi secure 67% of the votes from INTERPOL's member states. This achievement reflects growing trust in the UAE's commitment to transparent, inclusive governance and international law enforcement cooperation.
7. Union Minister for Agriculture & Farmers' Welfare and Rural Development, Shri Shivraj Singh Chouhan, is leading the Indian delegation to the 15th BRICS Agriculture Ministers' (AMM), scheduled to be held on 17 in Brasilia, Brazil. Meeting on April 17, 2025.
 - The theme of 15th BRICS AMM is Promoting Inclusive and Sustainable Agriculture through Cooperation, Innovation, and Equitable Trade among BRICS Countries.
8. The concept of World Heritage Day was proposed by the International Council on Monuments and Sites (ICOMOS) in 1982, and was officially approved by UNESCO on the date, April 18, 1983. It commemorates the adoption of the Convention Concerning the Protection of World Cultural and Natural Heritage in 1972.
9. Tanzania recorded its hottest year ever in 2024, with nighttime temperatures rising sharply and pushing the national average temperature to 24.3 °C, the highest since 1970. The country also witnessed exceptional rainfall, making it the fourth wettest year on record.