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VOCABULARY

- 1. Scramble:** To move quickly or urgently, often with difficulty or confusion.
 - Synonyms: Rush, hurry, struggle
 - Antonyms: Stroll, saunter, glide
 - Sentence: Exporters are scrambling to find new markets after the tariffs were imposed.
- 2. Trojan Horse:** Something intended to secretly undermine or attack from within.
 - Synonyms: Deception, subterfuge, trick
 - Antonyms: Transparency, honesty, openness
 - Sentence: The proposed alliance was seen as a Trojan horse to exert political influence.
- 3. Vehement:** Showing strong, forceful, and intense emotion or conviction.
 - Synonyms: Passionate, fervent, forceful
 - Antonyms: Mild, indifferent, apathetic
 - Sentence: The politician gave a vehement speech against corruption in the government.
- 4. Perilous:** Full of danger or risk.
 - Synonyms: Hazardous, risky, treacherous
 - Antonyms: Safe, secure, harmless
 - Sentence: The soldiers embarked on a perilous mission behind enemy lines.

- 5. Attritional :** Relating to a prolonged conflict that gradually weakens the opponent.
- Synonyms: Exhaustive, wearing, depleting
 - Antonyms: Strengthening, reinforcing, revitalizing
 - Sentence: The war turned into an attritional battle with both sides suffering heavy losses.
- 6. Dismantled:** To take apart or disassemble something, often systematically.
- Synonyms: Disassemble, demolish, destroy
 - Antonyms: Construct, assemble, build
 - Sentence: The government dismantled the outdated economic policies to introduce reforms.
- 7. Rife:** Widespread, especially of something undesirable.
- Synonyms: Prevalent, rampant, abundant
 - Antonyms: Rare, scarce, infrequent
 - Sentence: Corruption was rife in the government, leading to public outrage.
- 8. Indispensable:** Absolutely necessary or essential.
- Synonyms: Crucial, vital, essential
 - Antonyms: Unnecessary, dispensable, optional
 - Sentence: Good communication skills are indispensable for a successful career in management.

9. Reckoned: Considered, calculated, or thought about something.

- Synonyms: Estimated, evaluated, assessed
- Antonyms: Ignored, disregarded, neglected
- Sentence: The economic impact of the new tariffs is still being reckoned by experts.

10. Ripple effects: A series of consequences caused by a single event.

- Synonyms: Chain reaction, repercussions, aftermath
- Sentence: The new trade policies created ripple effects that were felt across multiple industries.

CURRENT AFFAIRS

5th March, 2025

1. India faces a critical health challenge with rabies and snakebite fatalities. The government has introduced ZooWIN, a digital platform aimed at real-time monitoring of anti-rabies vaccines and anti-snake venom stocks.
 - This initiative seeks to enhance healthcare delivery across the country and reduce mortality rates associated with these conditions.
2. The government has named Deputy CAG S Ramann as the new Chairperson of the Pension Fund Regulatory and Development Authority (PFRDA). Ramann, currently serving as Deputy CAG, will replace Deepak Mohanty. His appointment, approved by the Appointments Committee of the Cabinet, is for a five-year tenure or until he reaches 65 years of age.
3. Rajasthan, with 275 railway stations, leads the country in having the largest number of railway stations with installed solar power plants. This information was given by the Union Minister of Railways, Ashwini Vaishnaw, in the Lok Sabha on 2nd April 2025.
4. The 15th Hockey India Senior Men National Championship 2025 is set to take place from April 4 to April 15 at the Major Dhyan Chand Hockey Stadium in Jhansi, Uttar Pradesh.

5. Renowned actor and filmmaker Manoj Kumar, popularly known as 'Bharat Kumar,' passed away at 87 after a prolonged illness. Known for his patriotic films like Shaheed, Upkar, and Roti Kapda Aur Makaan, Kumar left a significant impact on Indian cinema. Fellow filmmaker Ashoke Pandit confirmed the news, expressing that the industry will greatly miss him.
6. Sohini Rajola has been appointed as the Executive Director – Growth at the National Payments Corporation of India (NPCI). This role involves driving the adoption of NPCI's payment solutions, enhancing products, and managing partnerships with key stakeholders, including banks, fintech companies.
7. Parliament has passed the Waqf (Amendment) Bill, 2025, with the Rajya Sabha approving it in the wee hours today. The Upper House cleared the Bill with 128 members voting in favour of it while 95 members voted against the legislation. The Rajya Sabha held a discussion on the Bill for around 12 hours. The Lok Sabha has already approved the Bill.

8. PM Narendra Modi attended a performance of the Thai adaptation of Ramayana, known as Ramakien, during his visit to Bangkok. "A cultural connect like no other. Ramayana truly continues to connect heart. across so many parts of Asia," PM Modi said on the performance. PM Modi is on a two-day visit to Thailand to attend the sixth BIMSTEC summit.
9. India ranks 36th globally in readiness for frontier technologies, improving from 48th in 2022. Strong in R&D and AI, India leads in AI developer talent and cloud services. The UN report highlights India's policydriven tech growth, with AI expected to shape its future economy.