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VOCABULARY

1. Amplifies: To make something louder, stronger, or more intense.
 - Synonyms: Increases, magnifies, intensifies.
 - Antonyms: Reduces, diminishes, weakens.
 - Sentence: Every ton of greenhouse gas emissions amplifies the adverse effects of climate change.
2. Seminal: Strongly influencing later developments.
 - Synonyms: Pioneering, influential, groundbreaking.
 - Antonyms: Insignificant, unimportant, trivial.
 - Sentence: The seminal paper published in 2000 laid the foundation for self-determination theory.
3. Intrinsic: Belonging naturally; essential.
 - Synonyms: Inherent, innate, fundamental.
 - Antonyms: Extrinsic, external, acquired.
 - Sentence: Her intrinsic motivation kept her focused on learning new skills.
4. Alleviate: To make something less severe or more bearable.
 - Synonyms: Relieve, ease, reduce.
 - Antonyms: Aggravate, intensify, worsen.
 - Sentence: Effective policies can alleviate the harmful effects of climate change.
5. Contend: To argue or state something in a strong way.
 - Synonyms: Assert, claim, argue.
 - Antonyms: Agree, yield, submit.
 - Sentence: The plaintiffs contend that current policies harm children and youth disproportionately.
6. Staunch: Loyal and committed in attitude.
 - Synonyms: Loyal, steadfast, unwavering
 - Antonyms: Unreliable, unfaithful, wavering
 - Sentence: Both sides declared staunch loyalty to the Constitution of India.

7. Solace: Comfort or consolation in a time of distress or sadness.
- Synonyms: Comfort, consolation, relief
 - Antonyms: Distress, discomfort, anguish
 - Sentence: Most of the deceased were from the economically vulnerable sections of society and were in search of spiritual solace.
8. Critique: A detailed analysis and assessment of something.
- Synonyms: Evaluation, review, analysis
 - Antonyms: Praise, approval, commendation
 - Sentence: The film received mixed critiques, with some praising the acting while others criticized the plot.
9. Scrutinized: Examined or inspected closely and thoroughly.
- Synonyms: Inspected, examined, analyzed
 - Antonyms: Overlooked, ignored, neglected
 - Sentence: The increase in Opposition numbers can help restore healthy traditions such as more Bills getting scrutinized by parliamentary standing committees.
10. Stalemate: A situation in which further action or progress by opposing parties seems impossible.
- Synonyms: Deadlock, impasse, standoff
 - Antonyms: Breakthrough, agreement, resolution
 - Sentence: The stalemate eventually led to an election between Mr. Birla and Kodikunnil Suresh.

CURRENT AFFAIRS

30th APRIL, 2025

1. The Indian Air Force is set for a leadership reshuffle as Air Marshal Narmadeshwar Tiwari steps in as the new Vice Chief, succeeding Air Marshal SP Dharkaron May 1. Simultaneously, Air Marshal Ashutosh Dixit will assume the role of CISC, taking over from Lt Gen JP Matthew.
2. Indian Naval Ship (INS) Sunayna arrived at Port Louis, Mauritius, on April 26, 2025, after completing Phase I of Joint Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ) surveillance with the National Coast Guard (NCG) Mauritius, the Ministry of Defence announced. This visit strengthens regional maritime cooperation and capacity-building with nations in the South Western Indian Ocean.
 - INS Sunayna, which sailed from Karwar on April 5, is carrying 44 naval personnel from nine Indian Ocean Region nations, including Mauritian officers and sailors. The ship and its multinational crew received a warm welcome from senior Mauritian officials and the Indian High Commission.
3. Madhusudan Sai, a humanitarian from Karnataka, has been awarded Fiji's highest honour, the 'Companion of the Order of Fiji', by President Ratu Naiqama Lalabalavu. This recognition celebrates Sai's establishment of the Sri Sathya Sai Sanjeevani Children's Hospital in Fiji. Sai acknowledged the collective effort in uplifting communities across Fiji and the Pacific region.

4. YouTube has appointed Gunjan Soni as the new country managing director for India for India, succeeding Ishan Chatterjee on the post. Soni comes with an experience spanning two decades, having worked with names like Zalora, Myntra , McKinsey & Company and others .
5. Prime Minister Mark Carney has declared victory in Canada's federal election, securing a fourth term for his Liberal Party. This remarkable win ensures the continuation of Liberal governance at a time when Canada faces complex internal and external challenges, from trade disputes with the United States to a surging cost-of-living crisis.
6. To commemorate the centenary of PanditChatur Lal, the Department of Posts is releasing a stamp to honor the contributions of this tablalegend. Known for his pioneering work in bringing the tablato international audiences, his collaborations with musicians like PanditRavi Shankar.
7. World military expenditure has touched a record high, rising sharply amid wars, geopolitical tensions, and a renewed global arms race. In 2024, global military spending grew 9.4% in real terms to reach \$2.7 trillion, according to the "Trends in World Military Expenditure 2024" report released by the Stockholm International Peace Research Institute (SIPRI). This is the highest amount ever recorded, and the sharpest year-on-year increase since at least 1988.
8. The government of India has launched the 5th Marine Census, accompanied by the introduction of a mobile application, Vyas-NAV, for digital-based data collection. The mobile application was launched during the Coastal States Fisheries Meet 2025 in

Mumbai on April 28, 2025, which was chaired by the Union Minister of Fisheries, Animal Husbandry, and Dairying, Rajiv RanjanSingh alias LalanSingh. The last Marine census was conducted in 2016 in the country.

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