

## Important Definitions

- ❖ **treasury bench** (noun) — the front bench (to the right of the Speaker) in the Parliament occupied by the prime minister and other cabinet ministers of the government.
- ❖ **behaviour change communication** (noun) — social and behaviour change communication (SBCC), often also only "BCC" is an interactive process of any intervention with individuals, group or community to develop communication strategies to promote positive behaviours which are appropriate to their settings and there by solve world's most pressing health problems.
- ❖ **unorganised sector** (noun) — unorganized sector means an enterprise owned by individuals or self-employed workers and engaged in the production or sale of goods or providing service of any kind whatsoever. Where the enterprise employs workers, the number of such workers is less than ten.
- ❖ **virtuous cycle/spiral** (noun) — when the economy is in a virtuous cycle, investment, productivity growth, job creation, demand and exports feed into (or beneficial/positive effect on) each other and enable animal spirits in the economy to thrive/grow. (animal spirits refers to the emotions and instincts that guide the behaviour of investors and consumers).
- ❖ **non-virtuous or vicious cycle spiral** (noun) — when the economy is in a non-virtuous or vicious cycle, investment, productivity growth, job creation, demand and exports have an negative effect/aggravate/make worse each other and disable animal spirits in the economy to decline.
- ❖ **headline inflation** (noun) — it is a measure of the total inflation within an economy, including commodities such as food and energy prices (e.g., oil and gas).
- ❖ **core inflation** (noun) — it is a measure of the total inflation within an economy, excluding commodities such as food and energy prices (which change frequently).
- ❖ **headwinds** (noun) — (in business) situations or conditions that make growth harder/difficult. Whereas **tailwinds** describe a situation or condition that will move growth, revenues, or profits higher.
- ❖ **bottom-up approach** (noun) — In bottom up approach, we solve smaller problems and integrate it as whole and complete the solution. In the top-down approach, we focus on breaking up the problem into smaller parts.
- ❖ **majoritarian** (adjective) — relating to a philosophy that states that a majority (sometimes categorized by religion, language, social class, or some other identifying factor) of the population is entitled to a certain degree of primacy (priority) in society, and has the right to make decisions that affect the society.
- ❖ **gross value added (GVA)** (noun) — it is a measure of total output and income in the economy. It provides the rupee value for the amount of goods and services produced in an economy after deducting the cost of inputs and raw materials that have gone into the production of those goods and services. It also gives sector-specific picture like what is the growth in an area, industry or sector of an economy. On the other hand, GDP or gross domestic product is a measure of economic activity in a country. It is the total value of a country's annual output of goods and service.
- ❖ **coronavirus (CoV)**(noun) — a large family of viruses that cause illness ranging from the common cold to more severe diseases. common signs of infection include respiratory symptoms, fever, cough, shortness of breath and breathing difficulties. In more severe cases, infection can cause pneumonia, severe acute respiratory syndrome, kidney failure and even death.

- ❖ **supply shock** (noun) — a sudden and unexpected change in a cost variable, such as oil prices, commodity prices & etc. An unexpected event that suddenly increases or decreases the supply of a commodity or service and as a result changes its price suddenly.
- ❖ **shale** (noun) — shale is a fine-grained sedimentary rock in which natural gas is trapped underground. shale oil refers to hydrocarbons that are trapped in formations of shale rock.
- ❖ **revival package** (noun) — bailout package, rescue package; the set of loans, investments, or other financial advantages that are offered to a company, economy, etc. to save it from financial failure.
- ❖ **insolvent** (adjective) — relating to a condition in which the financial difficulties of an individual or organisation are such it is unable to pay its debts; collapsed, defaulting.
- ❖ **bankrupt** (adjective) — relating to an individual or organisation who is declared as bankrupt by the court when the party (individual/organisation) can no longer meet debt payments to creditors.
- ❖ **anchor investor** (noun) — anchor investors are institutional investors who are offered shares in an IPO a day before the offer opens. As the name suggests, they are supposed to 'anchor' the issue by agreeing to subscribe to shares at a fixed price so that other investors may know that there is demand for the shares offered. Each anchor investor has to put a minimum of 10 crore in the issue.
- ❖ **authorised** (share) **capital** (noun) — it is the maximum amount of the capital for which shares can be issued by the Company to shareholders.
- ❖ **paid up share capital** (noun) — It is a amount of money for which shares of the Company were issued to the shareholders and payment was made by the shareholders.
- ❖ **tier 1 bonds** (noun) — AT-1, short for Additional Tier-1 bonds, are a type of unsecured, perpetual bonds that banks issue to shore up their core capital base to meet the Basel-III norms. AT1 bonds offer investors a higher return because of the higher risk associated with them, including the possibility of being written down when a bank's equity base is under threat.
- ❖ **non-performing assets** (NPAs) (noun) — bad loans, troubled accounts, stressed loans; an account where principal and/or interest remains overdue for a period of time.
- ❖ **mid-cap** (noun) — a company with market capitalization between \$2 billion and \$10 billion. Large-cap is with a large market capitalization, more than \$10 billion and Small cap is with less than \$2 billion market capitalization.
- ❖ **Equity holdings** (noun) — a quantity of shares (equities) held in a company by a particular shareholder. An amount of a particular type of investment owned by a person or organization.
- ❖ **fair wind** (noun) — it figuratively means a favourable situation. (fair wind generally means a favourable wind. i.e. one blowing in the desired direction of travel for the vessel (ship/boat)).
- ❖ **pay roll tax** (noun) — the payroll tax supports the country's (U. S) two biggest safety nets: Social Security and Medicare. Workers/employees will pay a certain amount of their wage and salary income into Social Security. And they will pay a small amount of all their earned income for Medicare. Their employers will match those amounts.
- ❖ **lockstep** (noun) — in agreement with someone mindlessly and has exactly the same ideas/opinions that someone else has, often without questioning them in any way.
- ❖ **liquidity** (noun) — the availability of liquid assets; liquidity means liquid assets; cash; (liquid asset is an asset which can be easily sold/converted into cash without losing its value); a measure of activity (i.e. the ability to buy or sell easily) in a market.

- ❖ **Parliamentary Standing Committee** (noun) — it is a committee (consisting of Members of Parliament) constituted usually on an annual basis to enable detailed consideration/discussion on all bills (all proposed laws), whereas 'parliamentary select (or ad hoc) committee' can be formed for a specific purpose, for instance, to deliberate on a particular bill. Once the Bill is disposed of, that select committee ceases to exist.
- ❖ **mission-mode approach** (noun) — it implies that projects have clearly defined objectives, scopes, and implementation timelines and milestones, as well as measurable outcomes and service levels.
- ❖ **demographic dividend** (noun) — it is defined as a boost in economic productivity that occurs when there are growing numbers of people in the workforce relative to the number of dependents (or) it is the accelerated development that can arise when a population has a relatively large proportion of working-age people coupled with effective human capital investment. A term used to describe the period when a greater proportion of the population of a country is young and in the working age-group. It indicates increase in growth as a result of higher proportion of working age people in the total population of a country.
- ❖ **Universal access** (noun) — the ability of all people (regardless of their social class, gender, ethnicity background & etc) to have equal opportunity/availability of healthcare, education & etc.
- ❖ **totalitarianism** (noun) — a form of government that prohibits opposition parties, restricts individual opposition to the state and its claims and exercises an extremely high degree of control over public and private life. It is regarded as the most extreme and complete form of authoritarianism.
- ❖ **electoral bond** (noun) – an electoral bond is designed to be a bearer instrument like a Promissory Note — in effect, it will be similar to a bank note that is payable to the bearer on demand and free of interest. It can be purchased by any citizen of India or a body incorporated in India. it allows limitless, secret donations to political parties, including (and especially) by corporations.
- ❖ **Northern Alliance** (noun) – it is also known as the United Islamic Front for Salvation of Afghanistan (UIFSA), was a coalition of militias seeking to topple the rule of the Taliban throughout Afghanistan.
- ❖ **deep state** (noun) – shadow government; influential decision-making bodies believed to be within government and it can be any agencies (e.g., military or any other).
- ❖ **war fatigue** (noun) – also called as combat fatigue, battle fatigue, or shell shock; a mental condition of anxiety and depression caused by the stress of fighting in a war.
- ❖ **Westphalian order/system** (noun) – based on the principle of international law, that each state has sovereignty over its territory and domestic affairs. According to this principle, every state, no matter how large or small, has an equal right to sovereignty. Due to this system, external powers should avoid interfering in another country's domestic affairs. This doctrine is named after the Peace of Westphalia (Germany), signed in 1648, which ended the Thirty Years' War.
- ❖ **superpower** (noun) – a nation which is very powerful and possesses military, political or economic might (power) with dominant status on the globe. (like the Soviet Union (erstwhile) or the United States of America).
- ❖ **local transmission** (cluster) (noun) – local spread/transmission means spread of an illness/disease for which the source of infection is known. An infected person has travel history to an affected area. We could able to identify and trace individual cases, and ring-fence a cluster (of them) to prevent the spread of infection.

- ❖ **community transmission** (noun) – community spread/transmission means spread of an illness/disease for which the source of infection is unknown. An infected person has no travel history to an affected area and no known contact with a person previously diagnosed with a particular disease. It is possible the patient is exposed to a returning traveller who is infected.
- ❖ **screening** (noun) – examination, testing (of a group of people for the symptoms of a disease). The process of identifying healthy people who may be at increased risk of disease or condition.
- ❖ **social distancing** (noun) – a term means actively avoiding crowded public places, is a key element in decreasing the rapid spread of COVID-19. This is an effort intended to limit exposure by reducing face-to-face contact and preventing spread among people in community settings.
- ❖ **high-five** (noun) – a hand gesture that occurs when two people simultaneously raise one hand each, about head-high, and push, slide, or slap the flat of their palm against the flat palm of the other person. The gesture is often preceded verbally by a phrase like "Give me five", "High five", "Up high", or "Slap hands". Its meaning varies with the context of use but can include as a greeting, congratulations, or celebration.
- ❖ **brand equity** (noun) – brand value; that value is determined by consumer perception of and experiences with the brand. If people think highly of a brand, it has positive brand equity.
- ❖ **constitutional morality** (noun) – the principle of constitutional morality basically means to bow down to the norms of the Constitution and not to act in a manner which would become violative of the rule of law or reflectible of action in an arbitrary manner.
- ❖ **representative government** (noun) – a government where citizens elect people to represent them and make laws on their behalf, instead of always voting directly on laws and other government actions.
- ❖ **diaspora** (noun) – the people who spread/scatter from their own country to places across the world. Indian diaspora constitutes NRIs (Non-resident Indians) and PIOs (Persons of Indian origins).
- ❖ **soft power** (noun) – soft power is convincing & effective power deriving from attraction and imitation and be based on intangible (non-physical) resources such as culture, ideology, and institutions.
- ❖ **A Person of Indian Origin (PIO)** (noun) – A Person of Indian Origin (PIO) means a foreign citizen (except a national of Pakistan, Afghanistan Bangladesh, China, Iran, Bhutan, Sri Lanka and Nepal) who at any time held an Indian passport Or who or either of their parents/ grand parents/ great grand parents was born and permanently resident in India as defined in government of India Act 1935 and other territories that became part of India thereafter provided neither was at any time a citizen of any of the aforesaid countries (as referred above); Or Who is a spouse of a citizen of India or a PIO.
- ❖ **primary** (noun) – (in the US) an election in which members of the same political party run against each other for the chance to be in a larger and more important election, especially presidential election.
- ❖ **caucus** (noun) – (in the US) a party-organized gathering of members to discuss their presidential preferences, elect local party leadership and discuss issues that make up the party's platform. A closed meeting of supporters or members of a specific political party or movement. It is also defined as hours-long voting meeting run by a political party.

- ❖ **across the aisle** (phrase) — In this expression, the "aisle" refers to the actual physical walkway that divides the legislative (parliamentary) halls. Members of the two parties sit on opposite sides.
- ❖ **beyond reasonable doubt** (phrase) — (this phrase is most commonly used in the legal system) something (such an evidence) that is close to an absolute certainty/fact/truth.
- ❖ **aid and advice** (phrase) — real authority to take decisions lie in the elected government. This is the meaning of 'aid and advice'. Titular head (LO has to act in accordance to aid and advice.
- ❖ **balance of power** (phrase) — (in international relations) the balance of power theory suggests that states may secure their survival by preventing any .one state from gaining enough military power to dominate all others.
- ❖ **the scene of the crime** (phrase) — the location that may be associated with a committed crime.

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## Phrasal Verbs

- ❖ **turn into** — transform into cause to become (a particular kind of thing).
- ❖ **iron out** — resolve, settle, set right.
- ❖ **give up** — abandon, forgo, renounce.
- ❖ **point out** — identify, recognize, draw attention to, mention.
- ❖ **come down** — decline, reduce, lessen.
- ❖ **ramp up** — increase. (The petroleum price has ramped up in the last one year)
- ❖ **put out** — publish, release, publicize/circulate.
- ❖ **turn around** — change course, reverse direction.
- ❖ **bottom out** — to reach a lowest or worst point (and from there the condition will only improve).
- ❖ **set off** — give rise to, cause, trigger, bring about.
- ❖ **drag down** — bring to a lower level; decrease, get worse.
- ❖ **run into** — experience, encounter, meet with. ( Yesterday I ran into my primary school headmaster.)
- ❖ **shy away from** — avoid, recoil, withdraw nervously (due to fear/surprise/pain).
- ❖ **rub off** — be transferred to, be passed on to, be transmitted to.
- ❖ **wipe off** — eliminate, remove, erase. (We will wipe off the polio disease from this world.)
- ❖ **call upon** — ask formally, demand (to do something).
- ❖ **write down** — reduce the nominal value/face value of stock.
- ❖ **leave behind** — abandon, discard, reject, disown.
- ❖ **rest on** — depend on rely on, be based on.
- ❖ **cross (over)** — to change (from one activity (supporting one group) to another (group)); to join a different (political) party.
- ❖ **keep alive** — keep going, continue, sustain.
- ❖ **hold together** — remain united.
- ❖ **call out** — draw attention to someone's bad actions.
- ❖ **rail against** — make a protest against, denounce, censure.
- ❖ **stitch up** — arrange, organize (a deal/agreement to someone's benefit).
- ❖ **mess up** — mismanage, mishandle, misconduct.
- ❖ **keep up** — continue, maintain, carry on, persist with.
- ❖ **spill over** — (something like an emotion/bad condition) reaching to an uncontrolled level.
- ❖ **reach out** — contact someone to obtain help/assistance/cooperation. Amok
- ❖ **let down** — fail to support, disappoint, abandon/neglect, betray.
- ❖ **sit up** — to pay attention to something suddenly; stir up one's interest on something. L'1
- ❖ **step in** — intervene, get involved, become involved, take action (in a problematic situation).

- ❖ **break out** — flare up, begin/start suddenly, erupt/burst out.
- ❖ **lie ahead** — about to happen. (A not so good future for the human race lie ahead.)
- ❖ **go beyond** — to do more than required/expected.
- ❖ **call off** — cancel, abandon, shelve/drop.
- ❖ **keep away** — make to stay away, prevent, avoid (from coming).
- ❖ **rule out** — exclude, eliminate, reject. (Third party intervention in J&K is ruled out by the PMO.)
- ❖ **shape up** — develop, progress.
- ❖ **lie in** — be present, be contained, exist.
- ❖ **lay down** — formulate, stipulate, frame.
- ❖ **set aside** — annul, overrule, nullify/cancel.
- ❖ **draw upon** — rely on, use, utilize, have recourse to.
- ❖ **look at** — appraise, analyse, review.
- ❖ **hold out** — continue, persevere, keep going.
- ❖ **light up** — brighten up (one's face with joy), to make cheerful, to make someone to look happy.
- ❖ **warm up** — prepare, get ready, get into condition.

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## Idioms & Phrases

- ❖ **all hands on deck** — figuratively means that all the members are involved in a situation.
- ❖ **a mark of respect** — something done to show respect.
- ❖ **cast a shadow on** — spoil/diminish (something).
- ❖ **send a shuddering chill down someone's spine** — to cause someone to feel extremely worried or frightened.
- ❖ **wring one's hands** — to twist and rub one's hands together because of great distress particularly when someone has no authority and can't do anything to change the situation.
- ❖ **make a virtue of a necessity** — to gain an advantage from doing something (which you were forced to do it by someone originally) by pretending that you are doing it freely and happily; to make the best of a difficult situation.
- ❖ **come undone** — In the figurative sense, it means that something has either not gone as planned, or has failed in some way. E.g. **a plan can come undone** meaning it hasn't worked as expected. A **person can come undone** meaning that they have lost their composure or self-control.
- ❖ **pay the price** — experience bad/unpleasant result of something that you have done.
- ❖ **at first flush** — be at the beginning of something (the beginning will always be exciting).
- ❖ **at someone's bidding** — as asked/ordered/insisted to do by someone.
- ❖ **a rap on the knuckles** — criticize, censure, rebuke/reprimand.
- ❖ **it was a pity** used for saying that you are disappointed about something.
- ❖ **all but one** — in this phrase, "but" means "except". It reads as all except one"
- ❖ **keep something afloat** — to keep something going that may not be working out/performing well; sustain, endure, remain/withstand.
- ❖ **a big ask** — something which you have been asked to do that is very difficult or demanding.
- ❖ **strain one's vocal cords** — try very hard, do one's best, make every effort (to explain/clarify something to someone).
- ❖ **quid pro quo** — "something for something"; a support in exchange for something.
- ❖ **foot the bill** — pay, pay out, settle up (the bill where amount is considered large or unreasonable).
- ❖ **no corner left untouched** — affecting all without any exception.
- ❖ **one and all** — each and every one, without opposition.
- ❖ **lose ground** — lose one's advantage.
- ❖ **any time soon** — in the near future.



- ❖ **with each passing day** — as each day passed; as time continues to pass, day by day.
- ❖ **run the risk** — do something even if knowing something unpleasant/bad might happen.
- ❖ **to the contrary** — in opposite to.
- ❖ **on offer** — available.
- ❖ **take note of** — pay attention to, heed, take notice, observe.
- ❖ **what is more** — moreover, additionally, in addition.
- ❖ **lead evidence** — give evidence.
- ❖ **burden of proof** — the duty/obligation of a party to prove/disprove their claims/allegations.
- ❖ **make a claim** — when you make a claim something, you're demanding it or saying it's true.
- ❖ **on the face of it** — apparently, seemingly, evidently/ostensibly.
- ❖ **far from** — not, not at all, nowhere near.
- ❖ **by itself** — in itself, intrinsically, as such.
- ❖ **can ill-afford** — to prevent something from happening because it would be embarrassing and cause problems (if it happens).
- ❖ **go way beyond** — to do much more than is expected.
- ❖ **on course** — on track, on target, on schedule.
- ❖ **spin a new story** — to tell a lie.
- ❖ **of sorts** — of a somewhat unusual method.
- ❖ **a level playing field** — a situation in which everyone has the equal chance of succeeding.
- ❖ **take root** — become established, become fixed, take hold.
- ❖ **stand no chance** — have no chance of success (at all).
- ❖ **in place** — established, set ready, in order.
- ❖ **not to mention** — besides, in addition to, as well as.
- ❖ **position of strength** — a position which gives someone an advantage over other, especially in a negotiation.
- ❖ **by and large** — generally, altogether, all things considered, on the whole.
- ❖ **on the verge of** — to be at the point /situation where something (usually bad/unpleasant) is about to happen.
- ❖ **at best** — simply, merely, only.
- ❖ **play the game** — play by the rules, play fair, be fair.
- ❖ **more so** — to a greater degree; to a greater extent.
- ❖ **one way or another** — by some means/methods, in any way that is possible-, somehow, but certainly.
- ❖ **one reason or another** — for more than one reason; for various reasons.
- ❖ **put all its eggs in one basket** — don't take the risk of depending on the success of one thing.
- ❖ **on the eve of** — a period or day before an important event.
- ❖ **make the best of** — make the most of; to gain (maximum) advantage from an unwelcome/unsatisfactory situation.
- ❖ **take a hit** — to suffer loss.
- ❖ **a thine of the past** — something no longer exists/happens.
- ❖ **after all** — most importantly, ultimately, basically.
- ❖ **raise/up the ante** — to increase demands (in a tough condition) even though it has risks.
- ❖ **take notice** — to pay attention.
- ❖ **in the wake of** — aftermath, as a result of, as a consequence of.
- ❖ **far more** — a lot more, much more.
- ❖ **come as no surprise** — to be anticipated (expected).
- ❖ **window of opportunity** — lucky chance, good time, golden opportunity.
- ❖ **all the more** — even more.

- ❖ **so far** — until now, up to the present, up to this point.
- ❖ **come in contact with** — to touch someone unknowingly.
- ❖ **pull out all the stops** — make a very great effort, try hard, strive (to achieve something).
- ❖ **hold the key** — to have control.
- ❖ **life and limb** — life and bodily well-being.
- ❖ **take/catch someone by surprise** — surprise, shock, stun someone (as something happened unexpectedly).
- ❖ **slow burn** — gradual increase of anger.
- ❖ **come in for** — receive, experience, be subjected to, have to bear.
- ❖ **no less** — not to mention, furthermore, even.
- ❖ **but little else** — but a small amount of.
- ❖ **as much as** — even though.
- ❖ **a free rein** — freedom a free hand leeway/latitude.
- ❖ **par for the course** — normal, typical, usual.
- ❖ **far less** — much less.
- ❖ **point finger at someone** — to accuse or blame someone.
- ❖ **there's more than one way to skin a cat** — there are more ways to do/achieve/attain something.
- ❖ **set/put one's house in order** — to find a solution for one's own problems before going and trying to solve others' problems.
- ❖ **take hold** — begin to have an effect.
- ❖ **at stake** — at risk, at issue, in question.
- ❖ **lost to the world** — so involved in a task that you don't realize what is going on around you.
- ❖ **better sense prevailed** — a sensible decision is made.
- ❖ **for the time being** — for now, for the moment, for the present.
- ❖ **take a stand** — to defend/assert one's point of view.
- ❖ **shot in the arm** — boost, fillip, stimulus.
- ❖ **note of caution** — warning.
- ❖ **in the event of something** — if something happens.
- ❖ **difference of opinion** — disagreement, quarrel; a divisive issue, fault-line.
- ❖ **pay tribute to** — praise, express admiration of, applaud/appreciate, show gratitude to.
- ❖ **bring into play** — generate, cause, induce.
- ❖ **back home** — in one's country/hometown.
- ❖ **to start with** — at first, at the start, at the outset.
- ❖ **at the expense of** — at the loss of, at the cost of, sacrifice.
- ❖ **play a part/role** — contribute to, be instrumental in, be a factor in.
- ❖ **lay claim to** — claim to have rights to (something).
- ❖ **to take pride in** — to be proud of, to take satisfaction in.
- ❖ **in front of** — in the presence of before, in the sight of, under the nose of
- ❖ **on the whole** — generally, mostly, all things considered.
- ❖ **in sight** — visible, perceptible, perceivable, observable, noticeable.
- ❖ **as yet** — so far, thus far, yet, still, until now.
- ❖ **in line with** — in accordance with, in alignment with, in agreement with, in conformity with.
- ❖ **give rise to** — cause, bring about, produce, lead to, result in.
- ❖ **over and above** — in addition to, as well as, besides.
- ❖ **go down well** — to be well-received; to be well-accepted.
- ❖ **the likes of** — someone considered as a particular type.

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