

IMPORTANT DEFINITIONS

1. **Great Depression** (noun) – a worldwide economic depression that started in 1929 and lasted until the late 1930s (almost for 10 years until about 1939). Although it originated in the United States, the Great Depression caused drastic declines in output, severe unemployment, and acute deflation in almost every country of the world.
2. **fixed asset investment** (noun) – a measure of capital spending. It refers to any investment within the measurement period in physical assets, such as real estate infrastructure, machinery, etc. that are held for more than one year.
3. **baseline scenario** (noun) – it is also known as ‘reference’ or ‘benchmark’ or ‘non-intervention’ scenario; it depicts a future state of society and/or environment in which no new environmental policies are implemented apart from those already in the pipeline today. It simply means “assumed situation or state of affairs”.
4. **stimulus package** (noun) – an attempt by the government to boost economic growth and save their country from a financial crisis by involving tax cuts, lowering interest rates and increasing government spending.
5. **social vaccine** (noun) – a metaphor (symbolic thing) for a series of social and behavioural measures that governments can use to raise public consciousness about unhealthy situations through social mobilisation.
6. **conspiracy theory** (noun) – an explanation of an event or situation that invokes a conspiracy by evil, criminal and powerful actors, often political in motivation, when other explanations are more probable (likely to happen/anticipated).
7. **RT-PCR testing** (noun) – Reverse Transcription Polymerase Chain Reaction (RT-PCR) Testing; it is one of the most accurate laboratory methods for detecting, tracking, and studying the coronavirus. It is a nuclear-derived method for detecting the presence of specific genetic material from any pathogen, including a virus. (pathogen is a bacteria/virus that causes disease).
8. **nasal swab** (noun) – a method for collecting a clinical test sample of nasal secretions from the back of the nose and throat. (“swab” is piece of soft, absorbent material attached to a stick to take samples of body fluids, clean wounds or apply medicines).
9. **herd immunity** (noun) – it refers to a means (ways) of protecting a whole community from disease by immunizing a critical mass of its populace (population). It is also defined as a form of indirect protection from infectious disease that occurs when a large percentage of a population are immune to an infection, thereby providing a measure of protection for individuals who are not immune.
10. **containment** (noun) – an act of keeping something (harmful) under control (it means quickly identifying cases of coronavirus through testing, placing infected individuals in isolation, tracking who infected persons might have been in contact with and potentially quarantining those who came into contact with infection so that the disease doesn’t continue to spread).
11. **pandemic** (noun) – the worldwide spread of a new disease; The illness spreads around the world and typically affects a large number of people across a wide area.
12. **inequality** (noun) – Inequality is simply defined as “the state of not being equal, especially in status, rights and opportunities”; imbalance, unevenness, disproportion, disparity.
13. **flattening the curve** (phrase) – In epidemiology, the idea of slowing a virus’ spread so that fewer

people need to seek treatment at any given time is known as “flattening the curve”.

14. **case-fatality rate/ratio** (noun) – in epidemiology, the proportion of people who die from a particular disease compared to all individuals diagnosed with the disease over a certain period of time.
15. **lockdown** (noun) – an emergency protocol implemented by the authorities that prevents people from leaving from a place; An extended state of confinement/encirclement/isolation of a person by the authority.
16. **social/physical 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.
17. **health equity** (noun) – “Health equity” or “equity in health” implies that ideally everyone should have a fair opportunity to attain their full health potential (and that no one should be disadvantaged from achieving this potential) regardless of demographic, social, economic or geographic strata (level/class/rank/echelon).
18. **incidence** (noun) – refers to the number of new cases that develop in a given period of time whereas “prevalence” refers to the number of cases of a disease that are present in a particular population at a given time.
19. **personal protective equipment (PPE)** (noun) – safety gear; protective clothing, helmets, masks or other garments or equipment designed to protect the wearer’s body from injury/disease.
20. **first responder/front line worker** (noun) – a person who is among the first to arrive and provide assistance at the scene of an emergency. First/front line workers/ responders typically include paramedics, emergency medical technicians, police officers, firefighters, sanitary workers & etc.,.
21. **foreign direct investment (FDI)** (noun) – Investment from one country into another (normally by companies rather than governments) that involves establishing operations or acquiring tangible assets, including stakes in other businesses.
22. **fintech** (noun) – it is the shortened version of the phrase Financial Technology, which is now used to describe businesses that offer financial services using software and modern technology.
23. **holdings** (noun) – a quantity of shares held in a company by a particular shareholder. An amount of a particular type of investment owned by a person or organization.
24. **cash burn** (noun) – ‘cash burn’ is the rate at which a company uses up its capital to run its day-to-day operations. ‘Cash burn rate’ is a metric that measures how the company’s net cash position has changed over a time period, usually in a month.
25. **sanctions** (noun) – action taken, or an order given to force a country to obey international laws by limiting or stopping trade with that country, by not allowing economic aid for that country, etc.
26. **homeostasis** (noun) – the ability to maintain a relatively stable internal state that continues despite changes in the world outside. All living organisms, from plants to people, must regulate their internal environment to process energy and ultimately survive. It refers to stability, balance, or equilibrium within a cell or the body. Humans’ internal body temperature is a great example of homeostasis.
27. **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, and where the enterprise employs workers, the number of such workers is less than ten.

28. **defining moment** (noun) – a point in life when someone is urged to make an important decision, or when someone experience something that fundamentally changes everything.
29. **reforms with a human face** (phrase) – benefits or advantages of reforms must reach the poorest sections of the society, alleviate their poverty and eliminate their ignorance & sufferings, otherwise such reforms will be considered as useless/careless/worthless).
30. **economic cost** (noun) – the combination of losses of any goods that have a value attached to them by any one individual. The measure of the alternative opportunities foregone in the choice of one good or activity over others.
31. **public health** (noun) – the branch of medicine handling public health; public health is also the science of protecting and improving the health of people and their communities through education, policy making and research for disease and injury prevention.
32. **public order** (noun) – it is essentially the absence of disorder – the quiet and orderly behaviour of people in public space. It involves people behaving sensibly and rationally, and respecting others.
33. **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.
34. **kharif crops** (noun) – monsoon crops; seeds sowing in the beginning (Jun) of the monsoon and harvesting at the end of the season (Oct) in the South Asia.
35. **rabi crops/sowing** (noun) – winter crops; seeds sowing in the beginning (Nov) of the winter and harvesting at the end of the season (Apr) in the South Asia.
36. **Comprehensive Relief Package** (noun) – a comprehensive package should have simultaneous reliefs across different realms (area of activity) (for instance, tax compliance, relief for poor, RBI monetary policy interventions, and relief for middle class in terms of EMI, internet rate subvention and most importantly an increase in investment in health infrastructure).
37. **motor spirit** (noun) – it is also known as gasoline (American English), or petrol (British English), is a transparent, petroleum-derived liquid that is used primarily as a fuel in internal combustion engines.
38. **Finance Commission, India** (noun) – A finance commission is set up every five years by the President of India under Article 280 of the Constitution. Its main function is to recommend how the Union government should share taxes levied by it with the states.
39. **expenditure switching** (noun) – a macroeconomic policy that affects the composition of a country's expenditure on foreign and domestic goods. More specifically it is a policy to balance a country's current account by altering the composition of expenditures on foreign and domestic goods.
40. **Gross State Domestic Product** (GSDP) (noun) – it is defined as a measure, in monetary terms, of the volume of all goods and services produced within the boundaries of the State during a given period of time, accounted without duplication.
41. **ways and means advances** (WMA) (noun) – a facility for both the Centre and states to borrow from the RBI. These borrowings are meant purely to help them to tide over (sustain) temporary mismatches in cash flows of their receipts and expenditures.
42. **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).
43. **H-1B visa** (noun) – it permits a foreign professional (with a (min. 4 years) university degree or its

- equivalent) to work in specialty occupations (or skilled employments) in the United States (issued for a max of 6 years in total).
44. **H-2B visa** (noun) – it permits a foreign worker to come temporarily to the United States and perform temporary/seasonal non agricultural services (issued for a max of 2 years).
 45. **rule of law** (phrase) – it is described as “a principle of governance in which all persons, institutions and entities, public and private, including the State itself, are accountable to laws that are publicly promulgated, equally enforced and independently adjudicated, and which are consistent with international human rights norms and standards.
 46. **immigration** (noun) – the act of leaving one’s countries and moving to another country of which they are not natives, nor citizens, to settle or reside there, especially as permanent residents or naturalized citizens, or to take-up employment as a migrant worker or temporarily as a foreign worker.
 47. **blue -collar workers** (noun) – it describes people who do manual work. Workers who work in a factory, for example, who wear a uniform.
 48. **white-collar workers** (noun) – people who work in offices, doing administration or managerial tasks – clerks for example – were referred to as white-collar workers.
 49. **red state** (noun) – it refers to states of the United States whose voters predominantly choose Republican Party (red) presidential candidates where as “blue state” refers to states of the United States whose voters predominantly select Democratic Party (blue) presidential candidates.
 50. **cognisable offence/crime** (noun) – an offence for which, a police officer without any warrant has authority to arrest and to start an investigation with or without the permission of a court.
 51. **antibody** (noun) – it is also called ‘immunoglobulin’; a protective protein produced mainly by plasma (blood) cells in the immune system in response to the presence of antigens (disease causing organisms (bacteria & viruses) and other harmful/toxic foreign substances like insect venom).
 52. **quarantine** (noun) – a process of separating out people, animals and things (such as plants) from others for a period of time in order to control/restrict the spread of a contagious disease; Quarantine is imposed to separate and restrict the movement of persons, who may have been exposed to infectious disease, but not yet known to be ill.
 53. **sero-surveillance** (noun) – serological surveillance; identification of patterns of current and past infections using serological test (blood- based tests). Sero-surveillance provides estimates of antibody levels against vaccine preventable diseases (VPDs) and is considered the gold standard for measuring population immunity due to past infection or vaccination. It is an important component of disease surveillance and complements notification, hospitalisation, mortality and immunisation coverage data.
 54. **trawl nets** (noun) – funnel-shaped nets with two wings of varying length; trawling is a method of fishing that involves pulling a fishing (trawl) net through the water behind one or more boats.
 55. **reef** (noun) – a ridge of material (rock, coral, sand) at or near the surface of the ocean. Natural reefs are made of rocks or the skeletons of small animals called corals. Reefs can also be artificial (created by human beings).
 56. **Spratlys** (noun) – the Spratly Islands are a disputed archipelago in the South China Sea. (archipelago is a group of (small) islands closely scattered in a body of water; e.g. Indonesia, Andaman and Nicobar Islands, Japan, the Philippines, Maldives & etc).

57. **affirmative action (programme)** (noun) – it means positive steps taken to increase the representation of (women and minorities) in areas of employment, education, and culture from which they have been historically excluded.
58. **obiter dictum** (noun) – Latin phrase meaning “things said by the way”; an incidental (and non-essential) opinion/expression or a remark made by a judge which does not form a necessary part of the court’s decision. (obiter dicta is a plural of it).
59. **whole-of-government approach/strategy** (adjective) – whole-of- government approach is one in which public service agencies work across portfolio boundaries, formally and informally, to achieve a shared goal and an integrated government response to particular issues. It involves all sectors/departments (such as health, home affairs, foreign affairs, education, energy, agriculture, sports, transport, communication, urban planning, environment, labour, employment, industry and trade, finance, and social and economic development & etc).
60. **soap opera** (noun) – unpredictable situation with full of problems and so on; a drama that dealt with the story of a particular group of individuals their problems, relationships, and so on.
61. **taboo** (noun) – a prohibition of social actions based on religious, social, cultural (false) beliefs that performing such actions is either too scared, or too dangerous for the human race; prohibition, ban, non-acceptance.
62. **hotspot** (noun) – a limited region/area in which a large number of people have tested positive for COVID-19 in several smaller groups or clusters. In general, hotspot means “a place of significant activity”.
63. **prevalence** (noun) – it refers to the number of cases of a disease that are present in a particular population at a given time whereas “incidence” refers to the number of new cases that develop in a given period of time.
64. **global warming** (noun) – it is the unusually rapid increase in Earth’s average surface temperature over the past century primarily due to the greenhouse gases released as people burn fossil fuels.

IDIOMS & PHRASES

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| <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. has a leg to stand on – have valid reasons to support one’s arguments/ actions. 2. fish in troubled waters – involve (oneself) in a dangerous situation in the hope of gaining some personal advantage. 3. pull the trigger – to make a final decision or commit to a course of action. 4. a ray of hope – something which gives a slight hope in a difficult situation. 5. fall/run afoul of – get into trouble, come into conflict with, go against (by not | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> following rules/standards). 6. make no mistake – used to demonstrate that you are sure about something. 7. out of one’s depth – (of a difficult situation) beyond one’s ability to deal with. 8. a lifetime away – at the length or duration of time a living being (person/animal) is alive. 9. to open/loosen the purse strings (phrase) – to increase the spending of money (whereas “to hold the purse strings” |
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- means to decrease/control the spending of money).
10. **at the coalface** (phrase) – engaged in work directly (instead of in a managerial position).
 11. **out of the woods** – out of danger/difficulty.
 12. **take a stand against** – to publicly state/announce one’s strong opposition to someone/something.
 13. **a level-playing field** – a situation in which everyone has the equal chance of succeeding.
 14. **ply one’s trade** – to engage in one’s business/work steadily or regularly.
 15. **perfect storm** – a rare combination of events/circumstances creating a bad situation unexpectedly.
 16. **tease back momentum** – to gently encourage economic growth.
 17. **brick-and-mortar** – used to represent a business that operates traditionally from a building/place (rather than online).
 18. **turn (or put) back the clock** – return to a previous situation; return to past.
 19. **take one’s course** – to permit something to happen (live/die) naturally.
 20. **at the very time** – at a particular moment or period.
 21. **in no small part** – to a great degree, largely, mostly.
 22. **need of the hour** – some need/requirement/demand at a particular point of time.
 23. **cast a doubt on something** – cause something to be doubted.
 24. **fan the flames** – increase feelings/emotions.
 25. **take shape** – become clear/definite, become tangible; develop, emerge, appear.
 26. **leave the door open** – to allow for the possibility of something.
 27. **in full swing** – at the highest level of activity.
 28. **in light of** – considering, taking into account, bearing/ keeping in mind.
 29. **in the face of** – when confronted with.
 30. **in the midst of** – in the middle of.
 31. **raise eyebrows** – show surprise.
 32. **to begin with** – at first, at the outset, at the beginning.
 33. **far fewer** – much less (with a large difference).
 34. **make the most of** – use something to the best advantage.
 35. **beg the question** – raise a point; invite question.
 36. **from time to time** – sometimes, occasionally, irregularly.
 37. **in the wake of** – as a result of some event, especially an unpleasant one; aftermath, as a consequence of.
 38. **in need of** – requiring help, in want of, needing something.
 39. **due to** – because of, owing to, caused by.
 40. **take a back seat** – take a less important role.
 41. **put in place** – initiate, usher in, bring in.
 42. **have to do with** – be connected with something; be related to something.
 43. **pay a price** – experience the bad/unpleasant result of something.
 44. **in the course of** – during (the particular period/activity).
 45. **in the line of duty** – while someone is doing his/her’s job.
 46. **in as much as** – to the extent that; in so far as.
 47. **by no means** – not at all, in no way, certainly not.
 48. **window of opportunity** – lucky chance, good time, golden opportunity.
 49. **on the ground** – in a situation/place

where things are happening
really/practically.

50. **bear the brunt** – to suffer or endure the worst part of something (force/burden/pressure) when a very bad or unpleasant thing happens.
51. **run counter to** – to be opposed to, to be in conflict with.
52. **as much as** – almost.
53. **on trial** – being tested for suitability.
54. **up for** – being considered for, available for.
55. **as far as** – to the degree/extent that.
56. **fall by the wayside** – fail to continue in an attempt/try.
57. **take hold** – begin to have an effect.
58. **flex one's muscles** – publicly showing strength/power.
59. **keep watch** – guard, vigil, lookout.

60. **go a long way** – to do a lot of work before accomplishing a goal.
61. **as such** – in itself, intrinsically, by itself.
62. **belong to** – be in, be part of, have a home.
63. **take into account** – consider, note, bear in mind, take account of.
64. **in short** – briefly, in a nutshell; in conclusion/summary.
65. **thumbs up** – approval, encouragement, endorsement.
66. **at stake** – at risk, at issue, in question.
67. **on the cards** – likely, possible, expected, in the offing.
68. **to the contrary** – in an opposite manner.
69. **in place** – established, set up.
70. **to be sure** – admittedly, beyond question, undoubtedly.
71. **on account of** – because of, owing to/due to, by virtue of.

PHRASAL VERBS

1. **go ahead** – to proceed, to continue to do something, to start/begin to do something.
2. **break out** – flare up, begin/start suddenly, erupt/burst out.
3. **break down** – fail, fall through, be unsuccessful, come to nothing.
4. **harp on** – talk or write/complain continuously and lengthy on a particular subject.
5. **wish away** – try to stop/eliminate something (problem) just by wishing that it did not exist.
6. **bottom out** – to reach a lowest or worst point (and from there the condition will only improve).
7. **cut down** – bring down, fell, demolish, knock down, bulldoze.
8. **sign up** – commit, conclude, agree (formally).
9. **beef up** – strengthen, reinforce, consolidate, improve.
10. **lean on** – depend, rely, have every confidence in.
11. **explain away** – to dismiss/minimize the importance of something (a problem, etc..) by explanation.
12. **end up** – come/appear, find oneself (to a particular course of action in the end).
13. **come out of** – to no longer be in a bad situation (crisis).
14. **call for** – require, publicly ask/necessitate, demand.
15. **face off** – fight with; come into confrontation, be in opposition.
16. **carve out** – to take a part/section of something from a whole (with

- difficulty/effort).
17. **shore up** – support, assist, prop up (something from falling/declining).
 18. **open up** – make available (to create/start developing new opportunities).
 19. **buckle under** – to surrender (or mentally collapse) to the pressure or stress; to accept something unwillingly due to the pressure; give in, yield, capitulate, succumb, knuckle under.
 20. **keep alive** – keep going, continue, sustain.
 21. **sit back** – take no action; relax.
 22. **embark on** – start, begin, initiate/commence.
 23. **work out** – amount to, come to, form.
 24. **come forward** – volunteer, step forward.
 25. **throw up** – produce something.
 26. **narrow down** – reduce, lessen, decrease.
 27. **look at** – consider, view, analyse.
 28. **go out** – convey, inform, communicate.
 29. **call on** – appeal to, demand/ask, request.
 30. **grapple with** – tackle/deal, confront, face.
 31. **carry out** – conduct, perform, execute.
 32. **match up to** – be as equal to.
 33. **call out** – draw attention to someone's bad actions.
 34. **come up with** – produce, put forward, present/submit.
 35. **get past** – clear, pass; get over, surmount, overcome.
 36. **rely on** – depend on; resort to, bank on.
 37. **show up** – expose, reveal, lay bare.
 38. **drag down** – bring down (to a lower level).
 39. **contend with** – cope with, face, grapple/deal with.
 40. **lie in** – be present, be contained, exist.
 41. **cut off** – block/stop remove, discontinue (a standard method of doing/accessing something).
 42. **stand out** – be noticeable, be visible, be obvious.
 43. **put out** – publish, release, publicize/circulate.
 44. **ramp up** – increase.
 45. **drive up** – to cause something to increase rapidly.
 46. **lay bare** – reveal, expose, disclose.
 47. **look ahead** – to think about what will happen in the future.
 48. **point out** – identify, recognize, draw attention to, mention.
 49. **account for** – constitute, make up, comprise, form.
 50. **play out** – happen, occur, take place.
 51. **pick up** – acquire, obtain, buy something.
 52. **keep out** – exclude, deny access to, prohibit.
 53. **send out** – give out, announce, deliver/release.
 54. **come under** – be subjected to.
 55. **turn out** – transpire, emerge; happen/occur.
 56. **go away** – disappear.