

IMPORTANT DEFINITIONS

- ❖ **Financial Action Task Force (FATF)** (noun) – The Financial Action Task Force (FATF) is the global money laundering and terrorist financing watchdog. The inter-governmental body sets international standards that aim to prevent these illegal activities and the harm they cause to society.
- ❖ **Hawala** (noun) – a popular and informal value (money) transfer system based not on the movement of cash or computer network wire transfers between banks, but through a huge network of illegal money brokers.
- ❖ **Corps** (noun) – it literally means “army body”; The corps is treated as an operational unit of employment by the Army and can be comprised of 20,000-45,000 soldiers. It is sometimes known as a field corps, which consists of two or more divisions. It is commanded by the Corps Commander, who holds the rank of Lieutenant General. “Corps” was first introduced in France about 1805 by Napoleon as a more flexible tactical grouping of two or more divisions.
- ❖ **nautical mile** (noun) – it is a unit of measurement defined as 1.852 kilometres, used on water by sailors and/or navigators in shipping and aviation. It is the average length of one minute of one degree along a great circle (circumference) of the Earth. One nautical mile corresponds to one minute of latitude.
- ❖ **United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea (UNCLOS)** (noun)-This convention provides the overarching framework for the governance of the oceans. It governs relations among countries on oceans-related issues. It outlines the rights and responsibilities countries have related to the use of the oceans, the seabed and their resources, and the protection of the ocean environment. This Convention was signed on 10 December 1982 and entered into force on 16 November 1994.
- ❖ **new orientation for a reformed multilateral system (NORMS)** (noun) – It is India’s overall objective during the fresh tenure (2021-2022) as a non-permanent member of the UN Security Council. India has sought reforms in multilateral systems ranging from the UN Security Council to the International Monetary Fund and the World Health Organization and others arguing for more inclusive leadership to make them represent better changed global realities from the time of their founding. The overarching theme of N.O.R.M.S. has five priorities such as “new opportunities for progress, effective response to international terrorism, reforming multilateral systems, comprehensive approach to international peace and security, and technology with a human touch”.
- ❖ **Geneva convention** (noun) – a body of Public International Law, also known as the Humanitarian Law of Armed Conflicts, whose purpose is to provide minimum protections, standards of humane treatment, and fundamental guarantees of respect to individuals who become victims of armed conflicts.
- ❖ **Comprehensive Convention on International Terrorism (CCIT)** (noun) – Proposed first by India in 1996, this treaty intends to criminalize all forms of international terrorism and deny terrorists, their financiers and supporters access to funds, arms, and safe havens.

- ❖ **Line of Actual Control (LAC)** (noun) – the de-facto (effective) border between India and China. The LAC is a 4,057-km border running through three areas-Western (Ladakh, Ladakh (Kashmir)), middle (Uttarakhand, Himachal) and eastern (Sikkim, Arunachal).
- ❖ **unilateral** (adjective) – relating to a method of taking decisions (particularly on international relations) by a state (country) individually without considering other states (countries). In general, it is relating to the decision taken individually without consulting with the others concerned.
- ❖ **hotsprings** (noun) – Hot Springs (Kyam) is the location of an Indian border checkpost operated by Indo-Tibetan Border Police (ITBP) in the Chang Chenmo River valley in Ladakh near the disputed border with China. It is so named because there is a hot spring at this location.
 -- (hot spring is generally a spring (well head) with water at temperatures substantially higher than the air temperature of the surrounding region).
- ❖ **People's Liberation Army (PLA)** (noun) – People's Liberation Army (PLA) is the armed forces of the country of China and Communist Party of China (CPC). It is one of the largest military forces in the world
- ❖ **probing questions** (noun) – follow-up questions when someone does not fully understand a response, when answers are vague or ambiguous or when someone wants to obtain more specific or in-depth information.
- ❖ **watershed (moment)** (noun) – it used to mean 'important changes' or the 'turning point' in a situation or event. The event that marks a historic change; historic moment.
- ❖ **Zionism** (noun) – the national movement for the return of the Jewish people to their homeland and the resumption of Jewish sovereignty in the Land of Israel. Zionist is a supporter of Zionism.
- ❖ **nationalism** (noun) – it refers to a system (with narrow set of ideas) created by a group of people who believe their nation is superior to all others. It is also a perception of national superiority and an orientation toward national dominance- called as chauvinism (excessive nationalism).
- ❖ **geopolitics** (noun) – the study of the geographical factors (a country's position on the earth, size, climate, and natural resources & etc..) in world politics and inter-state relations.
- ❖ **health-seeking/healthy behavior (HSB)** (noun) – it is defined as any activity undertaken by individuals who perceive themselves to have a health problem or to be ill for the purpose of finding an appropriate remedy. It can also be referred to as illness behaviour or sick-term behaviour.
- ❖ **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.
- ❖ **McMahon line** (noun) – the demarcation line between Tibet and the North-east region of India proposed by British colonial administrator Sir Henry McMahon at the 1914 Simla Convention signed between British and Tibetan representatives. It is the effective boundary between China and India.
- ❖ **narcoanalysis** (noun) – a controlled administration (injection) of certain chemical substances or medications called truth drugs on a suspect to procure vital information.
- ❖ **confidence building measures/mechanisms** (noun) – confidence-building measures (CBMs) are planned procedures to prevent hostilities, to avert escalation, to reduce military tension, and to build mutual trust between countries.

- ❖ **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 United States of America].
- ❖ **freedom of navigation (FON)** (noun) – a principle of customary (established) international law that ships flying the flag of any sovereign state shall not suffer interference from other states, apart from the exceptions provided for in international law.
- ❖ **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.
- ❖ **“inactivated” vaccine** (noun) – a vaccine that uses a dead virus. It has no potential to infect or replicate, since it is a killed virus. It just serves to the immune system as a dead virus and mounts an antibody response towards the virus.
- ❖ **candidate vaccine or vaccine candidate** (noun) – a “potential” vaccine prepared in the research and development (R&D) centres and it can be used in human clinical trials.
- ❖ **police reform** (noun) – it aims to transform the values, culture, policies and practices of police organizations so that police can perform their duties with respect for democratic values, human rights and the rule of law.
- ❖ **Constitutional court** (noun) – The Constitutional Court is an independent and autonomous state authority which carries out constitutional review – it is the highest body of the judiciary for the protection of human rights and fundamental freedoms and a guardian of constitutionality and legality. The Supreme Court of India is the highest judicial court under the Constitution of India, the highest constitutional court, with the power of judicial review.
- ❖ **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.
- ❖ **Integrated Disease Surveillance Programme (IDSP)** (noun) – It is one of the major National Health Programme under National Health Mission for all States & UTs in India. The key objective of the programme is to strengthen/maintain decentralized laboratory based IT enabled disease surveillance system for epidemic prone diseases to monitor disease trends and to detect and respond to outbreaks in early rising phase through trained Rapid Response Team (RRTs).
- ❖ **Ayushman Bharat** (noun) – Ayushman Bharat is National Health Protection Scheme in India, which will cover over 10 crore poor and vulnerable families (approximately 50 crore beneficiaries) providing coverage upto 5 lakh rupees per family per year for secondary and tertiary (highly specialized) care hospitalization.
- ❖ **contagious** (adjective) – relating to a disease/infection that can spread rapidly from person to person through direct contact, by touching a person who has the infection; communicable, transmittable, infectious.
- ❖ **modelling** (noun) – the modelling of infectious diseases is a tool that has been used to study the mechanisms by which diseases spread, to predict the future course of an outbreak and to evaluate strategies to control an epidemic.
- ❖ **high table** (noun) – a group with most important people. It exactly means (particularly in a dining hall of a college) a table put on a raised platform for most important people.

- ❖ **Index of Eight Core Industries (ICI)** (noun) – The monthly Index of Eight Core Industries (ICI) is a production volume index. ICI measures collective and individual performance of production in selected eight core industries. It is compiled and released by Office of the Economic Adviser (OEA), Department of Industrial Policy & Promotion (DIPP), and Ministry of Commerce & Industry.
- ❖ **locust** (noun) – locusts are crop-eating insects (short-horned grasshoppers) that travel in large swarms. The desert locust is a species of locust and it is considered the most destructive migratory pest in the world and a single swarm covering 1 square kilometre can contain up to 80 million locusts. The desert locusts are feeding and breeding in agricultural fields.
- ❖ **Purchasing Managers' Index (PMI)** (noun) – Purchasing Managers Index (PMI) is a monthly business survey data provided by IHS Markit. The monthly data are derived from surveys of senior executives at private sector companies. PMI data is used for accurate and timely insight into the health of a particular economy. The PMI data are used by financial and corporate professionals to better understand where economies and markets are headed, and to uncover opportunities.
- ❖ **IHS Markit** (noun) – it is a global leader in information, analytics and solutions for the major industries and markets that drive economies worldwide. It partners with clients in business, finance and government to help them see the big picture with unrivaled insights that lead to well-informed, confident decisions.
- ❖ **world/global order** (noun) – the arrangement of power and authority that provides the system for the conduct of diplomacy and world politics in relation to the entire world. An international-relations term describing the distribution of power among world powers.
- ❖ **Contiguous Zone** (noun) – an area of sea contiguous to and extending seaward of the territorial sea, in which the coastal State may exercise the control necessary to prevent and punish infringements of its customs, fiscal, immigration, and sanitary laws within its territory or territorial sea. The contiguous zone is a band of water extending farther from the outer edge of the territorial sea to up to 24 nautical miles (44.4 km; 27.6 mi) from the baseline.
- ❖ **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".
- ❖ **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.
- ❖ **grey/watch list** (noun) – a list of countries on observation due to their "strategic deficiencies" in countering terror-financing and money - laundering. The countries put on grey/watch list by the Financial Action Task Force (FATF) will be subjected to direct monitoring and intense scrutiny by the International Co-operation Review Group (ICRG) on terror financing.
- ❖ **black list** (noun) – a list of countries which the Financial Action Task Force (FATF) judges to be non-cooperative in the global fight against money laundering and terrorist financing.
- ❖ **Labour market policy (LMP)** (noun) – LMPs comprise all kinds of regulative policies that influence the interaction between labour supply and demand. They consist of policies that provide income replacement (usually called passive labour market policies) as well as labour market integration measures available to unemployed or those threatened by unemployment.
- ❖ **time-use survey (TUS)** (noun) – Time use surveys (TUS) measure the amount of time people spend doing various activities, such as paid work, household and family care, personal care, voluntary work, social life, travel, and leisure activities.

- ❖ **System of National Accounts (SNA)** (noun) – The System of National Accounts (SNA) is the internationally agreed standard set of recommendations on how to compile measures of economic activity. It describes a coherent, consistent and integrated set of macroeconomic accounts in the context of a set of internationally agreed concepts, definitions, classifications and accounting rules.
- ❖ **Accredited Social Health Activist (ASHA)** (noun) – a female community health worker instituted by the government of India’s Ministry of Health and Family Welfare as a part of the National Rural Health Mission. The ASHA will be trained to work as an interface between the community and the public health system.
- ❖ **frontline worker/responder** (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,.
- ❖ **The Permanent Court of Arbitration (PCA)** (noun) – The Permanent Court of Arbitration, established by treaty in 1899, is an intergovernmental organization providing a variety of dispute resolution services to the international community.

IDIOMS & PHRASES

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| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ the ball is in your court – it is now your responsibility or your turn to take action; it is up to you to take action now. ❖ take a leaf out of someone’s book (idiom) – to imitate/ follow someone. ❖ raise one’s hackles – make someone very angry, upset, irritate, annoy. ❖ for one – to emphasize that a particular person is definitely viewing in a specific way, even if other people are not. ❖ status quo ante – a Latin phrase meaning “the state of affairs existing before” (or) “the way things were before”. ❖ the die is cast – something (the future) is determined/decided and it can’t be altered/ changed. ❖ stand or fall by – if an idea/claim/effort stand or fall by something, its success depends on that particular thing. ❖ throw down the gauntlet – challenge, confront, dare. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ be unable to see the wood/jungle/forest for the trees – concentrate on a small issue and so could not see the big picture (overall situation). ❖ drive home – make someone realize, make someone understand, make someone aware of. ❖ Nothing could be farther from the truth – used to say that something is completely not true. ❖ take someone/something out of someone else’s hands – to release or free someone/ something of the burden of someone else. ❖ turn one’s back on – reject, abandon, give up, renounce. ❖ all is not lost – there is still some chance/opportunity to recover ❖ scratch the surface – deal with something very casually. ❖ so to speak – in a way, so to say, in some way or other; saying/speaking something figuratively. |
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- ❖ **keep a cool head** – to stay calm in a difficult situation.
- ❖ **letter and spirit** – adhering to/obeying both literal interpretation/wording and the spirit/intent/ purpose of the law.
- ❖ **flex one's muscles** – publicly showing strength/power.
- ❖ **here we go, again** – said to mention that bad or unpleasant thing starts happening again.
- ❖ **bring/come to a grinding halt** – (referring to an activity in a situation) becomes inactive slowly and then stops completely.
- ❖ **buy time** – delay, linger, waste time.
- ❖ **in view of** – in the light of, owing to, considering.
- ❖ **a tall order** – demanding, exacting, difficult (thing to do).
- ❖ **at large** – free, on the run, fugitive.
- ❖ **in any case** – whatever happens.
- ❖ **a free rein** – freedom, a free hand, leeway/ latitude.
- ❖ **in one's own interest** – advantageous/ beneficial to oneself.
- ❖ **serve the purpose** – to satisfy the essential requirements.
- ❖ **make sense of** – understand, comprehend, fathom out.
- ❖ **as regards** – concerning, with regard to, with respect to.
- ❖ **lay claim to** – claim to have rights to (something).
- ❖ **of late** – recently, lately, in recent times.
- ❖ **fall short of** – be deficient, inadequate, be insufficient.
- ❖ **keep pace with** – progress at the same speed as.
- ❖ **pay a price** – experience the bad/unpleasant result of something.
- ❖ **make clear** – explain, clarify, elucidate.
- ❖ **of note** – important, worth to be mentioned/ noticed.
- ❖ **the way forward** – something (a plan/ action) that leads to success in the future.
- ❖ **in short** – briefly, in essence, in sum.
- ❖ **in a way** – to a certain degree/level/extent; somewhat, fairly, moderately/slightly.
- ❖ **on board** – as a member (on to a team).
- ❖ **ask (oneself)** – think about, mull over, ponder.
- ❖ **at the expense of** – at the cost of, at the loss of; at the sacrifice of.
- ❖ **contrary to** – conflicting with, opposed to.
- ❖ **in addition** – as well as, additionally, moreover.
- ❖ **on a par with** – comparable with, equivalent to, as equal to.
- ❖ **times without number** – innumerable times, so many times.
- ❖ **hold the key** – to have control.
- ❖ **in excess of** – more than, over, above.
- ❖ **of course** – naturally, certainly, absolutely.
- ❖ **put in place** – initiate, usher in, bring in.
- ❖ **rather than** – instead of.
- ❖ **going forward** – in the future.
- ❖ **on the brink of** – on the edge/verge of difficult/dangerous situation; at a crucial or critical point.
- ❖ **in the making** – burgeoning, coming, growing, developing.
- ❖ **pay heed to** – pay attention to, take notice of, listen to.
- ❖ **tit-for-tat** – equivalent retaliation; counterattack, revenge, an eye for an eye.
- ❖ **in the aftermath of** – as a consequence of, as a result of.
- ❖ **come to (the) fore** – to become obvious; to become visible.
- ❖ **run its course** – come to an end, end, cease, terminate.
- ❖ **much more** – a lot more.
- ❖ **find one's feet** – adjust, get used, adapt, become accustomed.
- ❖ **in the midst of** – in the middle of.

- ❖ **for some reason** – due to that particular reason.
- ❖ **on paper** – in theory, theoretically, hypothetically.
- ❖ **on the ground** – in a situation/place where things are happening really/practically.
- ❖ **first off the block** – to be ready to do something (in the beginning).
- ❖ **if at all** – to emphasize a restriction stated in the preceding clause
- ❖ **not to mention** – in addition to, as well as; besides.
- ❖ **take notice of** – pay attention to, take account of, attend, consider.
- ❖ **few bad apples** – (figuratively) a few bad officers can ruin the entire system/group.
- ❖ **so much so** – to such a great extent/level/degree.
- ❖ **in the scheme of things** – in the way things generally happen.
- ❖ **come one's way** – happen to someone.
- ❖ **on display** – visible, made public, disclosed, exposed, revealed.
- ❖ **with all due respect** – attentively, politely, considerately, kindly, courteously.
- ❖ **bring to fore** – draw attention to, emphasize, make something noticeable.
- ❖ **get done with** – complete, finish.
- ❖ **the new normal** – an earlier unusual situation that becomes a standard now.
- ❖ **all but** – all expect.
- ❖ **in this regard** – in connection with the aspect/consideration/point referred earlier.
- ❖ **pick up the mantle** – to assume a role of leadership.
- ❖ **matter of concern** – something which causes worry.
- ❖ **in one's favour** – to one's benefit/advantage.
- ❖ **at all** – conceivably, in any way, by any means.
- ❖ **inasmuch as** – to the extent that; in so far as.
- ❖ **in order** – appropriate, suitable, proper, right.
- ❖ **make good** – do well, get ahead, succeed.
- ❖ **pay attention** – heed, attend, be attentive, concentrate on.
- ❖ **worse off** – less fortunate; in a disadvantageous position.
- ❖ **on account of** – because of, owing to, due to, by virtue of.
- ❖ **bring to light** – reveal, disclose, expose/identify.
- ❖ **bring something to a standstill** – bring to an end, finish, conclude.
- ❖ **play a part/role** – contribute to, be instrumental in, be a factor in.

PHRASAL VERBS

- ❖ **tiptoe around** – (cautiously) avoid dealing with a problematic or controversial person, subject, situation, issue, etc.
- ❖ **siphon off** – draw off, withdraw, transfer, remove (money from an organisation or business illegally/dishonestly).
- ❖ **measure up** – achieve the required standard, fulfil expectations, do well.
- ❖ **factor in** – included/added as a factor/point when making a decision.
- ❖ **carve out** – create, establish, take out (something with effort).
- ❖ **weigh against** – compare with, evaluate, examine, juxtapose with, place side by side.
- ❖ **push through** – succeed in passing a law accepted by the people who oppose it.

- ❖ **borne out** past participle of **bear out** – confirm, validate, vindicate, justify/support (a claim).
- ❖ **rise up (against)** – resist, defy, fight against, agitate, revolt.
- ❖ **weigh in** – make a forceful contribution to an argument; influence, be important to.
- ❖ **sail through** – succeed easily at, gain success in easily, pass easily.
- ❖ **shrink from** – recoil, shy away, be afraid to.
- ❖ **lead on to** – lead to, be a route (to a place); connect with, connect to.
- ❖ **take away from** – lower, reduce/lessen, devalue.
- ❖ **strike down** – abolish, annul, nullify (a law or regulation).
- ❖ **take over** – assume control of, take charge of, take command of.
- ❖ **count on** – rely on, depend on.
- ❖ **contend with** – cope with, face, grapple with, deal with.
- ❖ **embark on** – start, begin, undertake, take up.
- ❖ **give up** – relinquish, renounce, forgo, abandon.
- ❖ **level against** – direct (an accusation/charge)
- ❖ **move away from** – change/alter one's ideas/beliefs and so.
- ❖ **build up** – increase, intensify, multiply, develop.
- ❖ **point out** – identify, mention, indicate, draw attention to.
- ❖ **go on to** – talk/write at length; continue, proceed.
- ❖ **take up** – engage in, participate in, start, undertake.
- ❖ **rein in** – restrict, control, limit, restrain.
- ❖ **call upon** – ask formally, demand (to do something).
- ❖ **take on** – oppose, challenge, compete against, confront, fight.
- ❖ **call for** – require, publicly ask/necessitate, demand.
- ❖ **carry out** – conduct, perform, execute.
- ❖ **speed up** – accelerate, expedite, hasten, hurry up, advance.
- ❖ **crowd out** – eject, exclude, oust, overthrow, remove.
- ❖ **lie in** – be present, be contained, exist.
- ❖ **bright about** – create, produce, result in, effect.
- ❖ **throw up** – produce something.
- ❖ **rule out** – eliminate, reject, dismiss.
- ❖ **sort out** – tackle, deal with, attend to.
- ❖ **slow down** – reduce, lessen decrease (one's activity).
- ❖ **account for** – constitute, make up, comprise, form.
- ❖ **draw on** – make use of, use, utilize.
- ❖ **shut down** – discontinue, cease activity, close.

TRUTH IS TRUTH, EVEN IF NO ONE BELIEVES IT.

LIE IS LIE EVEN IF EVERYONE BELIEVES IT.