

## IMPORTANT DEFINITIONS

- ❖ **GST compensation (noun)**—Under the GST law (In India), state governments are guaranteed full compensation for any revenue loss for the first five years after the introduction of the goods and services tax (GST) in July 2017. The compensation is a gap between actual revenue collected and projected revenue.
- ❖ **Cess (noun)** – a form of tax charged/levied over and above the base tax liability of a taxpayer. A cess is usually imposed additionally when the state or the central government looks to raise funds for specific purposes.
- ❖ **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.
- ❖ **Government debt (noun)** – public debt, national debt and sovereign debt; it is the amount of money that a government owes to outside debtors/lenders (these can include individuals, businesses, and even other governments).
- ❖ **Percentage point (noun)** – the difference between two percentages is termed as percentage point. (For example: “Interest Rates Jump From 10% to 12%”. In this case, the interest rate increased by “2 percentage points” or you can say that the interest rate is increased by 20%).
- ❖ **Comptroller and Auditor General (CAG) of India (noun)** – it is empowered to audit all expenses from the combined fund of the union or state governments, whether incurred within India or outside.
- ❖ **Free market (noun)** – a type of economic system that is controlled by the market forces of supply and demand, as opposed to government controls that involve price-cutting monopolies. It is different from a regulated market or command economy. In the latter, a central government agency decides the supply and demand, which means the market does not operate freely. In a free market, a majority of companies and properties are owned by individuals or entities in the private sector instead of the state.
- ❖ **Direct Benefit Transfer (DBT) (noun)** – a scheme launched by Government of India on 1 January 2013 to transfer the benefits and subsidies of various social welfare schemes like LPG subsidy, MNREGA payments, Old Age Pension, Scholarships etc. directly in the bank account of the beneficiary.
- ❖ **Forbearance (noun)** – temporary postponement of (tax/debt) payments granted by the government/bank. It is to give taxpayers/customers extra time to make their tax/debt payments; non-enforcement.
- ❖ **Regulatory forbearance (noun)** – A regulatory policy (i.e., a policy implemented by central banks and other regulatory authorities) that permits banks and financial institutions to continue operating even when their capital is fully depleted. Regulators give banks extended periods of time during which they have to comply with regulatory requirements (by securing new capital funds).
- ❖ **National Payments Corporation of India (NPCI) (noun)** – an umbrella organization for all retail payments in India. It was set up with the guidance and support of the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) and Indian Banks Association (IBA).
- ❖ **Real Time Gross Settlement (RTGS) (noun)** – a system where there is continuous and real-time settlement of fund-transfers, individually on a transaction by transaction basis (without netting). ‘Real Time’ means the processing of instructions at the time they are received; ‘Gross Settlement’ means that the settlement of funds transfer instructions occurs individually.
- ❖ **Unified Payments Interface (UPI) (noun)** – a system that powers multiple bank accounts into a single mobile application (of any participating bank), merging several banking features, seamless fund routing & merchant payments into one hood. It also caters to the “Peer to Peer” collect request which can be scheduled and paid as per requirement and convenience.
- ❖ **Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI) (noun)** – It was established on April 12, 1992 in accordance with the provisions of the Securities and Exchange Board of India Act, 1992. It is the regulator of the securities and commodity market in India owned by the Government of India.

- ❖ **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.
- ❖ **Public goods (noun)** – goods/services that are commonly provided to all people within a society or community. There are two important aspects for public goods-non rivalry (doesn't reduce availability for A if B consume it) and non-excludability (no one is excluded from consumption).
- ❖ **Merchant Discount Rate (MDR) (noun)** – the sum total of all the charges and taxes that a digital payment entails (requires). For instance, the MDR includes bank charges (processing fees), which a bank charges customers and merchants for allowing payments to be made digitally.
- ❖ **Immediate Payment Service (IMPS) (noun)** – an emphatic service which allow transferring of funds instantly within banks across India which is not only safe but also economical. IMPS offer an instant, 24\*7 inter-bank electronic fund transfer service capable of processing person to person, person to account and person to merchant remittances via mobile, internet and ATMs. It is a multi-channel and multi-dimensional platform that make the payments possible within fraction of seconds with all the standards and integrity maintained for security required for even high worth transactions.
- ❖ **Float funds (noun)** – the money in a bank that has usually been credited to the bank, but not the customer. Float refers to 'the amount of money tied up between the time a payment is initiated and cleared funds become available in the company's bank account'.
- ❖ **Debt relief (noun)** – measures to reduce debt as a means to make it easier for the borrower to repay it. (debt = money owed to others, arrears, bill, financial obligation, liability, outstanding payment).
- ❖ **Generalised System of Preferences (GSP) (noun)** – The Generalized System of Preferences (GSP) is a U.S. trade program designed to promote economic growth in the developing world by providing preferential duty-free entry for thousands of products from 129 designated beneficiary countries and territories.
- ❖ **Countering America's Adversaries Through Sanctions Act (CAATSA) (noun)** – it is a U.S. federal law that imposes economic sanctions on Iran, Russia and North Korea. The bill came into effect on August 2, 2017, with the intention of countering perceived aggressions against the U.S. government by foreign powers. It accomplishes this goal by preventing U.S. companies from doing business with sanctioned entities.
- ❖ **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.
- ❖ **Minimum Support Price (MSP) (noun)** – it is a form of market intervention by the Government of India to give guaranteed price and assured market to the farmers and protect them from the price fluctuations and market imperfections. The guaranteed price and assured market are expected to encourage higher investment and in adoption of modern farming practices.
- ❖ **South & North Block (noun)** – South Block is a metonym of the Prime Minister's Office. North Block is a metonym of the Ministry of Finance, India. (The Secretariat Building (consists North & South Block) or Central Secretariat is where the Cabinet Secretariat is housed, which administers the Government of India. The South Block houses the Prime Minister's Office, Ministry of Defence and the Ministry of External Affairs). The North Block primarily houses the Ministry of Finance and the Home Ministry). (Metonym is used as an alternative for something else with which it is closely related/associated).
- ❖ **BRICS countries (plural noun)** – the acronym coined to associate five major emerging national economies: Brazil, Russia, India, China, and South Africa. The BRICS members are known for their significant influence on regional affairs.
- ❖ **Raisina Hill (noun)** – used as a metonym for the seat (headquarters) of the Government of India, it is a part of the Lutyens' area of New Delhi, housing India's most important government buildings, including Rashtrapati Bhavan, the official residence of the President of India and the Secretariat building housing the Prime Minister's Office and several other important ministries. (Metonym is used as an alternative for something else with which it is closely related/associated).
- ❖ **Communal harmony (noun)** – it means that people of different religions, castes, creeds, sex and different background live together in the society with love and peace amongst them.

- ❖ **Forty-Second Amendment (noun)** – The 42nd Amendment changed the description of India from a “sovereign democratic republic” to a “sovereign, socialist secular democratic republic”, and also changed the words “unity of the nation” to “unity and integrity of the nation”. The Forty-Second Amendment officially known as The Constitution Act, 1976, was enacted during the Emergency by the Indian National Congress government headed by Mrs. Indira Gandhi.
- ❖ **War of attrition (noun)** – a military strategy consisting of aggressive attempts to win a war by wearing down (weakening) the enemy to the point of collapse through continuous losses in personnel and materiel.
- ❖ **affirmative action (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.
- ❖ **Conservatism (noun)** – conservatism in a broad sense, as a social attitude, has always existed. It expresses the instinctive human fear of sudden change, and tendency to habitual action.
- ❖ **welfare state (noun)** – a form of government in which the state protects and promotes the economic and social well-being of the citizens, based upon the principles of equal opportunity, equitable distribution of wealth, and public responsibility for citizens unable to avail themselves of the minimal provisions for a good life. A system wherein the government agrees to underwrite certain levels of employment, income, education, medical, social security and housing for all its citizens.
- ❖ **Popular vote (noun)** – it simply refers to a democratic vote which has been put to an entire electorate (voters), which could be in the form of an election or referendum; public vote.
- ❖ **Proportional representation (noun)** – this refers to an electoral system in which the distribution of seats corresponds closely with the proportion of the total votes cast for each party. This is a more complicated but representative system than the first-past-the-post (FPTP) system, which is used in India. If a party gets 40% of the total votes, for example, a perfectly proportional system would allow it to get 40% of the seats. Some countries used a combination of the proportional representation system and the FPTP system.
- ❖ **Volcanic eruption (noun)** – it occurs when hot materials from the Earth’s interior are thrown out of a volcano. Volcanic eruptions can be quite calm and effusive (pouring out of molten rock), or they can be explosive. Effusive eruptions produce lava flows, while explosive eruptions produce ash and pyroclastic (denoting fragments of rock) density currents.
- ❖ **Assault rifle (noun)** – assault weapon; It is originally built for military special operations as a fully automatic/semiautomatic weapon/firearm. (semi-automatic gun/rifle is a firearm (like AR-15, AK-47) which fires one round for each trigger pull, whereas “automatic rifle” is a firearm (such as MG-34, M16) which fires more than one cartridge with a single pull of the trigger. These firearms are often referred to as “assault weapons or rifles, based on their rapid-fire capability).
- ❖ **offset policy (noun)** – Under the offset policy, the foreign defence entities, for all contracts worth more than 300 crore, were mandated to spend at least 30 per cent of the total contract value in India through procurement of components, transfer of technologies or setting up of research and development facilities.
- ❖ **Path dependency (noun)** – a phenomenon whereby history matters; what has occurred in the past persists because of resistance to change. The resistance to change could be based on the financial implications or because policymakers are making cautious or uninformed decisions.
- ❖ **National Civil Aircraft Development (NCAD) (noun)** – The National Civil Aircraft Development (NCAD) project was first proposed as the Indian regional transport aircraft programme in 2007. State-owned air framer Hindustan Aeronautics (HAL) and research and development agency National Aerospace Laboratories (NAL) undertook separate studies at that time. The programme for development of a 90 seater aircraft will have two phases namely, design & development phase and manufacturing phase.
- ❖ **Offset undertaking/company/partner (noun)** – a partner/company/undertaking in India for the foreign defence firms to encourage technology transfers and setting up of production units in the country (as per the guidelines pertaining to Defence Procurement Procedure (DPP).

- ❖ **Regional Transport Aircraft (RTA) (noun)** – it is a project of Hindustan Aeronautics Limited (HAL) and National Aerospace Laboratories (NAL). India intends to develop a Regional Transport Aircraft (RTA) with a seating capacity for 70-90 passengers that could be manufactured in the country in a cost-effective manner. The aircraft will be used to connect cities over 500km apart and CSIR-National Aerospace Laboratories (CSIR-NAL) has been asked to carry out feasibility studies for the project.
- ❖ **Atmanirbhar Bharat Abhiyan (or) Self-reliant India Mission (noun)** – The term was coined by the Prime Minister of India, Mr Narendra Modi during his address to the nation on May 12, 2020. He called this campaign as Aatma Nirbhar Bharat Abhiyaan (Self- Reliant India Movement). He also defined five pillars of Aatmanirbhar Bharat – Economy, Infrastructure, System, Demography and Demand. He stressed that it is time to become vocal for our local products and make them global. Under this campaign, a special economic package has been released by the government, which will benefit various segments including cottage industry, Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs), labourers, middle class, and industries, among others.
- ❖ **Superhighway (noun)** – infobahn; Internet-type communications network that would allow to quickly access and exchange information via voice, data, video and other services.
- ❖ **Climate adaptation (noun)** – adapting to life in a changing climate – involves adjusting to actual or expected future climate. The goal is to reduce our vulnerability to the harmful effects of climate change (like sea-level encroachment, more intense extreme weather events or food insecurity).
- ❖ **Paris Agreement/Accord (noun)** – The Paris Agreement builds upon the Convention (agreement) and for the first time brings all nations into a common cause to undertake ambitious efforts to combat climate change and adapt to its effects, with enhanced support to assist developing countries to do so. The Paris Agreement central aim is to strengthen the global response to the threat of climate change by keeping a global temperature rise this century well below 2 degrees Celsius above pre-industrial levels and to pursue efforts to limit the temperature increase even further to 1.5 degrees Celsius.
- ❖ **Green Climate Fund (GCF) (noun)** – The Green Climate Fund (GCF) is the world’s largest dedicated fund helping developing countries reduce their greenhouse gas emissions and enhance their ability to respond to climate change. It was set up by the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) in 2010. GCF has a crucial role in serving the Paris Agreement, supporting the goal of keeping average global temperature rise well below 2 degrees C.
- ❖ **Renewable technology (noun)** – the (very) method /way with which we sustainably harness the earth’s natural resources (solar, wind, ocean, hydropower, biomass, geothermal resources etc.) to power consumers.
- ❖ **Chinese Communist Party (CCP) (noun)** – The Chinese Communist Party (CCP) is the founding and ruling political party of modern China, officially known as the People’s Republic of China.
- ❖ **Quad/Quadrilateral (noun)** – The ‘Quadrilateral’ is described as four democracies (the United States, Japan, Australia and India) with a shared objective to ensure and support a “free, open and prosperous” Indo-Pacific region.
- ❖ **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).
- ❖ **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.
- ❖ **The Electoral College (noun)** – it is a group of people that elects the president and the vice president of the United States. (The word “college” in this case simply refers to an organized body of people engaged in a common task).
- ❖ **South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation (SAARC) (noun)** – Established in 1985, it is the regional intergovernmental organization and geopolitical union of states in South Asia. Its member states are Afghanistan, Bangladesh, Bhutan, India, the Maldives, Nepal, Pakistan and Sri Lanka.



- ❖ **Basic Exchange and Cooperation Agreement for Geo-Spatial cooperation (BECA) (noun)** – BECA agreement will allow India to use US expertise on geospatial intelligence and to enhance military accuracy of automated hardware systems and weapons like cruise, ballistic missiles and drones. This is the third foundational agreement to be signed between India and the US after the Logistics Exchange Memorandum of Agreement (LEMOA) and the Communications Compatibility and Security Agreement (COMCASA) in 2016 and 2018 respectively.
- ❖ **Millenium Challenge Corporation(MCC) (noun)** – a bilateral United States foreign aid agency established by the U.S. Congress in 2004, that is designed to use a new approach toward foreign aid. It is an innovative and independent U.S. foreign assistance agency that is helping lead the fight against global poverty.
- ❖ **Agricultural Produce Market Committees (APMC) (noun)** – a marketing board established by a state government in India to ensure farmers are safeguarded from exploitation by large retailers, as well as ensuring the farm to retail price spread does not reach excessively high levels.
- ❖ **Concurrent list (noun)** – the list which includes the power to be considered by both the union and state government (as given in the Seventh Schedule to the Constitution of India).
- ❖ **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.
- ❖ **Migration (noun)** – the (temporary) movement of people from one region to another – either within a country or across national borders in order to find work or better living conditions.
- ❖ **B1 visa/temporary visa (noun)** – it permits several companies to send their technology professionals for a short stay (up to 6 months) to complete jobs on site in the U.S.
- ❖ **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).
- ❖ **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.
- ❖ **The Cold War (noun)** – The Cold War was a state of political and military tension after World War II between powers in the Western Bloc (the United States and a group of countries) and powers in the Eastern Bloc (the Soviet Union and a group of 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).
- ❖ **moral high ground (noun)** – ethical or political parlance/expression/phrase, refers to the status of being respected for remaining moral, and adhering to and upholding a universally recognized standard of justice or goodness.
- ❖ **North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) (noun)** – NATO was created in 1949 by the United States, Canada, and several Western European nations to provide collective security against the Soviet Union.
- ❖ **Non-Proliferation Treaty (NPT) (noun)** – The NPT is a landmark international treaty whose objective is to prevent the spread of nuclear weapons and weapons technology, to promote cooperation in the peaceful uses of nuclear energy and to further the goal of achieving nuclear disarmament and general and complete disarmament.
- ❖ **Comprehensive Convention on International Terrorism (noun)** – a proposed treaty which intends to criminalize all forms of international terrorism and deny terrorists, their financiers and supporters access to funds, arms, and safe havens.
- ❖ **Public Distribution System (PDS) (noun)** – The Public Distribution System (PDS) in the country facilitates the supply of food grains and distribution of essential commodities to a large number of poor people through a network of Fair Price Shops at a subsidized price on a recurring basis.
- ❖ **food security (noun)** – it is defined as a condition that exists when “all people, at all times have physical and economic access to sufficient, safe and nutritious food that meets their dietary needs and food preferences for an active and healthy life.

- ❖ **Global Hunger Index (GHI) (noun)** – a tool for comprehensively measuring and tracking hunger at global, regional, and national levels. GHI scores are based on the values of four component indicators: the share of the population with insufficient caloric intake (undernourishment), wasting (under five), stunting (under five) and child mortality.
- ❖ **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.
- ❖ **National Family Health Survey 2015-16 (NFHS-4) (noun)** – the fourth in the NFHS series, NFHS-4 provides information on population, health, and nutrition for India and each state and union territory. All four NFHS surveys have been conducted under the stewardship of the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare (MoHFW), Government of India.
- ❖ **(dietary) diversity (noun)** – It is defined as the number of different foods or food groups consumed over a given reference period. It is a strong predictor of micronutrient adequacy and overall diet quality.
- ❖ **undernourishment (noun)** – it measures the share of the population that has a food (caloric) intake which is insufficient to meet the minimum energy requirements necessary for a given individual.
- ❖ **National Food Security Act, 2013 (NFSA) (noun)** – an Act of the Parliament of India which aims to provide subsidized food grains to approximately two thirds of India's 1.2 billion people.
- ❖ **Integrated Child Development Services (ICDS) (noun)** – a government programme/scheme in India which provides food, preschool education, primary healthcare, immunization, health check-up and referral services to children under 6 years of age and their mothers.
- ❖ **International Food Policy Research Institute (IFPRI) (noun)** – Established in 1975, The International Food Policy Research Institute (IFPRI) provides research-based policy solutions to sustainably reduce poverty and end hunger and malnutrition in developing countries.
- ❖ **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.
- ❖ **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).
- ❖ **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.
- ❖ **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.
- ❖ **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.
- ❖ **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).
- ❖ **Susceptible, Exposed, Infectious and Recovered (SEIR) Model (noun)** – it is a category of models which estimates, within a population, those Susceptible, Exposed, Infected and Recovered and simplifies the mathematical modelling of infectious diseases.
- ❖ **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 traveler who is infected.

- ❖ **(case) fatality rate/ratio (CFR) (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.
- ❖ **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 be able to identify and trace individual cases, and ring-fence a cluster (of them) to prevent the spread of infection.
- ❖ **antigen (noun)** – disease causing organisms (bacteria & viruses) and other harmful/toxic foreign substances like insect venom that induce an immune response in the body.
- ❖ **rapid antigen test (RAT) (noun)** – It is a test on swabbed nasal samples that detects antigens (foreign substances that induce an immune response in the body) that are found on or within the SARS-CoV-2 virus. It is a point-of-care test, performed outside the conventional laboratory setting, and is used to quickly obtain a diagnostic result. In a reliable rapid antigen detection test, the maximum duration for interpreting a positive or negative test is 30 minutes.
- ❖ **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.
- ❖ **incidence (noun)** – it 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.
- ❖ **Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR) (noun)** – the apex body in India for the formulation, coordination and promotion of biomedical research, is one of the oldest medical research bodies in the world. As early as in 1911, the Government of India set up the Indian Research Fund Association (IRFA) with the specific objective of sponsoring and coordinating medical research in the country. It was redesignated in 1949 as the Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR). The ICMR is funded by the Government of India through the Ministry of Health & Family Welfare.
- ❖ **Institute of Genomics and Integrative Biology (CSIR-IGIB) (noun)** – It is a scientific research institute devoted primarily to biological research. It is a part of Council of Scientific and Industrial Research, India. The institute was founded in 1977 as the Center for Biochemical Technology with a primary focus on biochemical research, but has since shifted its research focus to integrative biology.
- ❖ **Council of Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR) (noun)** – founded in 1942, the CSIR is an autonomous body that has emerged as the largest research and development organisation in India. It has 37 research centers and 39 field stations or augmentation focuses spread the country over. The innovative work exercises of CSIR incorporate different fields, for example, aerospace engineering, Structural engineering, ocean sciences, Life sciences, metallurgy, chemicals, mining, food, petroleum, leather, and environment.

\*\*\*\*\*

## IDIOMS & PHRASES

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>❖ <b>take the wind out of someone's sails</b> – If you take the wind out of someone's sails, you keep them from reaching their objectives. You create a barrier or block them in some way.</li> <li>❖ <b>drop/lower one's guard</b> – to become less careful, to become less vigilant, to become less alert.</li> <li>❖ <b>hold someone's feet to the fire</b> – put pressure on someone to do something, to hold someone accountable, to force someone to obey/follow (your command).</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>❖ <b>old chestnut</b> – (relating to) something which is boring &amp; tiresome due to its continuous recurrence.</li> <li>❖ <b>tie up loose ends</b> – to complete the last few minor details of a project such that the task is entirely finished.</li> <li>❖ <b>winds of change</b> – influential events/actions that result in significant political/social changes.</li> <li>❖ <b>keep at bay</b> – prevent someone/something from coming nearer.</li> </ul> |
|--|---|

- ❖ **a level playing field** – a situation in which everyone has a fair and equal opportunity to succeed, and no one has an advantage over the other.
- ❖ **rise to the occasion** – to try (very) hard to succeed in dealing with a difficult situation.
- ❖ **around the corner** – coming soon, coming up, approaching, forthcoming.
- ❖ **make no bones about** – not to try to conceal your feelings/emotions.
- ❖ **the elephant in the room** – it is mostly used to refer to a serious problem – one which people are aware of, but choose to ignore. They think that if they do not talk about it, the problem will somehow disappear.
- ❖ **tighten the screws** – to apply more pressure on someone/something.
- ❖ **under the guise of** – outward appearance; pretence, false show, disguise.
- ❖ **close on the heels of** – close behind, soon after, immediately after, following closely.
- ❖ **hit where it hurts** – to do or say something to someone that will hurt them the most.
- ❖ **a bag of tricks** – a set of brilliant plans/techniques.
- ❖ **round the clock** – all day and all night (without stopping).
- ❖ **loom large** – be imminent/close, about to happen (and something which has a lot of importance/attention).
- ❖ **change of heart** – change one's mind, have second thoughts, have a rethink, think again, think differently.
- ❖ **soon after** – shortly after, immediately.
- ❖ **over the course of** – during the process of.
- ❖ **in the company of** – together with.
- ❖ **pay attention** – heed, attend, be attentive, concentrate on.
- ❖ **take centre stage** – to be at the centre of attention; to be in a very important position.
- ❖ **at the height of** – at the most extreme part/point of something.
- ❖ **in parallel** – happening at the same time.
- ❖ **in no uncertain terms** – clearly, definitely, certainly.
- ❖ **have the distinction of** – be different from others of a similar type (because of a great quality/achievement).
- ❖ **of course** – certainly, absolutely; as you would expect, needless to say.
- ❖ **come in handy** – to be useful.
- ❖ **over and above** – in addition to, as well as, besides.
- ❖ **to that end** – for that reason, with that goal.
- ❖ **get rid of** – remove, discard, eliminate, wipe out.
- ❖ **for instance** – as an example.
- ❖ **to this end** – in order to achieve a particular goal/aim (mentioned previously).
- ❖ **in the face of** – when confronted/faced with; despite, notwithstanding, regardless of.
- ❖ **bridge the gap** – to connect two disconnected or dissimilar things in a logical way (in order to resolve the problem).
- ❖ **at odds with** – inconsistent, in conflict, in opposition, contrary to.
- ❖ **give way to** – yield, give in; be replaced by, be succeeded by, be superseded by.
- ❖ **in short** – briefly, in essence, in sum.
- ❖ **at best** – only, merely, simply.
- ❖ **at worst** – in the most serious case.
- ❖ **at stake** – at issue, at risk; or in question.
- ❖ **scale Himalayan peaks (or) scale new heights** – achieve great success (in particular activity).
- ❖ **in order to** – with the purpose/aim of.
- ❖ **way out** – solution, way of escape.
- ❖ **put in place** – initiate, usher in, bring in.
- ❖ **to begin with** – at first, at the outset, at the beginning.
- ❖ **pay for itself** – earn/save enough money to cover the cost of its purchase.
- ❖ **in spite of** – despite, notwithstanding, regardless of.
- ❖ **the new normal** – an earlier unusual situation that becomes a standard now.
- ❖ **on track** – on course, on target, on schedule.



- ❖ **in turn** – successively, sequentially; because of that, as a result of that.
- ❖ **at the cost of** – by sacrificing/losing/giving up something.
- ❖ **Keep/put pressure on** – to try to influence/persuade someone to do something in a certain method.
- ❖ **take the stage** – to be or become the centre of attention.
- ❖ **swing into action** – begin/start acting on something quickly.
- ❖ **on the boil** – refer to a situation which is very strong or active.
- ❖ **thanks to** – as a result of, owing to, due to, because of.
- ❖ **on demand** – when required; when needed; when asked for.
- ❖ **rather than** – instead of.
- ❖ **make one's way** – proceed to a particular place.
- ❖ **in contrast (to)** – in opposition to, be very different from.
- ❖ **by no means** – not at all, in no way, certainly not.
- ❖ **for one** – used for highlighting that someone is thinking in a particular way, even if other people are not.
- ❖ **pave the way for** – clear the way for, usher in, set the scene for.
- ❖ **area/sphere of influence** – domain, province, territory (under someone's authority /power/ influence). in the midst of – in the middle of.
- ❖ **at a time** – during.
- ❖ **(make) inroads into** – progress/advance into (a new area/territory).
- ❖ **on one's own** – alone, all alone, by oneself, all by oneself.
- ❖ **in this regard** – in connection with the aspect/consideration/point referred earlier.
- ❖ **in the teeth of** – in spite of (opposition).
- ❖ **come into force** – come to effect (a new law, rule, change etc.).
- ❖ **to date** – until now, so far, up to this point, hitherto.
- ❖ **owing to** – because of, as a result of, on account of.
- ❖ **lose ground** – lose one's advantage.
- ❖ **regardless of** – irrespective of, without consideration of, notwithstanding, in spite of.
- ❖ **business as usual** – routine, regularity, normal pattern.
- ❖ **as far as someone/something is concerned** – regarding a particular person or situation.
- ❖ **in terms of** – with regard to, concerning, in respect of, with reference to.
- ❖ **the common good** – the benefit/advantage of all people in society.
- ❖ **know/learn the ropes** – to know or learn how to do something.
- ❖ **learn the hard way** – learn from the unpleasant experience (or) learn by making mistakes.
- ❖ **in essence** – basically, fundamentally, essentially.
- ❖ **loss of face** – humiliation, loss of pride, shame, disgrace, discredit.
- ❖ **on account of** – because of, owing to, due to, by virtue of.
- ❖ **of its kind** – similar to what has been mentioned/told.

\*\*\*\*\*

## PHRASAL VERBS

- ❖ **crowd in on** – overwhelm, preoccupy, dominate, overpower (someone).
- ❖ **pass off** – deceive, make up, pretend, misrepresent/misreport, falsify.
- ❖ **dwell on** – (of one's attention) linger over, think about, mull over.
- ❖ **factor in** – take into account, take into consideration, consider, regard.
- ❖ **prey upon** – exploit, take advantage of; victimize, intimidate, harass, persecute, hound.
- ❖ **cater to** – provide someone with what is needed, accommodate, serve, satisfy.

- ❖ **whip up** – excite, evoke/provoke, stimulate, encourage (strong emotions in someone intentionally).
- ❖ **prevail over** – conquer, triumph, be victorious, gain mastery, prove superior.
- ❖ **bear on** – to have an effect on something; be concerned with, have to do with, be connected with.
- ❖ **play upon** – exploit, take advantage of, make use of, misuse (someone's feelings unfairly).
- ❖ **stand down** – withdraw, resign, leave, quit, step down (from a position or office).
- ❖ **dust off** – bring something back to use (again) after a long period of time.
- ❖ **pay off** – be advantageous to, be beneficial to, be profitable to.
- ❖ **carry forward** – have something to continue/handle at a later stage (to make progress).
- ❖ **dry up** – dwindle, disappear, vanish, fade away, wane, come to nothing.
- ❖ **cool off** – become calm (again), to return to a normal state/condition, especially after a state of agitation/protest.
- ❖ **run down** – criticize someone or something unfairly.
- ❖ **reach out** – contact someone to obtain/offer help/assistance/cooperation.
- ❖ **bring about** – cause to happen, make happen, result in, give rise to.
- ❖ **take up** – become involved in, engage in, take part in; accept, say yes to, agree to.
- ❖ **hand out** – give out, issue, provide; impose/inflict (a misfortune/penalty).
- ❖ **mete out** – dispense, give out, hand out (a punishment).
- ❖ **end up** – come/appear, find oneself (to a particular course of action in the end).
- ❖ **bring in** – cause, bring about, create, produce.
- ❖ **push up** – increase, raise.
- ❖ **call for** – require, publicly ask/necessitate, demand.
- ❖ **point out** – identify, mention, indicate, draw attention to.
- ❖ **rely on** – depend on; resort to, have recourse to.
- ❖ **go on to** – continue, proceed (to do something).
- ❖ **stand by** – support, back, uphold, champion.
- ❖ **keep out of** – to not become involved in (something).
- ❖ **give up** – abandon, forgo, renounce, relinquish, discontinue.
- ❖ **live up to** – satisfy, fulfil, achieve, meet.
- ❖ **come up with** – produce, put forward, present/submit.
- ❖ **mask up** – to wear a mask or face covering.
- ❖ **live with** – accept, tolerate, endure (something unpleasant).
- ❖ **roll back** – reverse the progress of something.
- ❖ **go after** – take actions to criticize/punish someone.
- ❖ **turn around** – change course, reverse direction.
- ❖ **step up** – speed up, increase, accelerate, quicken.
- ❖ **set up** – establish, start/begin, inaugurate, create.
- ❖ **left out past participle of leave out** – fail to include; exclude, omit, miss out.
- ❖ **run into** – reach (a amount), extend to, be as high as.
- ❖ **carry out** – conduct, perform, execute.
- ❖ **scale up** – increase (in size or number).
- ❖ **open up** – make something accessible/available.
- ❖ **stave off** – avert, prevent, avoid, rule out.
- ❖ **take on** – oppose, challenge, confront.
- ❖ **walk out** – depart, leave suddenly.
- ❖ **drop off** – decrease, make less, reduce, fall.
- ❖ **stand against** – to oppose someone or something.