

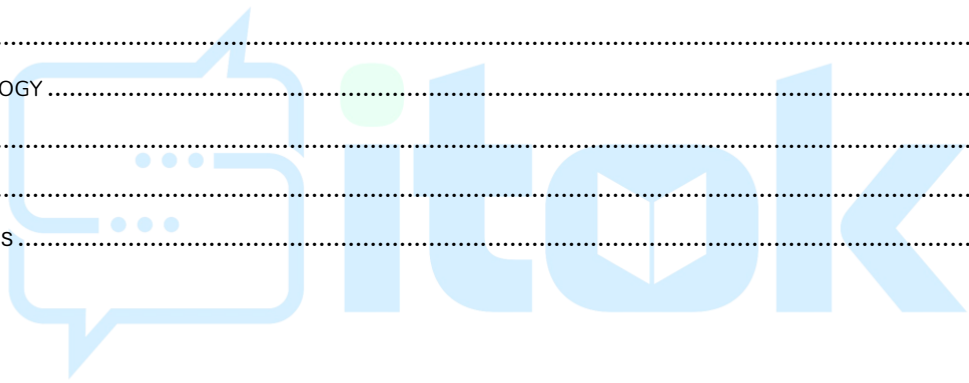


CONCEPTS IN NEWS

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Economy

Concepts	Official Definition	Easy Explanation
Jobless Growth	Economic growth that does not lead to an increase in job creation.	When the economy is doing better but it doesn't mean more jobs for people.
Living Wage vs Minimum Wage	A living wage is the income needed to provide a decent standard of living, while a minimum wage is the legal lowest salary an employer can pay.	Living wage is what you need to live comfortably, and minimum wage is the lowest pay a job must give you by law.
Champion Sectors	Sectors identified by a government or economic group as having potential for growth and incentivized for development.	Parts of the economy that are picked to get special support because they could grow and do really well.
Brain Drain	The emigration of highly trained or intelligent people from a particular country.	When smart or skilled people leave their country to live and work somewhere else.
Credit Deposit Ratio	The ratio of how much a bank lends out of the deposits it has received.	How much money banks loan out compared to the money they have in the bank.
Unicorns	Startups or private companies valued at over one billion dollars.	New companies that are worth a lot of money, usually because people think they have great potential.
Bitcoin Halving	The event that cuts the reward for mining new blocks in half, occurring approximately every four years, which in turn reduces the supply of new bitcoins.	When the amount of new bitcoin that miners get for updating the blockchain is cut by 50%, making bitcoins less common.
Advance Pricing Agreement	An ahead-of-time arrangement between a taxpayer and a tax authority on an appropriate transfer pricing methodology.	A deal made in advance with the tax people about how much tax a company should pay on the money it moves around within its own branches.
Accredited Investors	Individuals, banks, or entities that are allowed to deal in securities that may not be registered with financial authorities by satisfying certain income or asset criteria.	People or organizations that are allowed to invest in fancier kinds of stocks or other investments because they have a lot of money or make a lot of money.
Shrinkflation	A business practice where the size of a product is reduced while its price remains the same.	When companies make products smaller but keep the price the same, so you get less for your money.
Vostro Account	An account that a correspondent bank holds on behalf of another bank, often in a different country.	A bank account that a bank has in another bank, usually in a different country.
Tiger Bond	A bond issued by one country denominated in the currency of another country.	A loan that a country takes out in another country's money.





Public Stockholding	The purchase and holding of food stocks by the government for food security purposes.	When the government keeps a store of food to help make sure there's enough to go around.
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Environment

Concepts	Official Definition	Easy Explanation
Carbon Sequestration	The long-term storage of carbon dioxide or other forms of carbon to mitigate or defer global warming.	Capturing and keeping carbon dioxide so it doesn't warm up the planet.
Glacial Lake Outburst	A release of meltwater from a moraine or ice-dam glacial lake due to dam failure.	When a lake that's been held back by ice or piles of dirt suddenly breaks free and floods the area.
Mulching	A process of covering the soil and around plants with a layer of material to conserve moisture, improve fertility, and reduce weed growth.	Putting stuff like leaves or straw on the ground to help plants grow better and keep the soil moist.
Plankton Crash	A significant decline in plankton populations, which can disrupt marine ecosystems.	When the tiny organisms in the ocean that are food for a lot of sea creatures suddenly become way fewer.
Hydroponics	The method of growing plants without soil by using mineral nutrient solutions in a water solvent.	Growing plants in water with special nutrients added instead of in dirt.
Hydrogel	A network of polymer chains that are hydrophilic, sometimes found in consumer products and capable of holding large amounts of water.	A squishy material that can absorb a lot of water and is used in things like diapers and contact lenses.
Microplastics	Small plastic pieces less than five millimeters long which can be harmful to our ocean and aquatic life.	Tiny bits of plastic that end up in the water and can be bad for fish and other sea creatures.
Plastic Overshoot Day	A campaign that marks the date when humanity has used more plastic than Earth can regenerate in the entire year.	The day in the year by which we've used more plastic than the planet can handle.
Aerosols	A suspension of fine solid particles or liquid droplets in air or another gas.	Tiny bits of solids or liquids floating in the air, like spray from a can.
Per-and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS)	A group of man-made chemicals that include PFOA, PFOS, GenX, and many other chemicals, which are resistant to water, grease, and stains.	Chemicals made by people that can repel water and stains and don't break down easily in the environment.
Forest Cover	The proportion of land area that is covered by forests.	The amount of land that's covered by trees and woods.
Net Carbon Sink	An ecosystem that absorbs more carbon than it emits.	Places like forests or oceans that suck in more carbon dioxide than they release.





Grasshopper Effect	The phenomenon where volatile pollutants evaporate from warm regions and then condense in colder ones.	Toxic chemicals that travel from warm places and drop down in colder areas, kind of like a grasshopper hopping around.
Soil Acidification	The process by which soil becomes more acidic, typically through natural or chemical processes.	When the dirt gets more sour, which can happen naturally or from stuff like acid rain.
Hard Corals and Soft Corals	Types of corals distinguished by the presence of a hard, calcium carbonate skeleton in hard corals, as opposed to the flexible, softer structure in soft corals.	Corals that are either tough and stony or bendy and squishy.
Ringwoodite	A high-pressure phase of mineral with a structure that can contain hydroxide ions, suggesting water could be present deep in the Earth's mantle.	A type of mineral that can hold water inside it, which is cool because it might mean there's water way deep underground.
Maximum Residue Limit (MRL)	The highest level of a pesticide residue that is legally tolerated in or on food or feed when pesticides are applied correctly.	The most amount of bug spray left on food that's still safe to eat.
Heat Dome	A meteorological phenomenon where a region of high pressure traps warm air underneath it.	A bubble of hot air that gets stuck in one place because of high pressure.
Cloud Seeding	A weather modification technique that enhances precipitation by dispersing substances into the air that serve as cloud condensation.	Trying to make it rain by putting special stuff in the clouds.
Brown Ocean Effect	A meteorological phenomenon where tropical cyclones gain strength over wet land with saturated soil.	When storms get stronger over land if the ground is really wet.
Glacial Lakes	Lakes that form on the surface or at the margin of a glacier from the melting of ice.	Lakes made from water that comes from melted glaciers.
Marine Cloud Brightening	A proposed method of solar radiation management that involves making clouds whiter to reflect more sunlight back into space.	Making clouds shinier so they bounce more sunlight away from Earth, which could help cool the planet.
Pink Hydrogen	Hydrogen production through the electrolysis of water using electricity generated by nuclear power.	Making hydrogen fuel by splitting water with electricity that comes from nuclear plants.



Science and Technology

Concepts	Official Definition	Easy Explanation
Ballistic Missile	A missile with a high, arching trajectory, which is initially powered and guided but falls under gravity onto its target.	A rocket that flies really high and then drops onto the target all by itself.





Tokamak	A device used in nuclear fusion research which uses a magnetic field to confine plasma in the shape of a torus.	A special machine that tries to make energy the same way the sun does, by squishing plasma with magnets.
Plant Tissue Culture	A collection of techniques used to maintain or grow plant cells, tissues, or organs under sterile conditions on a nutrient culture medium.	Growing bits of plants in a lab to make new plants or study them.
Hypersonic Missile	A missile that travels at speeds of Mach 5 and above, which is five times faster than the speed of sound.	A super-fast rocket that goes faster than five times the speed of sound.
Twin Star System	A solar system with two stars, which may orbit around a common center of mass.	Two suns in the same solar system that might circle around a shared point.
Neutrinos	Very light subatomic particles that rarely interact with other matter, making them difficult to detect.	Tiny particles that are super hard to catch because they almost never bump into anything else.
Gravitational Waves	Ripples in the curvature of spacetime that propagate as waves outward from their source.	Waves created by intense space events, like black holes colliding, that squeeze and stretch space as they go through it.
Neutron Star	A type of compact star composed almost entirely of neutrons and formed by the gravitational collapse of a massive star after a supernova.	Super-dense star made mostly of neutrons, which is what's left after a really big star explodes and collapses.
Volcanic Vortex Rings	Circular patterns of gas and ash that form in the air above a volcanic eruption.	Donut-shaped clouds of gas and ash that shoot out from volcanoes during an eruption.
Inferometer	An instrument that uses the interference of light waves to measure tiny distances with high precision.	A tool that uses light patterns to measure really small spaces very accurately.
Higgs Boson	A subatomic particle that is associated with the Higgs field and is responsible for giving other particles their mass.	A tiny particle believed to give other particles their weight.
Piezoelectricity	Electric charge that accumulates in certain solid materials in response to applied mechanical stress.	The ability of some materials to generate electricity when they're squeezed or pressed.
Web 3	The third generation of the World Wide Web, incorporating concepts such as decentralization, blockchain technologies, and token-based economics.	The next version of the internet that's supposed to be more spread out, secure, and uses digital money and records.
Spyware	Software that enables a user to obtain covert information about another's computer activities.	Software that sneaks into your computer to spy on what you're doing.
GPS Jamming	The process of using a frequency transmitting device to block or interfere with radio communications.	Using a device to mess up GPS signals so they don't work right.
Telemedicine	The remote diagnosis and treatment of patients by means of telecommunications technology.	Seeing a doctor over the phone or the internet instead of in person.





Iron Dome	A mobile all-weather air defense system developed by Israel that intercepts and destroys short-range rockets and artillery shells.	A defense system that can shoot down rockets and shells before they hit their targets.
Subsonic Cruise Missile	A cruise missile that flies at a speed less than the speed of sound.	A missile that travels slower than the bang you hear when something goes really fast.
Outer Space	The region beyond Earth's atmosphere where there is very little matter and where celestial bodies exist.	The big empty space up past the sky where all the stars and planets hang out.
GPS Spoofing	The practice of broadcasting false GPS signals to mislead GPS receivers.	Tricking GPS devices by sending fake location signals.
Artemis Accords	An international agreement for lunar exploration programs, set forth by NASA and partner nations.	A set of rules and plans for exploring the Moon that a bunch of countries agreed to.
Orbital Debris	Man-made objects in orbit around Earth that no longer serve a useful function.	Old satellites and space junk floating around Earth.
Hubble Tension	The discrepancy between the rate of expansion of the universe measured through the Hubble Space Telescope and other instruments.	The puzzle of different measurements of how fast the universe is getting bigger.
Proton Therapy	A type of radiation therapy that uses protons rather than X-rays to treat cancer.	A way to zap cancer with tiny positive particles instead of X-ray beams.
Solar Flares	Brief eruptions of intense high-energy radiation from the sun's surface, which can interfere with communications on Earth.	Explosions on the sun that send out lots of energy and can mess with things like radios and satellites here on Earth.
Dual Use Technologies	Technologies which can be used for both peaceful and military aims.	Tech that can be used for everyday stuff or for military purposes.
Network as a Service (NaaS)	A business model where network services are provided virtually over the internet on a subscription basis.	Getting your network services like internet and support online, kind of like Netflix but for computer networks.
Zero Shadow Zone	A phenomenon that occurs when the sun is directly overhead, and objects cast no shadow.	When the sun's right above you and things don't make shadows.
Spectrum Leasing	The practice of a spectrum license holder allowing another party to use its spectrum in a specified area.	Letting someone else use the radio waves you have the rights to.
Solar Flares	Brief eruptions of intense high-energy radiation from the sun's surface.	Bursts of energy from the sun that can mess with electronics on Earth.
Sodium Ion Batteries	Rechargeable batteries that use sodium ions as charge carriers.	Batteries that use sodium, which is like table salt, to store and give out electrical power.
Miyawaki Method	A technique for planting trees that can create dense, multi-layered forests.	A way to plant lots of different kinds of trees close together so they grow fast and thick.





Genomic Accordion	A concept in genomics where certain regions of a genome can rapidly expand or contract, leading to variability.	Parts of DNA that can stretch out or squish up, making living things different from each other.
Poxviruses	A family of viruses that cause diseases in humans and animals, characterized by skin lesions and systemic symptoms.	A group of germs that give people and animals rashes and other sickness.
Geoengineering	The deliberate large-scale manipulation of an environmental process that affects the earth's climate, in an attempt to counteract the effects of global warming.	Big plans to change parts of the environment on purpose to help stop the Earth from getting too hot.



Polity

Concepts	Official Definition	Easy Explanation
Zero FIR	An FIR that can be filed at any police station, irrespective of the place of incident or jurisdiction, and can be later transferred to the appropriate station.	A police report that you can file anywhere, no matter where the crime happened, and then it gets sent to the right place.
Extended Fund Facility	A long-term financial assistance program by the IMF for countries with serious payment imbalances because of structural impediments to growth.	It's like a long-term loan from the International Monetary Fund for countries that have big money problems and need help fixing them.
Virtual Assets	A digital representation of value that can be traded or used for payment or investment purposes.	Stuff like online currency or anything digital that's worth money and can be traded or invested in.
Cyber Slavery	The use of digital means to coerce individuals into performing labor or services without pay.	Forcing someone to work through the internet or digital devices without paying them.
Service Voters	Members of the armed forces, the police, government officials posted outside their usual place of residence, or their spouses, who are allowed to vote through a service vote.	People like soldiers or police who can vote when they're not at home, usually because they're posted somewhere else.
Proxy Voting	A form of voting whereby some members of a decision-making body may delegate their voting power to other members of the same body.	When you let someone else vote for you in a meeting or an election.
Doxxing	Searching for and publishing private or identifying information about an individual on the internet, typically with malicious intent.	Finding personal details about someone and sharing them online to cause them harm.
Curative Petition	The last constitutional resort available for redressal of grievances in court which is normally decided by judges in-chamber.	The final chance to ask a court to look at a decision they've made, usually looked at by judges in private.





Doctrine of Harmonious Construction	A principle in statutory interpretation which requires that a statute be interpreted so that no part of it is rendered obsolete or redundant.	A rule that says laws should be read in a way that makes sure every part is useful and none is ignored.
Zero FIR	An FIR that can be filed in any police station, irrespective of the incident's location or the area of jurisdiction.	A police report that you can file anywhere, even if the crime happened somewhere else.
Infectious Respiratory Particles'	Droplets or aerosols that are released from the respiratory tract during breathing, speaking, coughing, or sneezing, which can carry pathogens.	Tiny bits of wet stuff from your lungs that can float in the air and spread germs when you breathe or cough.
Legal Person	An individual or organization that has legal rights and obligations.	Someone or something that the law recognizes as being able to own stuff, owe money, or sue others.
Accredited Investors	Investors who meet certain financial criteria and are therefore allowed to invest in higher-risk securities not registered with financial authorities.	People who are officially recognized as being savvy enough to invest in riskier things that aren't usually open to the public.
Inheritance Tax	A tax paid by a person who inherits money or property or a levy on the estate (money and property) of a person who has died.	A tax you pay when you get money or stuff from someone who has passed away.
Legal Person	An individual, company, or other entity which has legal rights and is subject to obligations.	Someone or something that can own stuff, sue, or be sued, in the eyes of the law.
Non-refoulement	A principle in international law that forbids the rendering of a true victim of persecution to their persecutor.	A rule that says you can't send someone back to a place where they're in danger of being hurt or persecuted.
Indelible Ink	A type of ink that cannot be washed off, used to mark voters' fingers during elections to prevent double voting.	Special ink that doesn't come off easily, used to show that someone has already voted.
Disability Adjusted Life Years (DALYs)	A measure of overall disease burden, expressed as the number of years lost due to ill-health, disability, or early death.	A way to show how much sickness or disability affects a person's life by counting the years they lose.



Geography

Concepts	Official Definition	Easy Explanation
Afar Triangle	A geological depression caused by the divergence of three tectonic plates in the Horn of Africa.	A big low area in Africa where three chunks of the Earth's crust are moving apart.
Geoparks	Areas recognized by UNESCO for their geological heritage, with a commitment to conservation, education, and sustainable development.	Places that are special for their rocks and earth and are protected and used to teach people about the planet.



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Swell Waves	Long-wavelength ocean waves that have traveled out of their generating area.	Big waves that have moved far from where they started, often across the ocean.
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International Relations

Concepts	Official Definition	Easy Explanation
Quadrilateral Security Dialogue	A strategic dialogue between the United States, Japan, Australia, and India that is maintained by semi-regular summits, information exchanges, and military drills.	A group of four big countries that talk about how to keep their part of the world safe and work together on military stuff.
Quadrilateral Security Dialogue	A strategic forum for dialogue between the United States, Japan, India, and Australia that aims to promote peace and stability in the Indo-Pacific region.	A group where four big countries talk about keeping things safe and stable around the Pacific Ocean.
Bretton Woods Institutions	The World Bank and the International Monetary Fund (IMF), established at a meeting of 44 countries in Bretton Woods, New Hampshire, USA, in 1944, to help rebuild after World War II and promote international economic cooperation.	Two big organizations set up to help fix the world after World War II and to make sure countries play nice with money.
Global Commons	Areas that no one nation possesses or controls, such as the high seas, the atmosphere, outer space, and the Antarctic.	Places that belong to everyone and no one at the same time, like the ocean or space.
Treaty Shopping	The practice of structuring a multinational corporation's operations to take advantage of more favorable treaties in certain jurisdictions.	When a big company arranges its business to use rules from different places that give it the best deal.
Dual use technologies	Technologies which can be used for both civilian and military purposes.	Stuff like drones or computers that can be used for everyday life or in war.
Artemis Accords	An international agreement that defines principles for cooperation in the civil exploration and use of the Moon, Mars, comets, and asteroids for peaceful purposes.	A set of rules a bunch of countries agreed to about how to explore space places like the Moon.
Global Commons	Domains or regions that lie outside of the political reach of any one nation State, which are considered to be accessible to all.	Parts of the world like the high seas or space that no single country controls and are open for everyone to use.





Schengen Area	An area comprising 26 European countries that have abolished all passport and other types of border control at their mutual borders.	A group of countries where you can travel across borders without stopping for passport checks.
Treaty Shopping	The practice by multinational companies of trying to access treaties favorable to them by structuring their operations across different jurisdictions.	When big companies set up in different countries to take advantage of the best deals or rules they can find.
Schengen Area	An area comprising 26 European countries that have abolished all passport and other types of border control at their mutual borders.	A bunch of European countries where you can travel from one to another without having to show your passport every time.

