



CONCEPTS IN NEWS

DECEMBER 2023



ECONOMY

CONCEPTS			DEFINITIO	N			Easy Explai	nation	
Logistic Cost			nses incurred i to another.	n transp	oorting goods	Total expenses	s for moving god	ods.	
Insurance Penetration			e of the popula		ered by	The portion of	the population w	vith insurance	coverage.
		rance polic ous risks.	ies to protect a	against					
Insurance Density	pren		mount of insur per person in rea.			Average insura	ance payments p	per person in a	an area.
Inverted Duty Structure			Import duties fa materials.	avoring finished	goods over ra	aw			
Devaluation of Currency	A deliberate reduction in the value of a country's currency relative to other currencies, usually by a government.		Intentional low	ering of a counti	ry's currency v	alue.			
Countervailing Duties	by fo	oreign gove	to counteract ernments to mestic industr			Tariffs to offset subsidies and	foreign protect domestic	c industries.	









Liquidity	The ease with which assets or securities can be quickly bought or sold in the market.	How easily assets can be bought or sold.		
Credit Rating	Evaluation of a borrower's ability to repay debt.	Assessment of how likely someone can pay back borrowed money.		
Care Economy	Sector focused on caregiving and welfare services.	The industry that provides care and welfare services.		
External Debt	Money owed by a country to foreign lenders.	Funds that a nation owes to international creditors.		
Debt-for-nature Swaps	Exchanging foreign debt for local environmental conservation.	Swapping overseas debt for local environmental protection.		
Alternative Investment Funds	Investment vehicles different from traditional stocks and bonds.	Investments that don't follow traditional stock and bond patterns.		
Virtual Digital Assets	Digital representations of value that can be traded, stored, or transferred digitally, like cryptocurrencies.	Digital assets that represent value and can be used for online transactions, similar to digital money.		
Green Deposits	Bank deposits specifically used for funding environmentally friendly and sustainable projects.	Money deposited in banks with the purpose of supporting projects that are good for the environment.		
D-SIBs (Domestic Systemically Important Banks)	Banks that are very important to the national economy and whose failure could cause a financial crisis.	Banks that are crucial to the country's economy, and if they fail, it could lead to a big financial problem.		
Brent Crude	A major trading classification of sweet light crude oil, serving as a major price benchmark for Atlantic basin crude oils.	A type of oil that's important in global trade and used to decide the price of other oils in the Atlantic region.		
Gross NPA (Non- Performing Assets)	The total amount of loans in a bank's portfolio that are not generating any income for the bank.	The total money that people borrowed from a bank but can't pay back, causing the bank to lose money.		
Credit Growth		How much more money banks are lending, which shows how well the economy is doing and if people can borrow.		
Gilt-edged Instruments	High-quality, low-risk investment securities issued by a government or a reputable company.	Safe and valuable financial papers issued by governments or trusted companies that people can invest in.		
Oil Futures	Contracts to buy or sell oil at a specific date in the future at a price agreed upon today.	Agreements to trade oil on a future date at a price set today, useful for people who need oil for business.		
Positive Indigenisation List	A list of items that a country, particularly in defense, seeks to produce domestically rather than import.	A list of things a country wants to make itself instead of buying them from other countries, especially for the military.		
Asian Premium	The extra charge that Asian countries are often required to pay for importing oil, compared to other regions.	A special cost Asian countries have to pay when they buy oil, and it's usually more than what others have to pay.		
Internationalization of Rupees	The process of increasing the use of the Indian rupee in international trade and finance.	Making the Indian money, called rupees, more popular for business deals and financial stuff all over the world.		









Triffin Dilemma	A conflict in international monetary policy where a national currency being used as a global reserve currency leads to potential conflicts between national monetary policy and global monetary policy goals.	When one country's money is used all over the world, it can cause problems between what's good for that country and what's good for the whole world's money.
P-Note (Participatory Note)	Financial instruments used by investors or hedge funds that are not registered with the Securities and Exchange Board of India to invest in Indian securities.	Special papers used by investors and big money groups to invest in India, but they don't need India's approval to use them.
Special Economic Zones (SEZs)	Designated areas within a country with specific economic regulations to attract investments and boost growth.	Areas with special rules to attract businesses and grow the economy.
Line of Credit	A financial arrangement allowing a borrower to withdraw a maximum amount of money over a period.	An agreement that lets you borrow up to a set amount of money.
Social Stock Exchange	A platform that facilitates trading and investment in socially responsible and impact-driven organizations.	Exchange for trading and investing in socially responsible organizations.



POLITY

CONCEPTS				DEFIN	TION				EASY EX	(PLANATION	J
Asymmetric Federalism		ns ir	,	here different have varying	degrees	of autonomy a			ual regional a al system.	utonomy and	power in a
Mobile Lok Adalats				ution mechanis emote areas to			obile	Mobile	e justice resol	ution in remo	te areas.
Anarcho-	A poli	itical	philosoph	y advocating t	or minim	nal governmen	t	Philos	ophy favoring	minimal gov	ernment
Capitalism			on and the stem.	reliance on vo	oluntary	exchanges in a	a free-	interve	ention and vo	luntary excha	nges.
Golden Triangle	A reg traffic			st Asia notorio	ous for ill	icit drug produ			east Asian re production and		or
Manhattan Project				evelopment pr f the first atom		ring World Wa s.			project leadir bombs.	g to the creat	tion of
Toll-Operate- Transfer	A put	olic-p	orivate part	tnership mode	l for infra	astructure.			nership mode managing in	el involving the frastructure.	e private
Zero Trust Authentication	Secu	rity r	nodel requ	iiring strict ide	ntity veri	fication.			urity approach y confirmation	n demanding n.	thorough
Subordinate Legislation	Laws	mad	de by auth	orities under p	owers g	iven by an Act			ations created authority.	d by authoritie	es under
Homicide	The a	ct o	f one huma	an killing anotl	ner.				ct of one perseath of anothe		











SCIENCE TECH

CONCEPTS	DEFINITION	EASY EXPLANATION
Bioremediation	The use of living organisms to clean up and restore polluted or contaminated environments.	Using living organisms to clean up polluted environments.
Dark Fibre	Unused or dormant optical fibers in a network infrastructure that can be leased or lit for communication purposes.	Optical fibers ready for use or lease in a network.
E-cigarettes	Electronic devices that simulate the act of smoking by producing vapor, often used as an alternative to traditional cigarettes.	Devices producing vapor as an alternative to smoking.
Agroforestry	A sustainable land-use system that combines agriculture and forestry to achieve ecological and economic benefits.	Combining agriculture and forestry for ecological and economic benefits.
Crypto-asset Ecosystem	The network of various digital assets, including cryptocurrencies and tokens, and their related technologies.	Digital network of cryptocurrencies and related technologies.
Biocomputer	A computer that uses biological components, such as DNA or proteins, to perform computations.	Computer using biological components for computations.
Generative Adversarial Networks	A type of artificial intelligence algorithm that involves two neural networks, one generating data and the other evaluating it.	Al algorithm with two networks, one generating and the other evaluating data.
Enzyme Replacement Therapy	A medical treatment involving the introduction of enzymes into the body to replace or enhance natural enzyme functions.	Medical treatment adding enzymes to enhance natural functions.
Anthropocene Epoch	The current geological era, marked by significant human impact on the Earth's geology and ecosystems.	Current era with significant human impact on Earth's geology and ecosystems.
Genome Sequencing	The process of determining the complete DNA sequence of an organism.	Determining the complete DNA sequence of an organism.
Methanogenesis	Biological production of methane by microorganisms.	Natural production of methane by tiny organisms.
Polar Stratospheric Clouds	High-altitude clouds in polar regions affecting ozone.	High clouds in polar regions that influence the ozone layer.
Environmental Inhibitors	Factors that negatively impact environmental processes.	Elements that hinder natural environmental functions.
Hydrographic Surveys	Mapping of water bodies and underwater topography.	The process of mapping underwater features and bodies of water.
Gene Therapy	Treating disease by altering a person's genes.	Medical treatment by modifying a person's genes.









mRNA-based vaccines	Vaccines using messenger RNA to create an immune	Vaccines that trigger an immune response using messenger RNA.		
	response.			
Machine Learning	Computers learning from data to improve their performance.	Computers improving their performance by learning from data.		
Neglected Tropical Diseases	Diseases prevalent in tropical areas, often overlooked.	Health conditions common in the tropics, often not given enough attention.		
E-2025 Initiative	WHO program targeting malaria elimination in certain countries by 2025.	World Health Organization plan to eradicate malaria in specific nations by 2025.		
Methaemoglobinaemia	A blood disorder where a large amount of methemoglobin is produced, reducing the blood's ability to carry oxygen.	A medical condition where the blood can't carry oxygen well because of a substance called methemoglobin.		
Near Infrared Rays	A region of the electromagnetic spectrum adjacent to the visible light spectrum, with longer wavelengths than visible light but shorter than microwaves.	A type of light that we can't see, but it's between the light we can see and the microwaves we use in ovens.		
Kilonova	An astronomical event caused by the collision of two neutron stars, characterized by a short burst of gamma rays followed by a longer emission of visible light.	A big space explosion when two special stars crash into each other, making a flash of light and then a longer glow.		
Stealth Guided Missile	A missile designed to avoid detection using stealth technology, often used in military applications.	A special missile that's hard to see or find, used by the military for sneaky attacks.		
RFID Technology (Radio- Frequency Identification)	A technology using electromagnetic fields to automatically identify and track tags attached to objects.	A system using special fields to automatically find and keep track of tags or labels attached to things.		
Near Field Communication (NFC)	A set of communication protocols for electronic devices to establish communication by bringing them close together.	A way for gadgets to talk to each other by getting close, like how your phone pays for stuff by touching it.		
e-Soil	A digital platform or system used for managing and providing information about soil health and fertility.	An online system for looking after soil and sharing details about how healthy it is and what it can grow.		
Ionosphere	A layer of Earth's upper atmosphere, ionized by solar radiation, affecting radio propagation to distant places on Earth.	A part of the sky high above us, turned electric by sunlight, that can help or mess up faraway radio signals.		
Dark Energy	A hypothetical form of energy thought to be responsible for the accelerated expansion of the universe.	A mysterious kind of energy that might be making the whole universe grow faster, but scientists aren't sure yet.		
Magnetars	A type of neutron star believed to have an extremely powerful magnetic field.	A super-strong kind of star that's really tiny and has a crazy strong magnetic force around it.		
Nematocyst	A specialized cell in the tentacles of a jellyfish, containing a barbed or venomous coiled thread that can be projected in self-defense or to capture prey.	A special cell in a jellyfish's arms that shoots out a sticky or poisonous thread to protect itself or catch food.		
Small Modular Reactor	A new type of nuclear reactor designed to be smaller and modular for easier deployment.	Smaller, easier-to-build nuclear reactors.		
Molasses	A byproduct of sugar refining that has environmental impact concerns.	Thick syrup left over from sugar making, can impact the environment.		









Circular Economy	An economic system aimed at minimizing waste and making the most of resources through recycling and reuse.	An economy that tries to use and waste less.
Miyawaki Method	A technique for creating dense, biodiverse forests quickly.	A way to grow thick, diverse forests fast.
Diel Vertical Migration	The daily movement pattern of marine animals moving up and down in the oceanic water column.	Ocean animals moving up and down daily.
Nuclear Fusion	The process of combining atomic nuclei to release energy, similar to the sun.	Joining atoms to make energy like the sun does.
eDNA	Environmental DNA, which is genetic material collected from the environment to study biodiversity.	DNA collected from nature to study life variety.
Sustainable Cooling	Eco-friendly technologies designed to cool spaces without harming the environment.	Environmentally safe ways to cool spaces.
Marine Heatwaves	Extended periods of unusually high sea temperatures.	Long times of very warm sea water.
Snakebite Envenoming	Medical condition caused by venomous snakebites, leading to severe health effects.	Getting very sick from a poisonous snake bite.
E-2025 Initiative	A World Health Organization plan aiming to eliminate malaria in 25 countries by 2025.	WHO's goal to stop malaria in 25 countries by 2025.
Project Sunrise	An Indian initiative aimed at combating HIV in the northeastern states of the country.	Indian program to fight HIV in the northeast.



ENVIRONMENT

CONCEPTS	DEFINITION	EASY EXPLANATION
Nature-based Solutions	Approaches that use natural ecosystems to address environmental challenges, such as climate change and biodiversity loss.	Using natural ecosystems to address environmental challenges.
	as climate change and blouversity loss.	
Green Hydrogen	Hydrogen produced using renewable energy sources, such as wind or solar power.	Hydrogen produced with renewable energy like wind or solar power.
Flue Gas Desulphurisation	A technology used to remove sulfur dioxide from the emissions of power plants and industrial facilities.	Technology removing sulfur dioxide from industrial emissions.
Global Stocktake	A periodic review mechanism under the Paris Agreement to assess global progress in addressing climate change.	Periodic review under the Paris Agreement to assess global progress in combating climate change.
Hydrography	The science of surveying and charting bodies of water, including oceans, rivers, and lakes.	Science of surveying and mapping bodies of water.
Universal Dynamic Crosslinker -	A method for recycling plastic that involves a universally applicable and	Eco-friendly plastic recycling with a universal process.
Carbon Credit	Tradable certificate representing the right to emit carbon dioxide.	A certificate that allows a certain amount of carbon dioxide emissions.









Fly Ash	Byproduct of coal combustion, used in construction.	Residue from burning coal, utilized in building projects.
Seaweed	Marine algae, used for food, fertilizer, and biofuel.	Oceanic plants used in food, farming, and renewable fuel.
Red Tide	Harmful algal bloom causing ocean water discoloration.	Algal bloom that turns seawater red and can be harmful.
Katabatic and Anabatic Winds	Winds flowing downhill and uphill, respectively.	Winds moving down and up slopes, correspondingly.
Permafrost	Ground that remains frozen for two or more years.	Soil that stays frozen for an extended period.
Greenwashing	Falsely portraying products as environmentally friendly.	Misleadingly presenting products as eco- friendly.
Methane Hydrate	Ice-like solid formed from water and methane under high pressure.	Solid substance made of water and methane under high pressure.







