



CONCEPTS IN NEWS

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POLITY

CONCEPTS	DEFINITION	EASY EXPLANATION
Aadhaar Seeding	Linking of the Aadhaar number with various government schemes or services, like bank accounts.	Adding your national ID number to your bank account and other government services.
Doctrine of Proportionality	Legal principle balancing individual rights and public interest.	A rule used in courts that ensures that the government's actions are fair and not more severe than necessary.
Ombudsman	Official appointed to investigate individuals' complaints against maladministration.	A person you can complain to if you think a government department or service has treated you unfairly.
Tax Evasion	Illegal avoidance of paying taxes.	When people or businesses illegally don't pay their full tax bill.
Quasi- Judicial Bodies	Organizations or agencies with powers similar to a law court, but not a part of the standard judicial system.	These are like special judges or committees that can make legal decisions, but they're not actual courts.
Genocide Convention	An international treaty to prevent and punish the crime of genocide.	It's an agreement between countries to stop and punish acts where large numbers of a particular group are killed.



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One-China Principle	The policy asserting that there is only one sovereign state under the name China, despite the existence of two governments (People's Republic of China and Republic of China/Taiwan).	This is the idea that there's only one country called China even though there are two separate governments claiming to be the real China.
Mitakshara Law	A traditional Hindu law system in India that deals with inheritance and succession, historically significant in shaping Indian family law.	Old rules in India about who gets what when someone dies and how families share things, which has been important in how Indian families work.
Bandung Conference	A historic 1955 meeting in Bandung, Indonesia, where Asian and African countries discussed peace, non-alignment, and economic cooperation, marking a significant step in the decolonization process.	A big meeting long ago where countries from Asia and Africa talked about making peace, not taking sides, and working together, which helped them gain independence.
Social Audit	A process where official records are audited to ensure that the reported information matches the actual ground situation, often involving the local community in verifying government projects and schemes.	Checking if what the government says it's doing matches what's really happening, often with help from the people who live there.



ECONOMY

CONCEPTS	DEFINITION	EASY EXPLANATION
Veblen Goods	Luxury items where the demand increases as the price increases, contrary to typical consumer goods.	Expensive stuff that people want more when the prices go up, like designer handbags.
Giffen Goods	Products that people consume more of as the price rises, violating the basic laws of demand in economics.	Things, usually basic necessities, that people keep buying even when they get pricier, like bread during a shortage.
White Goods	Large electrical home appliances like refrigerators, washing machines, etc.	Big machines we use at home like fridges and washing machines.
Viable Gap Funding	A subsidy provided to support infrastructure projects that are economically justified but not financially viable.	Government money given to support big projects like roads or bridges that are good for the public but too expensive to build without help.
Naked Short Selling	Selling a stock short without first borrowing the security or ensuring that it can be borrowed.	Selling shares you don't own and haven't borrowed, betting the stock price will drop.
Green Economy	An economy that aims at reducing environmental risks and ecological scarcities.	An economic system that's focused on being eco-friendly and not using up all our natural resources.
Skewflation	An economic situation where inflation and unemployment rise simultaneously.	When the cost of living goes up and more people are out of work at the same time.
Write-offs	The accounting action of recognizing that a portion of a company's assets has lost value.	When a business accepts that some of the things it owns aren't worth as much anymore and adjusts its books accordingly.





Open Acreage Licensing Policy	An oil exploration policy that allows companies to select exploration blocks without waiting for a formal bid round.	A rule that lets oil companies pick where they want to dig for oil without having to wait for an auction.
Viable Gap Funding	A subsidy provided to support infrastructure projects that are economically justified but not financially viable.	Government support for big projects that are important but too expensive to do without help.
Reverse Flipping	A real estate investment strategy where an investor buys a property and then sells it quickly for a profit.	Buying a house or building and then selling it fast to make some quick money.
Non-tariff Barriers	Restrictions on trade that do not involve tariffs, like quotas, embargoes, or standards.	These are rules that can slow down or block trade between countries, but they aren't about taxes on goods.
Steel Slag	A byproduct of steel-making, often recycled for various uses like road construction.	It's the leftover stuff from making steel that can be reused, often for building things like roads.
Remittance	Money sent by a person working abroad to their family or others in their home country.	When people send part of their paycheck back home to their family from a different country.
Headcount Ratio	A measure of poverty, indicating the proportion of a population living below the poverty line.	It's a way to count how many people are living with very little money, to understand how much poverty there is.
Model-based Algorithmic Lending	Lending decisions based on algorithms that use statistical models to assess creditworthiness.	Using computer programs to decide if someone can be given a loan based on their financial behavior.
State Government Guarantees	Assurances provided by state governments to back financial obligations, often used to support public sector projects.	Promises made by state governments to pay back money if needed, especially for big projects like highways or schools.
Revenue Receipts	The income earned by the government, mainly from taxes and non-tax sources.	Money that the government gets, mostly from taxes that people and businesses pay.
Tax to GDP Ratio	This is the ratio of a country's tax revenue relative to its Gross Domestic Product (GDP). It reflects the size of a country's tax base and its capacity to raise taxes.	How much money a country collects in taxes compared to how much money it makes from everything it does. It shows how good they are at getting taxes.
Viability Gap Funding	A financial subsidy provided by the government to make projects financially viable. Often used for infrastructure projects that are economically justified but not financially viable without support.	Money given by the government to make sure important projects can happen even if they don't make enough money on their own.
Unicorns	In the business context, these are privately held startup companies valued at over \$1 billion. The term implies rarity and success.	Really special and successful new companies that are worth a ton of money, even though they're not on the stock market yet.
Direct Listing	A method for a company to go public and list its shares on a stock exchange without issuing new shares or using underwriters.	When a company goes on the stock market without selling new shares or getting help from financial experts.





INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS

CONCEPT	DEFINITION	EASY EXPLANATION
Desert Cyclone	A joint military exercise between India and the UAE.	India and the UAE's armies practicing together in the desert to improve teamwork.
Debt Sustainability	A country's ability to manage its debt without external help.	Whether a country can handle its debt on its own without getting into financial trouble or needing a bailout.
Loan Haircut	Reduction in the value of a loan taken by a debtor.	When the amount of money borrowed is reduced, usually because it's hard for the borrower to pay it back.
Diaspora	A group of people who live outside their ancestral or native country but maintain connections with it.	People living in a different country from where their family originally came from, but still having a strong connection to their homeland.
Lithium Triangle	A region in South America (Argentina, Bolivia, Chile) with a large amount of lithium reserves.	An area in South America where there's a lot of lithium, which is used in batteries for things like phones and electric cars.



SCIENCE TECH

CONCEPTS	DEFINITION	EASY EXPLANATION
Direct-to-Cell Satellites	Satellites designed to communicate directly with cell phones, bypassing ground-based cell towers.	Satellites that can send signals straight to your phone, without needing those big cell towers on the ground.
Self-Pollination	A plant's process of fertilizing itself using its own pollen.	When a plant can use its own pollen to make seeds, kind of like making a clone of itself.
Rejupave Technology	A method of road construction that uses a special cement to improve durability and reduce heat absorption.	A new way to build roads that last longer and don't get as hot in the sun using a special kind of concrete.
Fog Pass Device	A device used in railways to assist in train navigation during foggy conditions.	A gadget trains use to see through fog so they know where they're going.
Direct-to-Cell Satellites	Satellites designed to communicate directly with cell phones, bypassing ground-based cell towers.	Satellites that talk directly to your phone without the need for those big cell towers.
Thermokarst	Terrain formed by melting permafrost.	Land that gets bumpy and uneven because the icy ground underneath is melting.
Virtual Private Network (VPN)	A tool for secure, private internet access.	A digital tunnel that keeps your online activities hidden and safe.





Fuel Cells	Devices that convert chemical energy into electricity.	Gadgets that can make electricity from stuff like hydrogen.
Nanoplastics	Tiny plastic particles, often pollutants.	Super small bits of plastic that can end up in the environment and cause problems.
Superbugs	Bacteria resistant to multiple antibiotics.	Germs that can't be killed by most medicines, which makes them really tough to get rid of.
High Throughput Satellite Capacity	Satellites with enhanced data transmission capabilities.	Satellites that can send and receive a whole lot of data very fast.
Martian Plasma Waves	Plasma wave phenomena in the Martian atmosphere.	Waves made of charged particles in the air around Mars.
Fuel Fabrication	Process of making nuclear fuel.	Making the stuff that powers nuclear reactors.
Laser Interferometer	Device measuring changes in distance using laser beams.	A tool that uses lasers to measure tiny changes in space, like when looking for gravitational waves.
Gram-negative Bacteria	Bacteria with specific cell wall characteristics.	A type of germ that's hard to treat because it has a tough outer shell.
Panspermia	Hypothesis that life exists throughout the Universe, distributed by space dust, meteoroids, asteroids, comets, planetoids, or potentially by spacecraft in the form of unintended contamination by microorganisms	The idea that life didn't start on Earth but came from outer space, hitching a ride on comets or dust.
Camera Trap Method	Automated cameras used for wildlife monitoring.	Using cameras in the wild that take a picture when an animal walks by.
Drug Resistance	The reduction in effectiveness of a medication in curing a disease, usually due to the adaptation of the disease-causing organism.	When medicines stop working against germs because the germs have become tough and can fight off the drug.
Doppler Effect	The change in frequency or wavelength of a wave in relation to an observer moving relative to the wave source.	It's like the change in the sound of a siren as an ambulance drives past you.
Hypersonic Missile	A missile that travels at speeds of at least five times the speed of sound.	A super fast missile that goes faster than the speed you hear thunder after seeing lightning.
Cryogenic Fuel	Extremely cold substances used as fuels, important in space technology for rocket propulsion.	Super cold stuff that's used to fuel rockets into space.
Radio Frequency Identification (RFID)	A technology using electromagnetic fields to automatically identify and track tags attached to objects.	A way to use radio waves to find and keep track of things like inventory in a store.
Fourth Industrial Revolution	A phase of industrial development characterized by a fusion of technologies blurring the lines between physical, digital, and biological spheres.	It's the new era of technology where computers, the internet, and biology all start to mix together.





Intelligent Internet of Things (IoT)	An advanced form of IoT where connected devices are not only networked but also capable of intelligent decision-making.	Gadgets and appliances that are smart enough to talk to each other and make decisions, like a fridge ordering milk when you run out.
Quantum Technology	Technology based on the principles of quantum mechanics, used in fields like computing, cryptography, and sensing.	Super advanced tech that uses the weird rules of tiny particles to do things like making computers incredibly fast.
Laser Communication	A form of data transmission using lasers, particularly useful for long- distance and high-speed communication.	Sending information using beams of light, which can be faster and go farther than regular ways of sending messages.
Disease X	A placeholder name used by the WHO for a hypothetical, unknown pathogen that could cause a future epidemic.	A name for a disease we haven't seen yet but could be the next big illness outbreak.
P-N Junction Diode	A basic electronic device made of semiconductor material (like silicon) with two sides (P-type and N-type) that allows current to flow in only one direction. Used in many electronic circuits.	A tiny component in electronics that acts like a one-way valve for electricity. It helps control the flow of electrical current in devices.
Advanced Driver Assistance Systems (ADAS)	These are systems in modern vehicles designed to enhance vehicle safety and driving. They include features like automatic braking, lane-keeping assistance, and adaptive cruise control.	High-tech features in cars that help you drive safer and easier, like a car that can automatically stop if it senses danger or keep you in your lane.
Advanced Chemistry Cell (ACC)	Refers to next-generation battery technology that offers higher energy density and longer life, crucial for electric vehicles and renewable energy storage.	Super-duper batteries that can store a lot of energy and last a long time, which is really important for electric cars and green energy.
Inductive Charging	A wireless charging method that uses electromagnetic fields to transfer energy between two objects, typically used for charging smartphones, electric toothbrushes, and electric vehicles.	Charging your gadgets without plugging them in, using invisible energy waves, like charging your phone or car wirelessly.
Light Emitting Diodes (LEDs)	Energy-efficient lighting technology that uses a semiconductor to convert electricity into light. Used in various devices from indicator lights to screens and room lighting.	Lights that save energy and last a long time by using special materials to make electricity turn into light, used in lots of stuff like screens and lamps.



ENVIRONMENT

CONCEPTS	DEFINITION	EASY EXPLANATION
Trichoderma	A genus of fungi known for its role in soil nutrient cycling and as biopesticides.	A type of fungus that helps plants grow better and can also protect them from pests.





Keystone Species	A species that plays a critical role in maintaining the structure of an ecological community.	An animal or plant that is so important to its environment that if it disappeared, the whole place would change a lot.
Leachate	Liquid that drains from a landfill and can be heavily contaminated.	Nasty water that leaks out of garbage dumps and can pollute the ground and water around it.
Microplastics	Very small pieces of plastic debris in the environment resulting from the disposal and breakdown of consumer products and industrial waste.	Tiny bits of plastic that end up everywhere from the ocean to the soil, which can harm wildlife and pollute the environment.
Solid Rechargeable Batteries	Batteries with solid electrolytes offering higher safety and energy density compared to liquid-based batteries.	Batteries that use solid materials instead of liquids inside, which can be safer and hold more energy for things like phones and cars.
Flow Batteries	A type of rechargeable battery where energy is stored in liquid chemical solutions.	Batteries that keep energy in liquid form, which can be good for storing a lot of power like for a whole house or building.
Antimicrobial Resistance	The ability of microbes to resist the effects of medication that once could successfully treat them.	When germs get tough and don't die from drugs like antibiotics anymore, making it harder to treat infections.
Biodiversity Credits	A market-based approach to conserve biodiversity by providing financial incentives.	A system where companies can earn or buy credits for helping to protect different kinds of plants and animals.
Liquid Nano Urea	A liquid fertilizer made with nanoparticles of urea, more efficient than conventional urea.	A super tiny form of fertilizer that plants can use more easily, which means you don't have to use as much.
Active and Relict Rock Glaciers	Active ones are moving ice-rock mixtures; relict ones are stationary, indicating past climates.	Active ones are chunks of ice and rock that still move like slow rivers of debris, while relict ones don't move and tell us what the climate was like long ago.
Rock Glaciers	Mixtures of ice and rock moving down slopes.	Piles of ice and rock that slide down mountainsides very slowly, almost like frozen mudslides.
Permafrost	Ground that remains frozen for two or more years.	Ground that's so cold it's been frozen solid for years, like the ground in the Arctic.
Biopesticide	Biological or naturally derived agents used for pest control.	Natural substances used to control pests, like plant extracts or beneficial bacteria, instead of synthetic chemicals.
Karewas	Elevated tablelands in Kashmir, formed by glacier deposits.	Flat high areas in Kashmir that were made by glaciers leaving behind layers of sand and rock.
Marine Heatwaves	Prolonged periods of unusually high sea temperatures.	Extended periods when the sea gets much hotter than usual, which can harm sea life.
Geosphere	The solid earth, including rocks and landforms.	The hard, non-living part of Earth that includes all the landforms, from mountains to valleys.
Cryosphere	Frozen components of the Earth system.	The parts of the Earth that are always frozen, like glaciers, ice caps, and the polar ice.





Sisal	A plant fiber used for making ropes and twines.	A tough plant used to make strong ropes and twine that are resistant to rotting and wear.
Sea-cucumber	Marine animals used for food and in traditional medicine.	Weird-looking ocean critters that people eat and use in old-school medicine.
Vulture Restaurant	A conservation tool where carrion (dead animal flesh) is provided to vultures to support their populations.	A place where dead animals are left out for vultures to eat, helping to keep the vulture numbers up.
Extra- Tropical Storm	A type of storm that forms outside the tropics, often in temperate regions, and can lead to severe weather conditions.	Big storms that happen away from the warm tropical areas, usually where the weather can change a lot.
Wetland Tourism	Tourism centered around wetland areas, which are important for biodiversity and ecosystems. It can include bird watching, nature walks, and educational tours.	Going on fun trips to places with lots of water and plants, where you can see birds, go for walks, and learn about nature.
Coral Bleaching	The phenomenon where corals lose their color due to environmental stressors like warmer sea temperatures, which can lead to the corals dying.	When coral reefs turn white and sick because the water gets too hot, which can make the corals die and hurt the ocean's beauty.
Silent Layoff	A strategy where a company reduces its workforce without announcing official layoffs, often by not replacing departing employees or reducing their hours.	A way for a company to cut back on workers without telling everyone, usually by not hiring new people or giving fewer hours to some employees.
Polar Vortex	A large area of low pressure and cold air surrounding the Earth's poles, which can sometimes expand and bring very cold temperatures to more southern regions.	A huge swirl of super cold air near the North and South Poles that can sometimes move down and make the weather really chilly in other places.

