



# CONCEPTS IN NEWS

## NOVEMBER 2024



### ECONOMY

Concepts	Definition	Easy Explanation
<b>Generic Drugs</b>	Cost-effective pharmaceuticals with the same active ingredients as brand-name drugs.	Affordable versions of medicines that work the same as more expensive brands.
<b>Liquidity Deficit</b>	Insufficient funds in a financial system to meet demand, potentially causing economic challenges.	Not enough money going around, causing trouble for people and businesses needing loans.
<b>Account Aggregators</b>	Financial intermediaries facilitating secure exchange of user-authorized financial information.	Digital assistants that help move your financial data securely, but only if you say it's okay.
<b>Social Impact Fund</b>	Investment funds seeking financial returns and positive social or environmental impacts.	Investments that aim to make money while also doing good things for society and the planet.
<b>Green Financing</b>	Financial support for environmentally sustainable projects.	Funding that supports projects like solar power and wind energy to help the environment.
<b>Unsecured Loans</b>	Loans without collateral, based on creditworthiness.	Borrowing money without having to secure it with something valuable you own.
<b>Farm as Factory Model</b>	This approach treats farming as an industrial operation, focusing on efficiency and output.	Treating farming like a factory, aiming to be very efficient and produce a lot.
<b>Lewis Model</b>	An economic theory about developing economies growing by shifting workers from farming to more productive work in cities.	Moving people from farms to city jobs to improve the economy.
<b>Reference Fuel</b>	A standard fuel used for testing engines or other machinery.	The "benchmark" juice to see how well engines perform.
<b>Sunrise Sector</b>	An emerging area of business that is expected to grow rapidly.	A new industry that's expected to grow quickly, like the early morning sun starting a new day.



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<b>Open Network for Digital Commerce</b>	A setup for connecting various digital commerce platforms to enhance trade.	A big digital mall where every online store can set up shop and customers can shop seamlessly.
<b>Food Fortification</b>	Adding vital nutrients to food to improve its nutritional value.	Sprinkling extra vitamins on your cereal to make it healthier.
<b>Dated Government Securities</b>	Loans you give to the government that come with a promise to be paid back on a certain date.	Lending money to the government with a promise to get it back on a specific date.
<b>Crowdfunding</b>	Raising money by asking a large number of people for small amounts of money, often via the internet.	Collecting small amounts of money from many people online.
<b>Sustainability Bond</b>	A financial tool to fund eco-friendly and socially beneficial projects.	Funding projects that are good for the environment and society.
<b>Viability Gap Funding</b>	Money provided by the government to make projects that are not financially attractive happen.	Government money to help start important projects that aren't financially appealing on their own.
<b>Direct Listing</b>	When a company starts selling its shares directly to the public on the stock market.	A company selling shares directly to people without any middleman.
<b>Minimum Export Price</b>	The least amount for which a country allows its goods to be sold overseas.	The lowest price a country sets for selling its products abroad.
<b>Retail Lending</b>	Financial institutions providing loans to individual consumers.	Banks giving money as loans for personal purchases like cars or homes.
<b>e-way Bill</b>	Electronic document required for the movement of goods, facilitating seamless tracking in transportation.	A digital tracker for goods being moved around, like a package tracking number.
<b>Core Inflation</b>	Core Inflation excludes volatile items like food and energy, offering a stable view of underlying price trends.	Measuring how prices go up for stable goods, not including food and energy.
<b>Headline Inflation</b>	Headline Inflation includes all goods and services, providing a broad view of general price movement in an economy.	Tracking how prices for everything are rising overall.
<b>Palletisation</b>	Transforming dried paddy straw into pellets for use as an alternative fuel source.	Turning farming waste into small pellets that can be burned for energy.
<b>Digital Gold</b>	Digital certificates corresponding to actual gold, tradeable online or exchangeable for physical gold.	Online certificates that represent real gold, which you can trade or exchange for actual gold.
<b>Intellectual Property Rights (IPR)</b>	Legal rights protecting human intellectual products like inventions, artistic works, and commerce symbols.	Legal protections for creations like inventions, artwork, and brand logos.
<b>Risk Weight on Banks</b>	Banking regulation assigning risk levels to assets, influencing required capital for potential losses.	Rules that tell banks how risky different assets are and how much money they need to set aside for losses.
<b>Basel Norms</b>	International banking regulations determining capital requirements based on asset riskiness.	Global rules for banks on how much money they should keep based on how risky their assets are.
<b>Global South</b>	Regions comprising less economically developed countries in Africa, Latin America, and Asia.	Less economically developed countries in Africa, Latin America, and Asia.
<b>Off Budget Borrowings</b>	Government loans not appearing in primary budget documents, used for specific projects.	Government loans that don't show up in the main budget, used for specific projects.
<b>Golden Passport</b>	Citizenship-by-investment programs allowing nationality acquisition through significant investment.	Programs that let you buy citizenship in a country by making a big investment.
<b>Circular Economy</b>	Economic system aiming to eliminate waste and continuously use resources through recycling and refurbishing.	An economy that tries to get rid of waste by reusing and recycling everything.
<b>Debt Instruments</b>	Tools for borrowing funds, including bonds, debentures, and commercial paper.	Ways to borrow money, like bonds and promissory notes.
<b>Tax Haven</b>	Countries or jurisdictions offering low tax rates and privacy for foreign entities.	Places with very low taxes and high privacy for foreign businesses.





## Polity

Concepts	Definition	Easy Explanation
<b>Statutory Bail</b>	Bail granted under specific legal provisions.	When someone is allowed to leave jail while waiting for their trial, as prescribed by law.
<b>Anticipatory Bail</b>	Bail granted before arrest to prevent unjust detention.	Getting a 'get out of jail free card' before anyone tries to put you in jail.
<b>Altruistic Surrogacy</b>	A type of surrogacy where the surrogate mother is not paid beyond medical expenses.	Carrying someone's baby as a favor, not for profit.
<b>Commercial Surrogacy</b>	Surrogacy where the surrogate gets paid for her service.	A job where carrying and delivering a child is the service provided.
<b>Electoral Bonds</b>	Financial instruments used for donating money to political parties anonymously.	A secret gift card you can give to your favorite political party.
<b>Dark Shipping</b>	Illegal activities conducted by vessels, often involving smuggling or other illicit operations.	Ships used for secret illegal activities like smuggling goods.
<b>Ombudsman</b>	Independent official investigating complaints against maladministration in public and private sectors.	An independent person who looks into complaints about poor administration in organizations.



## Environment

Concepts	Definition	Easy Explanation
<b>Carbon Capture Utilisation and Storage (CCUS)</b>	Technologies mitigating climate change by capturing and storing carbon dioxide emissions.	Tech solutions for trapping pollution and stopping it from heating up our planet.
<b>Natural Farming</b>	Sustainable agricultural method emphasizing organic practices and soil health.	Farming in harmony with nature, focusing on healthy soil and avoiding chemicals.
<b>Ozone Hole</b>	Depletion of ozone concentration in the stratosphere, primarily caused by human-made substances.	A weakening in the Earth's protective layer that shields us from harmful solar radiation.
<b>Cryosphere</b>	Frozen water on Earth, including ice caps and glaciers.	All the places on Earth where water stays frozen, playing a big role in our planet's climate.
<b>Atmospheric Gravity Waves</b>	Oscillations in the Earth's atmosphere influenced by gravity, affecting weather patterns.	Waves that move through the atmosphere, shaping the weather we experience.
<b>Atmospheric Waves</b>	Disturbances in the Earth's atmosphere.	Movements in the air above us that can carry weather changes across the globe.
<b>Dust Storms</b>	Atmospheric phenomena involving strong winds and dust.	Big, powerful storms that fill the sky with dust and sand, blocking out the sun and reducing visibility.
<b>Geo-Engineering</b>	Human intervention in Earth's natural processes for environmental purposes.	Taking big steps to change the Earth's natural systems to fix environmental problems.
<b>Nature-Based Solutions</b>	Using the natural environment to solve problems like flooding.	Asking Mother Nature for a helping hand to fix our issues.
<b>Convective Clouds</b>	Clouds that form when warm air rises and cools, which can lead to storms.	Clouds created by rising warm air that can lead to storms.
<b>Onchocerciasis</b>	A disease caused by a worm, spread by flies, leading to itching and blindness.	Also known as "river blindness," a disease that causes severe itching and vision loss.
<b>Adaptation Finance</b>	Money set aside to help people prepare for the effects of climate change.	Funds to help people get ready for climate change impacts.
<b>Coastal Adaptation</b>	Strategies to deal with changes at the coast like	Making sure beachfront property doesn't





	sea-level rise.	become underwater property.
<b>Green Sheen</b>	Misleading practice of presenting as environmentally responsible without supporting actions.	Pretending to be eco-friendly without actually doing anything to help the environment.
<b>Radiative Forcing</b>	Assessment of factors influencing Earth's climate, including natural and human-made processes.	Measuring what affects the Earth's climate, like natural events and human activities.
<b>Water Scarcity</b>	Condition where water demand exceeds supply, due to drought, overuse, or contamination.	When there's not enough water because of drought, overuse, or pollution.
<b>Water Vulnerability</b>	Susceptibility to adverse effects of water scarcity, impacting drinking water and sanitation.	How likely a place is to suffer from not having enough clean water for drinking and sanitation.
<b>El Niño</b>	Periodic climatic phenomenon with warmer sea temperatures, influencing global weather patterns.	A climate event where sea temperatures rise, changing weather around the world.
<b>Mars Solar Conjunction</b>	Alignment of Mars and the Sun, with Earth in between, hindering communication with Mars spacecraft.	When Mars and the Sun line up with Earth in the middle, making it hard to talk to Mars spacecraft.
<b>Algae</b>	Simple plants including seaweeds, containing chlorophyll but lacking vascular tissue.	Simple plants like seaweed that have chlorophyll but no veins.
<b>Red Sanders</b>	Tree species with red wood, endemic to Southeastern India, threatened by overexploitation.	A tree with red wood found only in Southeastern India, now endangered due to overuse.



### International Relations

Concepts	Definition	Easy Explanation
<b>Oslo Accords</b>	Agreements aiming for peace between Israel and the Palestine Liberation Organization.	Two groups who disagree coming together to say, "Let's stop fighting."
<b>Budapest Convention</b>	International treaty to fight cybercrime and help countries work together against online criminals.	An international cyber police pact.
<b>Sea Lanes of Communication</b>	Main routes that ships use to trade between countries.	Highways on the ocean.
<b>Bletchley Declaration</b>	World's first declaration on AI: Ethical and societal guidelines for artificial intelligence.	A rule book for making sure AI plays nice with humanity.
<b>Blue Flag Certification</b>	Award given to beaches and marinas that meet high environmental and safety standards.	A five-star rating for clean and safe waterfronts.
<b>Helsinki Accords</b>	1975 agreements by 35 countries, including the US and Soviet Union, on human rights and security.	A 1975 agreement by 35 countries to improve human rights and security.



### Science and Technology

Concepts	Definition	Easy Explanation
<b>Coseismic Ionospheric Perturbations</b>	Disturbances in the ionosphere during earthquakes affecting radio wave propagation.	Earthquakes disrupting the upper atmosphere, interfering with communication signals like GPS and radio.
<b>Additive Manufacturing (3D Printing)</b>	Layer-by-layer creation of three-dimensional objects from digital models.	Using a printer to create real-life objects out of materials like plastic or metal, layer by layer.





<b>Digital Public Infrastructure</b>	Technological framework supporting digital governance, public services, and citizen-government interactions.	Digital means through which citizens can interact with their government, like online services.
<b>Digital Twins</b>	Virtual replicas of physical objects, processes, or systems used for simulation, analysis, and monitoring.	Digital models of real-world objects or systems that help us understand and analyze them.
<b>Micronutrients</b>	Essential nutrients, including vitamins and minerals, required in small quantities for proper physiological functioning.	Tiny but essential parts of our diet that keep our bodies functioning well.
<b>Fortification</b>	Adding essential nutrients to foods to address nutritional deficiencies and enhance public health.	Boosting food with extra vitamins and minerals to ensure people get what they need for good health.
<b>Space Weather</b>	Dynamic conditions in space influenced by solar activity, affecting satellites and communication systems.	Changing environmental conditions in outer space that can affect technology on Earth.
<b>E Prime Layer</b>	A mysterious outer layer formed on the Earth's core, still under investigation.	A newly discovered part of Earth's core that scientists are trying to understand.
<b>Double Gravity Assist</b>	Orbital maneuver leveraging the gravitational pull of two celestial bodies for spacecraft trajectory adjustments.	A space navigation trick where a spacecraft uses the gravity of planets to change direction or speed.
<b>Isotope</b>	Variants of a chemical element with different numbers of neutrons, impacting stability.	Different forms of the same element, which can be stable or radioactive and are useful in various scientific applications.
<b>Optical Communication</b>	Communication using light signals for data transmission in fiber-optic networks.	Sending information at the speed of light through fibers for high-speed internet and communications.
<b>Deep Space</b>	The vast, remote region of outer space beyond Earth's atmosphere, explored for scientific research.	The far-off parts of space that we explore to learn more about the universe.
<b>Natural Chimera</b>	Organism with genetically distinct cells, potentially valuable for medical research.	An organism that has different types of cells living together, useful for biology and medicine research.
<b>Paramutations</b>	Changes in heritable traits of organisms.	Unexpected tweaks in how traits are passed down to offspring that can have big impacts on future generations.
<b>Auroras</b>	Natural light displays in polar regions caused by solar wind interactions.	Beautiful light shows near the Earth's poles created by particles from the sun colliding with the atmosphere.
<b>Pulsars</b>	Highly magnetized rotating neutron stars emitting beams of electromagnetic radiation.	Dead stars spinning fast and sending out beams of light and radio waves.
<b>Black Hole</b>	Region in space where gravity is so strong that nothing, not even light, can escape.	A space vacuum that sucks in everything, even light, and keeps it trapped.
<b>Quasar</b>	Extremely bright and energetic centers of distant galaxies.	Very bright spots in the universe, shining from very far away.
<b>Raman Effect</b>	Scattering of light when it passes through a transparent material.	Light changing direction and color slightly as it goes through something clear.
<b>Deepfake</b>	AI-generated realistic-looking fake videos or audios.	Fake videos or sounds made by computers that seem very real.
<b>Generative Adversarial Networks (GANs)</b>	AI model consisting of a generator and a discriminator, used for creating synthetic data.	A computer program that makes new, fake images that look real.
<b>Online Gambling</b>	Placing bets or wagers over the internet.	Betting money on games through the internet, like virtual casinos.
<b>eDNA/Environmental DNA</b>	Genetic material obtained from environmental samples like soil or water.	Finding DNA evidence in the environment to detect living things.
<b>Machine Learning (ML)</b>	Systems that learn from data and improve without being directly programmed.	Teaching computers to learn and get better by using examples.
<b>Deep Learning</b>	Using neural networks to process data, excelling in complex pattern recognition.	A smart way of teaching computers to recognize complex patterns.
<b>Neural Network</b>	Systems that mimic the brain's structure for data processing.	Computer systems designed to think and solve problems like human brains.
<b>Thermal Radiation</b>	Emission of electromagnetic waves due to an object's temperature.	Heat that's given off from something warm.
<b>Bacille Calmette-Guerin</b>	The only licensed vaccine for tuberculosis	A shot to prevent tuberculosis, a serious





<b>(BCG)</b>	prevention.	lung infection.
<b>Ballistic Missile</b>	Missile guided during powered flight and follows a trajectory for its entire flight.	A weapon that flies far before falling to hit its target.
<b>Cruise Missile</b>	Guided missile that carries an explosive payload to a target over a determined distance.	A self-guided explosive device flying to a specific place to explode.
<b>Solar Flares</b>	Sudden, intense bursts of energy on the Sun's surface that can affect global communications and power grids.	Huge explosions on the Sun that can mess with electronics on Earth.
<b>Gravity Dam</b>	Dam built using concrete or masonry and relies on its weight for stability.	A heavy wall across a river that holds back water with its weight.
<b>Crowdsourced Distribution Networks</b>	Platforms facilitating the distribution of surplus food from various sources to those in need.	Using the internet to move extra food from where it's not needed to where it is.
<b>X-Ray Polarization</b>	Alignment of X-rays from astronomical objects, revealing information about space environments.	How X-rays from space line up, giving us clues about space environments.
<b>Thermal Vacuum Test</b>	Test exposing equipment to extreme temperature and vacuum conditions, resembling space.	A test that puts equipment in extreme temperatures and vacuum to see how it would work in space.
<b>Solid State Batteries</b>	Batteries with a solid electrolyte, safer and potentially more energy-dense than traditional batteries.	Safer batteries with solid parts that can hold more energy than regular ones.
<b>Genetic Modification</b>	Scientific alteration of DNA in organisms for advantageous traits or research.	Changing an organism's DNA to give it new, useful traits or for research purposes.
<b>Deep Web and Dark Web Difference</b>	Deep web includes unindexed internet parts; dark web is hidden and often associated with illegal activities.	The deep web is the unindexed part of the internet, while the dark web is hidden and often used for illegal activities.
<b>Magellanic Clouds</b>	Two dwarf galaxies near the Milky Way, important for galaxy and star formation studies.	Two small galaxies close to the Milky Way, important for studying how galaxies and stars form.
<b>Normal Matter, Dark Matter, and Dark Energy</b>	Normal matter is visible particles; dark matter and energy influence the universe's expansion.	Normal matter is what we can see, while dark matter and energy affect how the universe expands.

