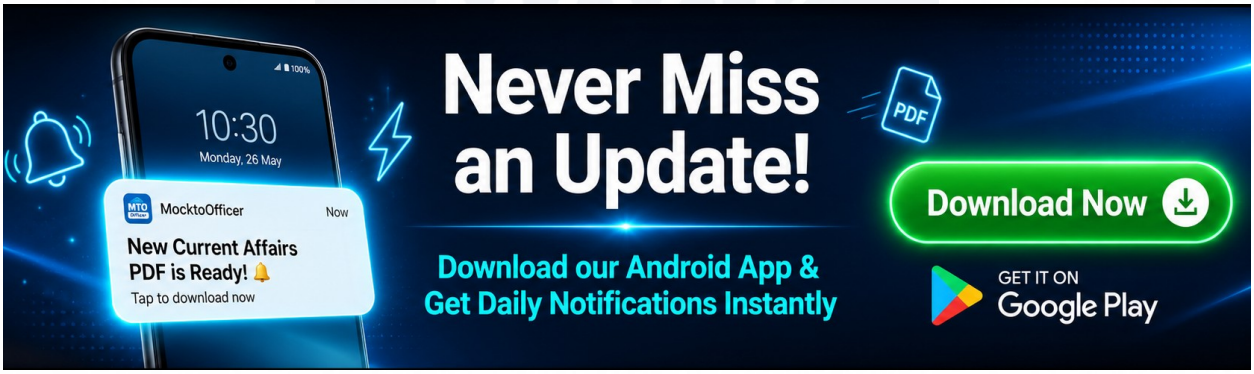
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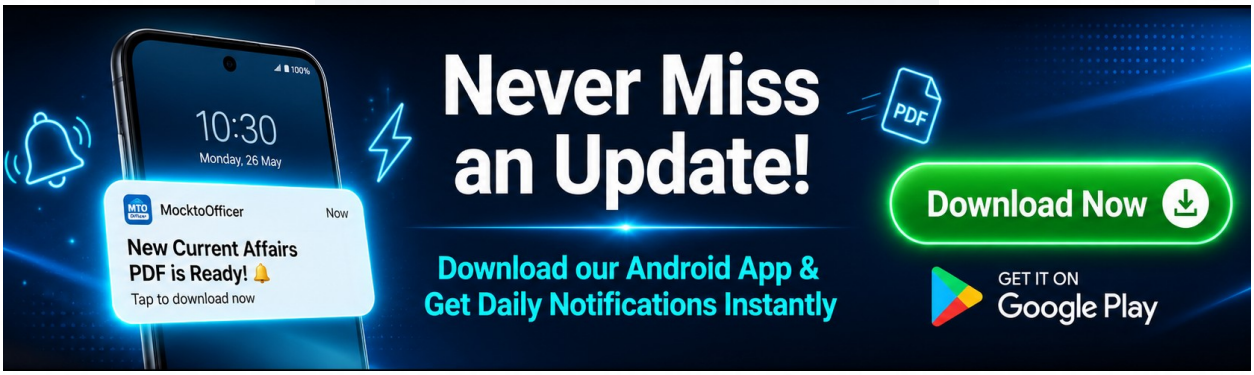
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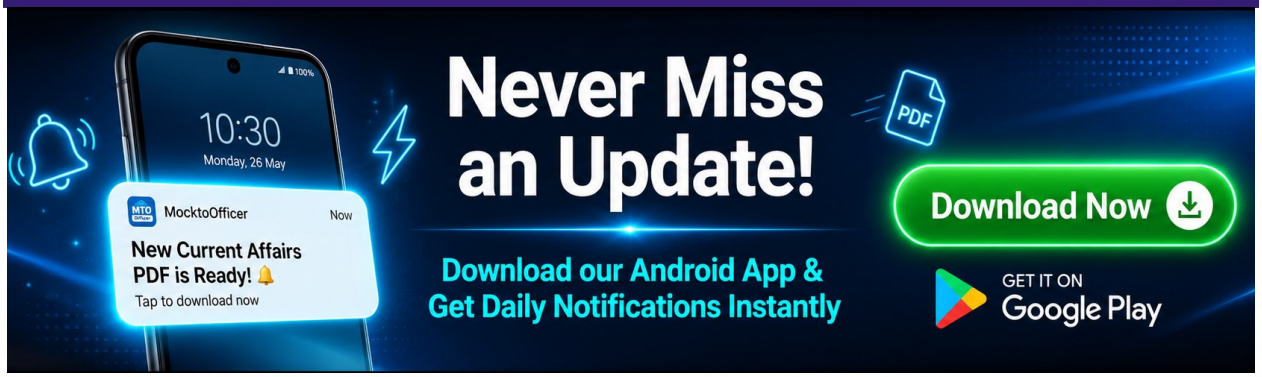
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Dear Aspirants,

Please note that our editorials are now being published with a one-day delay.

For example, if today's date is 9th July 2026, the editorial you read will be from 8th July 2026 (from The Hindu and Indian Express).

This delay is due to a process upgrade on our end. We are working to improve our system, and this change will help us serve you better in the long run.

Thank you for your patience and understanding.

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Daily Vocabulary PDF

Date: 08-Oct-2026

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EDITORIAL 1: LET THERE BE LIGHT: ON THE 2026 NOBEL PRIZE IN PHYSIOLOGY/MEDICINE

Source: The Hindu

[GS3/Science & Technology] | [Prelims/Current Affairs] | [Banking Awareness] | [SSC GK]

Core Issue

The 2026 Nobel Prize in Physiology or Medicine honours Karl Deisseroth, Peter Hegemann and Georg Nagel for light-gated ion channels and optogenetics; the editorial says their work has shone a light on how the brain functions and that its benefits must reach everyone.

Context

The prize was the first Nobel announcement of the season. Hegemann studied how a single-celled alga, Chlamydomonas, swims towards light; Nagel then found an algal protein that opens a channel when lit with blue light, letting charged ions flow in and create electrical impulses; Deisseroth turned that protein into a light-controlled switch for nerve cells. Scientists now use harmless viruses to carry genes for light-sensitive proteins into chosen cells and then give precise pulses of light. The method has revealed circuits behind memory, emotion and behaviour, and has laid the groundwork for treatments aimed at conditions such as Alzheimer's disease and addiction, and even attempts to restore sight. The editorial adds that nations must ensure such research reaches all people, irrespective of where they live.

UPSC Mains Lane

Also useful for: Banking/SSC reading comprehension & vocabulary-in-context practice

• Intro: The 2026 Nobel for optogenetics shows how curiosity about a tiny alga led to a major advance in brain science.

• Body 1: Three scientists on different continents built the method step by step, proving the value of global collaboration.

• Body 2: Optogenetics maps neural circuits and is guiding research on Alzheimer's, addiction and vision loss.

• Counter/way forward: Lab findings need safe clinical trials and fair access, so benefits reach people irrespective of station in life.

• Conclusion: Sustained funding for basic science is the surest route to future medical breakthroughs.

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Syllabus Anchor: GS3 — Science and Technology: developments and their applications and effects in everyday life

UPSC Prelims Lane

Also counts as: Banking Awareness / SSC GK — same fact, same format

Q1. As per the editorial, the 2026 Nobel Prize in Physiology or Medicine was awarded for discoveries concerning which of the following?

(A) Light-gated ion channels and optogenetics

(B) mRNA vaccines

(C) Gene editing using CRISPR

(D) Stem-cell reprogramming

Answer: A

Q2. As per the editorial, which colour of light opens the algal protein channel discovered by Georg Nagel?

(A) Red

(B) Blue

(C) Green

(D) Yellow

Answer: B

Q3. As per the editorial, what do scientists use to deliver genes for light-sensitive proteins into target cells?

(A) Metal nanoparticles

(B) Radio waves

(C) Harmless viral agents

(D) Antibiotics

Answer: C

Vocabulary

Vocabs	Simple Meaning	Synonym	Antonym
Heralding	Announcing or signalling the arrival of something	Announcing	Concealing
Simple Example: *Dark clouds were heralding the arrival of the monsoon.*			
Conferred	Officially given as an honour or title	Bestowed	Withheld
Simple Example: *The university conferred a gold medal on the topper.*			

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Dexterity	Skill in using the hands or mind	Skill	Clumsiness
Simple Example: *The tailor stitched the sleeve with great dexterity.*			
Marionette	A puppet moved by strings	Puppet	Master
Simple Example: *The marionette bowed gracefully to the children.*			
Ameliorate	To make a bad situation better	Improve	Worsen
Simple Example: *New drains will ameliorate flooding in the colony.*			
Facilitates	Makes an action or process easier	Eases	Hinders
Simple Example: *Good planning facilitates smooth exam preparation.*			
Regulating	Controlling or adjusting something	Controlling	Disrupting
Simple Example: *The thermostat is regulating the room's temperature.*			
Illuminated	Lit up or made clear	Lit	Darkened
Simple Example: *Lamps illuminated the temple courtyard at night.*			
Collaboration	Working together with others	Teamwork	Rivalry
Simple Example: *Their collaboration produced an excellent research paper.*			
Activating	Switching on or starting something	Triggering	Deactivating
Simple Example: *She is activating her new SIM card today.*			

Idioms

Idiom	Actual Meaning	Simple Meaning
Quantum leap	A sudden, very large step forward	A big jump ahead
Pull the strings	To secretly control events or people	Control from behind
Lay the groundwork	To prepare the base for later progress	Prepare the base

Quick Recall: Nobel 2026 · Optogenetics · Collaboration

EDITORIAL 2: BREAK THE CHAIN: ON LEPROSY IN INDIA

Source: The Hindu

[GS2/Health] | [Prelims/Current Affairs] | [Banking Awareness] | [SSC GK]

Core Issue

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Leprosy prevalence and disability have fallen in India over a decade, but continued transmission in many pockets threatens the National Strategic Plan and Roadmap for Leprosy 2023-2027; the editorial says the state must focus on interrupting transmission.

Context

India was declared by the World Health Organization to have eliminated leprosy as a public health problem in 2005, after which the surveillance programme was folded into the general health system and complacency set in. Shorter multi-drug treatment also reduced registration time, so prevalence fell while transmission continued, and disability began rising in the early 2010s. Chhattisgarh, Jharkhand, Odisha and Maharashtra carry a disproportionate share of the burden. Only 148 districts have reached interruption of transmission against a projection of 300. In 2025-26, workers screened over 70 crore people in highly endemic areas, ASHA workers flagged nearly 40 lakh suspected cases, and 91.1% of 16.9 lakh contacts received single-dose rifampicin as prophylaxis. Stigma and weak clinical awareness delay diagnosis, and the editorial warns against easing detection or revising targets when incidence overshot projections by 41%.

UPSC Mains Lane

Also useful for: Banking/SSC reading comprehension & vocabulary-in-context practice

• Intro: Despite WHO's 2005 elimination declaration, leprosy persists in India because transmission was never fully broken.

• Body 1: Folding surveillance into general health services and shorter treatment hid ongoing spread and raised disability.

• Body 2: Screening, ASHA workers, post-exposure rifampicin and digital surveillance are now strengthening detection.

• Counter/way forward: Fight stigma, train doctors to spot the disease, and target high-burden states like Chhattisgarh and Odisha.

• Conclusion: Treat interrupting transmission as the main goal and prevalence as a secondary outcome.

Syllabus Anchor: GS2 — Issues relating to development and management of Social Sector/Services relating to Health

UPSC Prelims Lane

Also counts as: Banking Awareness / SSC GK — same fact, same format

Q1. As per the editorial, in which year did WHO declare India to have eliminated leprosy as a public health problem?

(A) 1995

(B) 2000

(C) 2005

(D) 2015

Answer: C

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Q2. As per the editorial, how many districts have achieved 'interruption of transmission' against the projected 300?

(A) 148

(B) 212

(C) 96

(D) 300

Answer: A

Q3. As per the editorial, which drug is given in a single dose as post-exposure prophylaxis to contacts of patients?

(A) Isoniazid

(B) Dapsone

(C) Clofazimine

(D) Rifampicin

Answer: D

Vocabulary

Vocabs	Simple Meaning	Synonym	Antonym
Constrains	Limits or holds back	Restricts	Frees
Simple Example: *Lack of funds constrains the school's growth.*			
Prevalence	How common something is	Frequency	Rarity
Simple Example: *The prevalence of flu rises in winter.*			
Complacent	Too satisfied and not careful	Smug	Vigilant
Simple Example: *A complacent team rarely prepares well.*			
Lacunae	Gaps or missing parts	Gaps	Completeness
Simple Example: *The report has several lacunae in its data.*			
Misdiagnose	To wrongly identify an illness	Misjudge	Identify
Simple Example: *Doctors may misdiagnose rare skin diseases.*			
Trenchant	Sharp and forceful in expression	Incisive	Mild
Simple Example: *Her trenchant remarks silenced the critics.*			
Augmented	Made greater by adding more	Increased	Reduced
Simple Example: *The library was augmented with new books.*			
Extant	Still existing	Surviving	Extinct
Simple Example: *Only two extant copies of the map remain.*			

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Redouble	To greatly increase effort	Intensify	Relax
Simple Example: *Students must redouble their efforts before the exam.*			
Overshot	Went beyond the expected limit	Exceeded	Fell short
Simple Example: *Costs overshot the budget by a wide margin.*			

Idioms

Idiom	Actual Meaning	Simple Meaning
Double down on	To strengthen commitment to a course of action	Commit even more
In tandem	Working or moving together	Together
In line with	Matching or following something	Matching

Quick Recall: Leprosy · Transmission · Surveillance

EDITORIAL 3: JEFFREY ARCHER: THE STORYTELLER AND THE TWISTS IN HIS TALE

Source: The Indian Express

[Banking Awareness] | [SSC GK]

Core Issue

British writer Jeffrey Archer, who died at 86 on 5 October, lived a life of reinvention as athlete, MP, bestselling novelist, convicted perjurer and comeback figure; the editorial calls him a storyteller who understood that public life, like fiction, runs on appetite.

Context

Archer's writing career began after a financial fraud left him bankrupt. His first book, Not a Penny More, Not a Penny Less, appeared in 1976 and was followed by titles such as Kane and Abel (1979), First Among Equals (1984) and Shall We Tell the President? (1986). Though critics were lukewarm, his books sold over 300 million copies across five decades. His political rise ended in disgrace after a libel case, a perjury conviction and imprisonment, yet prison became new source material for more bestsellers. He died on the eve of the publication of Adam & Eve. In a 2011 interview he said that people who survive are storytellers.

UPSC Mains Lane

Mains use: intro anecdote only — Archer's rise, fall and comeback is a neat hook for essays on resilience, ambition and second chances.

UPSC Prelims Lane

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Also counts as: Banking Awareness / SSC GK — same fact, same format

Q1. As per the editorial, at what age did British writer Jeffrey Archer die?

(A) 86

(B) 79

(C) 92

(D) 81

Answer: A

Q2. As per the editorial, which was Archer's first book, published in 1976?

(A) Kane and Abel

(B) Not a Penny More, Not a Penny Less

(C) First Among Equals

(D) Shall We Tell the President?

Answer: B

Q3. As per the editorial, how many copies have Archer's books sold across his career?

(A) Over 30 million

(B) Over 100 million

(C) Over 300 million

(D) Over 3 billion

Answer: C

Vocabulary

Vocabs	Simple Meaning	Synonym	Antonym
Perjurer	A person who lies under oath	Liar	Truth-teller
Simple Example: *The judge jailed the perjurer for false testimony.*			
Reinvention	Creating oneself or a thing anew	Renewal	Stagnation
Simple Example: *The singer's reinvention won her new fans.*			
Redemption	Being saved from failure or wrongdoing	Salvation	Condemnation
Simple Example: *The film is a story of redemption.*			
Ruinous	Causing great harm or destruction	Disastrous	Beneficial
Simple Example: *A ruinous flood wiped out the harvest.*			

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Libel	A false written statement that harms a reputation	Defamation	Praise
Simple Example: *The editor was sued for libel.*			
Theatricality	Dramatic and exaggerated behaviour	Drama	Restraint
Simple Example: *The leader's theatricality amused the crowd.*			
Bankrupt	Unable to pay one's debts	Insolvent	Solvent
Simple Example: *The shop went bankrupt after two bad years.*			
Imprisonment	The state of being kept in jail	Captivity	Freedom
Simple Example: *His imprisonment lasted two years.*			
Disgrace	Loss of respect due to shameful acts	Dishonour	Honour
Simple Example: *The scandal brought disgrace on the firm.*			
Keen	Sharp or eager	Sharp	Dull
Simple Example: *She has a keen eye for detail.*			

Idioms

Idiom	Actual Meaning	Simple Meaning
Rise from the ashes	To recover after a total failure	Recover after failure
On the eve of	Just before an important event	Just before
Twist in the tale	An unexpected turn at the end	Surprise ending

Quick Recall: Jeffrey Archer · Reinvention · Storyteller

EDITORIAL 4: REMINDER FROM CORNELL: SILENCE ENABLES SEXUAL VIOLENCE

Source: The Indian Express

[GS1/Society] | [Prelims/Current Affairs] | [Banking Awareness] | [SSC GK]

Core Issue

The Cornell University fraternity case has reopened a global conversation; the editorial argues that reluctance to confront rape, and the silence of bystanders, emboldens perpetrators and keeps the cycle of violence going.

Context

A woman alleges she was sexually assaulted by seven men at a fraternity house in 2024. She filed a civil suit last month against Cornell University, the Chi Phi fraternity and the seven men, after which New York

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prosecutors reopened a criminal inquiry. Other men who knew what was happening did nothing, and a group chat points to encouragement of the crime. The editorial says the case must not be treated as the aberrant behaviour of a few, because everyday sexism, stereotypes, jokes that normalise rape and the sexualisation of women shape attitudes to consent worldwide, from the MeToo movement to the struggle of India's women wrestlers. The survivor had to drop out, the university closed its half-hearted investigation, two attackers were expelled, and the rest were asked to write essays.

UPSC Mains Lane

Also useful for: Banking/SSC reading comprehension & vocabulary-in-context practice

• Intro: The Cornell case shows how institutional silence and peer loyalty can shield sexual violence.

• Body 1: Bystander inaction and the normalisation of sexist jokes create a culture where offenders feel safe.

• Body 2: Weak institutional responses, such as light punishment and shaming of survivors, deepen impunity and injustice.

• Counter/way forward: Strengthen reporting systems, bystander training, gender sensitisation and survivor-centred inquiries.

• Conclusion: Confronting everyday violations, not just the final act, is key to breaking the cycle.

Syllabus Anchor: GS1 — Role of women and women's organisations; Social empowerment and violence against women

UPSC Prelims Lane

Also counts as: Banking Awareness / SSC GK — same fact, same format

Q1. As per the editorial, which fraternity is named in the survivor's civil suit related to the Cornell case?

(A) Chi Phi

(B) Sigma Nu

(C) Delta Kappa

(D) Phi Gamma

Answer: A

Q2. As per the editorial, how many men allegedly sexually assaulted the woman at the fraternity house?

(A) Five

(B) Seven

(C) Nine

(D) Three

Answer: B

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Q3. As per the editorial, in which year did the alleged assault take place?

(A) 2021

(B) 2023

(C) 2024

(D) 2026

Answer: C

Vocabulary

Vocabs	Simple Meaning	Synonym	Antonym
Immaterial	Not important or relevant	Irrelevant	Significant
Simple Example: *The colour of the pen is immaterial.*			
Emboldens	Makes someone braver or more daring	Encourages	Discourages
Simple Example: *Success emboldens young entrepreneurs.*			
Culmination	The final high point of a process	Climax	Beginning
Simple Example: *The trophy was the culmination of years of training.*			
Aberrant	Departing from what is normal	Deviant	Normal
Simple Example: *Aberrant weather ruined the sowing season.*			
Allegedly	Claimed without proof	Reportedly	Verifiably
Simple Example: *The clerk allegedly altered the bill.*			
Stereotypes	Fixed, oversimplified ideas about a group	Clichés	Realities
Simple Example: *Films often reinforce harmful stereotypes about villagers.*			
Normalisation	Making something seem usual or acceptable	Acceptance	Rejection
Simple Example: *The normalisation of rude jokes harms workplaces.*			
Survivor	One who lives through danger or harm	Escapee	Casualty
Simple Example: *The lone survivor was rescued after two days.*			
Half-hearted	Done without much effort or interest	Unenthusiastic	Wholehearted
Simple Example: *He made a half-hearted attempt to clean the room.*			
Encouragement	Support that gives someone confidence	Support	Discouragement
Simple Example: *A teacher's encouragement lifted her confidence.*			

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Idioms

Idiom	Actual Meaning	Simple Meaning
Stand out	To be easily noticed or clearly different	Be noticeable
Drop out of	To leave a course or activity early	Leave early

Quick Recall: Cornell Case · Bystander Silence · Impunity

EDITORIAL 5: THREE YEARS LATER, IN WEST ASIA, A PEACE STILL OUT OF REACH

Source: The Indian Express

[GS2/International Relations] | [Prelims/Current Affairs] | [Banking Awareness] | [SSC GK]

Core Issue

Three years after the Hamas attack on Israel, a lasting settlement in Gaza looks distant; the editorial says peace needs Israel's participation and Hamas giving up arms, while US attention is absorbed by the Iran war.

Context

The October 2023 attack killed almost 1,200 people and took 251 hostages, and the war that followed has isolated Israel and plunged the region into chaos. More than 70,000 people have died in Gaza, and the humanitarian crisis persists despite a ceasefire that began nearly a year ago. The Board of Peace announced a $2.45 billion recovery plan, a fraction of the $71.4 billion the UN says is needed over ten years. Disarmament is locked in a stalemate: Israel says rebuilding cannot begin before it, while Hamas refuses without a full Israeli withdrawal. Israeli forces now hold two-thirds of Gaza, against 53 per cent in the first phase of the Trump plan. The US-Israel alliance is fraying, and Israel votes on 27 October.

UPSC Mains Lane

Also useful for: Banking/SSC reading comprehension & vocabulary-in-context practice

• Intro: Three years on, the Gaza war has produced devastation but no lasting political settlement.

• Body 1: A humanitarian crisis and a funding gap, $2.45 billion pledged against $71.4 billion needed, slow reconstruction.

• Body 2: The disarmament-versus-withdrawal deadlock and expanding Israeli control keep the ceasefire fragile.

• Counter/way forward: Sustained US pressure, Arab and Western mediation, and credible governance for Gaza are required.

• Conclusion: Israel's 27 October election will indicate whether militarism gives way to a path away from war.

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Syllabus Anchor: GS2 — Effect of policies and politics of developed and developing countries on India's interests; Bilateral, regional and global groupings

UPSC Prelims Lane

Also counts as: Banking Awareness / SSC GK — same fact, same format

Q1. As per the editorial, what total cost for Gaza's recovery and reconstruction over the next decade does the UN estimate?

(A) $7.14 billion

(B) $2.45 billion

(C) $24.5 billion

(D) $71.4 billion

Answer: D

Q2. As per the editorial, on which date will Israel hold its election?

(A) 20 October

(B) 27 October

(C) 3 November

(D) 7 October

Answer: B

Q3. As per the editorial, what share of Gaza was Israel to retain control of in the first phase of the Trump plan?

(A) 33 per cent

(B) 75 per cent

(C) 53 per cent

(D) 66 per cent

Answer: C

Vocabulary

Vocabs	Simple Meaning	Synonym	Antonym
Prolongs	Makes something last longer	Extends	Shortens
Simple Example: *Delay in talks prolongs the dispute.*			
Entanglement	A complicated involvement in a situation	Involvement	Detachment
Simple Example: *The firm sought an exit from its legal entanglement.*			

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Militarism	Heavy reliance on military force	Warmongering	Pacifism
Simple Example: *Rising militarism worried neighbouring states.*			
Verdict	A decision or judgement	Judgement	Indecision
Simple Example: *The voters will deliver their verdict on Sunday.*			
Settlement	An agreement that ends a dispute	Accord	Discord
Simple Example: *Both sides reached a settlement after long talks.*			
Displacement	Forced movement from one's home	Uprooting	Resettlement
Simple Example: *Floods caused mass displacement in the valley.*			
Proxies	Groups acting on behalf of a stronger power	Surrogates	Principals
Simple Example: *Rival powers fought through proxies in the region.*			
Disarmament	Giving up or reducing weapons	Demilitarisation	Armament
Simple Example: *The treaty called for full disarmament.*			
Humanitarian	Concerned with relieving human suffering	Charitable	Callous
Simple Example: *Trucks carried humanitarian aid to the camps.*			
Reconstruction	Rebuilding after damage	Rebuilding	Demolition
Simple Example: *Reconstruction of the bridge took a year.*			

Idioms

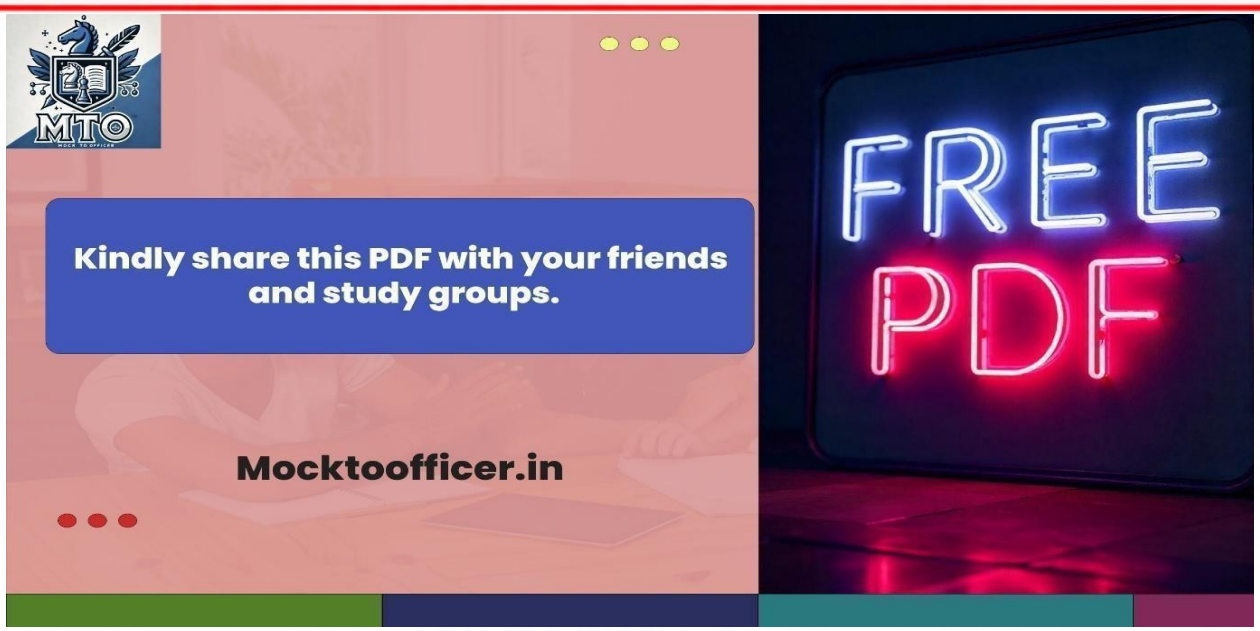
Idiom	Actual Meaning	Simple Meaning
Set in motion	To start a process or chain of events	Start a process
Plunge into	To push suddenly into a bad state	Push into
Within reach	Close enough to be achieved	Achievable

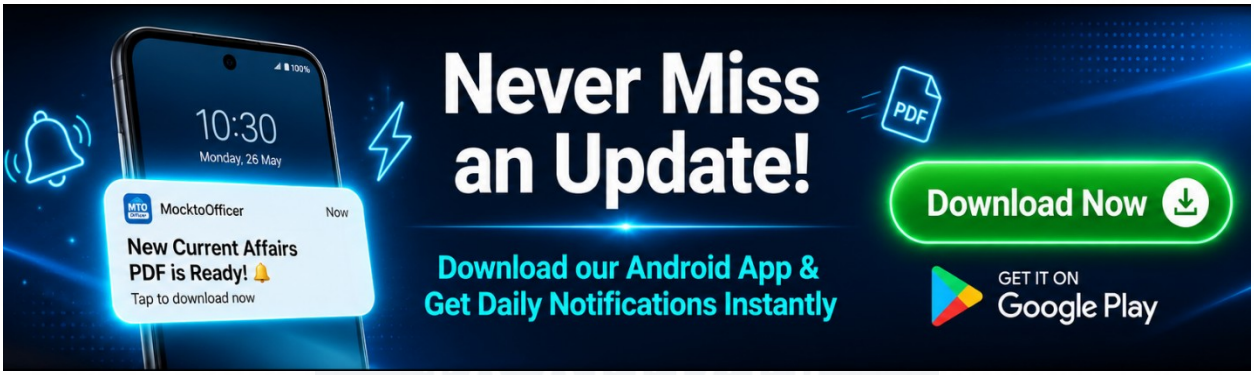
Quick Recall: Gaza · Disarmament · Israel Election

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