



**THE HINDU**

# EDITORIAL ANALYSIS

**&**

**VOCABULARY**

- **IMPORTANT NEWS**
- **READING**
- **GRAMMAR**
- **SKIMMING**

**01  
PM**

**24 NOVEMBER**





# TOPICS TO BE COVERED

- **EXAM-BASED WORDS**
- **ANTONYMS – SYNONYMS**
- **VOCABULARY QUIZ**
- **IDIOMS AND PHRASES**
- **EDITORIAL ANALYSIS**



## **Deceptive signals: On India's goods exports numbers**

October's foreign trade tidings present a picture that could well be misread

## **End the secrecy: On the actions of Indian agencies abroad**

India must respond meaningfully to allegations against its agents.



# VOCABULARY



# TEPID (Adj.)

Meaning : **Lacking enthusiasm or passion; indifferent.**

Synonyms: **Unenthusiastic, Halfhearted**

Antonyms: **Passionate, Zealous, Fervent**

Sentence: **The audience gave a tepid response to the speaker's uninspiring presentation.**



# TIDINGS (Noun)

Meaning : **an old-fashioned word for news or information**

Synonyms: **Information, Report**

Sentences:

1. **In times of uncertainty, people often seek tidings to stay informed about current events.**

2. **The messenger arrived with tidings of victory from the battlefield.**



# SPURRED (Verb)

Meaning : Urged or prompted someone to do something.

Synonyms: Motivated, Encouraged, Egged on

Antonyms: Deterred, Discouraged, Hindered

Sentence: The challenging task ahead spurred her to work harder and overcome obstacles.



# RECEDE (Verb)

**Meaning: To move back or away from a previous position;**

**To diminish or become less intense; withdraw from (a promise or agreement)**

**Synonyms: Retreat, Subside**

**Antonyms: Advance, Approach**

**Sentence: With time, the painful memories of the past started to recede from her mind.**





# EUPHEMISM (Noun)

Meaning : **Substitution of a mild, indirect, or vague expression for one thought to be harsh, blunt, or offensive.**

Synonyms: **Circumlocution, Polite term**

Antonyms: **Bluntness, Candor**

Sentence: 1. **Senior citizen - Instead of saying elderly person.**

2. **Visually impaired - Instead of saying blind.**



# Idiosyncrasy (Noun)

**Meaning : a strange or unusual habit, way of behaving, or feature that someone or something has.**

**Synonyms: Quirk, Peculiar**

**Antonyms: Conformity, Commonality**

**Sentence: The artist's paintings were marked by an idiosyncrasy that made them instantly recognizable in the art world.**



# Kink (Noun)

**Meaning :** A flaw or obstacle in a plan or system; A twist or curl in something that is otherwise straight.

**Synonyms:** Twist, Bend, Deviation

**Antonyms:** Straightness, Smoothness

**Sentence:** 1. The project faced a kink when unexpected expenses arose.

2. The cable had a kink in it, affecting the quality of the signal.



# RAMP UP (Phrasal verb)

**Meaning: To increase or raise the level, quantity, or intensity of something; To accelerate or escalate the pace or amount of a process or activity.**

**Synonyms: Intensify, Boost**

**Antonyms: Diminish, Scale down**

**Sentence: The company decided to ramp up production in response to the high demand for their product.**



# Rein in (Phrasal verb)

Meaning : **To control or restrain something or someone.**

Synonyms: **Limit, Regulate**

Antonyms: **Unleash, Allow**

Sentence: **The teacher had to rein in the students' excitement before the field trip.**



# A RUDE SHOCK (Phrase)

**Meaning:** An unexpected and unpleasant surprise or revelation that is disappointing, unsettling, or disconcerting.

**Synonyms:** Harsh surprise, Jolt

**Antonyms:** Pleasant surprise

**Sentence:** The sudden drop in stock prices was a rude shock to investors who were expecting a stable market.

# TEST YOUR KNOWLEDGE



# Find the correct one?

Synonym of **IMPETUOUS**

1. Impious
2. Impressive
3. Hasty
4. Disturbing

Meaning: impetuous means rash; impulsive; acting or done quickly and without thinking carefully about the results; hasty

Solution: 3. Hasty





# Find the correct one?

Antonym of **AMELIORATE**

1. Improve
2. Depend
3. Soften
4. Worsen

Meaning: ameliorate is to make something better;  
worsen is to make or become worse than it was before

**Solution: 4. worsen**



# Find the correct one?



Synonym of **IMPECCABLE**

1. Remarkable
2. Unbelievable
3. Flawless
4. Displeasing

Meaning: impeccable means without mistakes or faults; perfect; flawless

**Solution: 3. flawless**

# Find the correct one?

Synonym of **VINDICTIVE**

1. Aggressive
2. Spiteful
3. Accusative
4. Imaginative

Meaning: Vindictive means  
trying to harm or upset somebody or showing that you want  
to, because you think that they have harmed you; spiteful;  
revengeful.

**Solution: 2. Spiteful**



# IDIOMS & PHRASES



## Make no bones about something

1. Insist on buying only boneless mutton
2. Be frank and open about something
3. Take care of one's health
4. Be fussy about bones in one's soup

Solution: 2. Be frank and open about something

# IDIOMS & PHRASES

## Barking up the wrong tree

1. To climb the wrong tree
2. To plant the wrong kind of tree
3. To make a wrong plan
4. Give away something you do not need

Solution: 3. To make a wrong plan



# TODAY'S EDITORIAL TOPIC

Deceptive signals: On India's goods exports numbers

October's foreign trade tidings present a picture that could well be misread

**Last month, India's goods exports recorded only their second uptick this financial year, with a 6.2% rise. Merchandise imports grew a sharper 12.3% over last October and nearly 21% over September's tally to hit an all-time high of \$65.03 billion. The trade deficit, as a result, also hit a record \$31.5 billion. The import bill was expected to go beyond the relatively tepid trends in recent months, spurred by anticipation of festive demand for items such as jewellery and high-end electronics.**

**But this surge, and the deficit tally, was beyond expectations, with economists describing it as ‘a rude shock’ thanks to ‘idiosyncratic’ effects. The Finance Ministry’s monthly economic review asserted that merchandise exports “surprised on the upside” with the highest growth in 11 months, and that exports and imports have grown “despite fears of weak global demand”.**



The high imports and the likely deficit trajectory need not trigger much anxiety yet. The recent decline in oil prices should help this inelastic import bill recede from the seven-month high of \$17.7 billion. While festive and wedding demand spiked gold and silver imports to an extent, price drops in precious metals in early October also played a role as jewellers sought to ramp up stocks before prices rebounded. Similarly, not all of the bump up in electronics imports can be construed as consumption demand. That October was the last month of free imports of personal computers, laptops and servers before the 'deferred' implementation of new import 'licensing' norms, now euphemistically rephrased as an 'import management system' also triggered players into

**The government has been trying to rein in the import bill through such measures and a slew of quality control orders, but boosting exports is more critical to support job creation and economic growth. What is worrying is October's headline uptick in exports is a statistical kink – the shipments' value of \$33.6 billion is actually the lowest in 12 months and 6% below the 2021 tally. Global trade grew 2% month-on-month in October, but Indian exports dropped 2.6%. This is a clear sign that incremental opportunities that a slowing world is throwing up are being lost out on.**



# HOMework

**FURTIVE**



THANK  
YOU