

# IMPORTANT IDIOMS & PHRASES WITH THE MEANING & EXAMPLES

## Decked up

**Meaning** : Put on special clothes to appear particularly appealing and attractive.

**Example** : When the consultation began in the evening, the mausoleum of former Chief Minister Jayalalithaa on the Marina was decked up with flowers.

## Doing the rounds

**Meaning** : To be passed from one person to another

**Example** : Since morning, the talk doing the rounds was that Mr. Panneerselvam would come out with a statement on the merger after Chief Minister Edappadi K. Palaniswami on Thursday announced the government's move to constitute a commission of inquiry, one of the two demands that the AIADMK (PTA) had been raising.

## Put off

**Meaning** : An evasive reply, to delay doing something, especially because you do not want to do it.

**Example** : The "strong stand" taken by leaders, including former Minister K.P. Munusamy, was said to have prompted Mr. Panneerselvam to put off a decision on the merger. Mr. Munusamy was not available for comment

## Takes a beating

**Meaning** : To be damaged because of performing badly or being criticized Example: Vishal Sikka quits as Infosys CEO, shares take a beating

## Turn up/on the heat

**Meaning** : To use force to persuade someone to do something; to increase the pressure on someone to do something

**Example** : Management is turning the heat up to increase production. The teacher really turned up the heat on the students by saying that everyone would be punished if the real culprit was not found.

## Rip apart

**Meaning** : To destroy something completely

**Example** : The nine judge bench of the supreme court on Thursday ripped apart its own judgment of 2014 upholding section 377 of the Indian penal code, which criminalizes consensual sexual acts of adults in private.

## Step down

**Meaning** : Withdraw or resign from an important position or office

**Example** : R. Seshasayee, chairman of the board decided to step down from the board, Infosys said in a release.

## Strikes a blow

**Meaning** : To do something to help or to support an idea, movement, or group , to do something to harm or oppose an idea, movement, or group

**Example** : The supreme court judgment strikes a blow on the unbridled encroachment and surveillance by the state and its agencies in the life of the common man

## Hold on

**Meaning** : Wait; stop , endure in difficult circumstances.

**Example** : The result helped UP hold on to the top spot in Zone B but, in a group where the difference between the top and bottom-placed sides is just 16 points, it would be a fragile lead

## Pull through

**Meaning** : Get through an illness or other dangerous or difficult situation

**Example** : Second seed Harinder Pal was in a lot of trouble after a sluggish start against Aditya Jagtap, but regained the surety of his touch to pull through in four games.

## Pumped up

**Meaning** : To fill with enthusiasm or excitement, to fill with or as if with air

**Example** : "I like the fast court. I am pretty happy and pumped up to play the semifinal," said Kush.

## Leave no stone unturned

**Meaning** : To do everything possible in order to achieve or find something

**Example** : Ahead of its return to the IPL in 2018, Chennai Super Kings is leaving no stone unturned to get its campaign back on the track. One of the key reasons for its success in the first eight years was that the team managed to retain a core group of players and the support staff.

## Rope in

**Meaning** : You mean that someone persuaded you to help them do that task

**Example** : For 2018, the intentions remains the same with the team intending to rope in former coach Stephen Fleming

## To win laurels

**Meaning** : To win honour

**Example** : The two, who have won many laurels for the country by winning medals in the Commonwealth, Asian and World championships, exhorted the students to focus on physical fitness.

## Snuffed out

**Meaning** : To make something end quickly, especially by using force

**Example** : It was the government's most brutal attempt to snuff out the rebellion.

## Knock out

**Meaning** : To make someone leave a competition by defeating them

**Example** : Denis Shapovalov makes his glee known after knocking out top seed Rafael Nadal.

## Crash out

**Meaning** : To be badly defeated so that you have to leave a competition

**Example** : Davinder Singh became the first Indian to qualify for the javelin final even as his more fancied compatriot Neeraj Chopra crashed out in the qualification round.

## Lay in tatters

**Meaning** : Damaged beyond repair

**Example** : Wayde van Niekerk's dreams of emulating legend Michael Johnson's 200-400m world double lay in tatters on Thursday as Turkey's 9/1 outsider Ramil Guliyev edged the 200m final

## Turn in

**Meaning** : Hand in, submit

**Example** : Ramil Guliyev turned it on when it mattered most to stun pre-race favorite Wayde Van Niekerk in the 200 m

## Sweat something out

**Meaning** : To anxiously wait for something, to get rid of something in one's body by sweating.

**Example** : With team selection imminent, Dhoni and Suresh Raina, who last played an ODI for India in October 2015, sweated it out on Friday. sent in my application and now I have to sweat out the two months until I get an answer.

## Keep at bay

**Meaning** : To prevent someone from moving closer

**Example** : Refreshed with a day's rest thanks to the inclement weather, Virat Kohli reiterated that his men will keep complacency at bay while playing the third and final Test against Sri Lanka here from Saturday

## Tone down

**Meaning** : Altered so as to be less extreme or intense.

**Example** : The ground is surrounded by cloud-enveloped mountains and acres of verdant green. The last-named shade was however toned down on the pitch with the ground-staff scrubbing away the grass.

## Scrub away

**Meaning** : To clean something away by rubbing.

**Example** : The ground is surrounded by cloud-enveloped mountains and acres of verdant green. The last-named shade was however toned down on the pitch with the ground-staff scrubbing away the grass.

## Wear and tear

**Meaning** : Damage from work or use

**Example** : The visitor's dominance has been overwhelming against a host that is still searching for the right combination and ideal performance while also resembling the walking-wounded, losing players to freak incidents on the ground or to regular wear-and-tear that affects athletes.

## Tick all the boxes :

**Meaning** : To satisfy or fulfill everything that is necessary or desired.

**Example** : Virat Kohli's men have ticked most of the boxes, be it runs or wickets, with the lone worry being a few butter-fingers in the close-in cordon.

## Butter-fingers

**Meaning** : Someone who is clumsy and often drops things or else fails to catch something

**Example** : Virat Kohli's men have ticked most of the boxes, be it runs or wickets, with the lone worry being a few butter-fingers in the close-in cordon.

## Lose ground

**Meaning** : To fall behind someone or something, become less successful

**Example** : Equity benchmark indices lost ground for the fifth consecutive day on Friday as weak domestic corporate numbers along with global negativity on account of geopolitical tensions dampened investor sentiment

## Stem the tide

**Meaning** : To stop something from increasing

**Example** : This law may stem the tide of pollution of our beautiful river from the factories built along its banks.

## Hinge on

**Meaning** : To be determined or decided by (something): to depend on (something)

**Example** : Roelant Oltmans' continuation as the hockey head coach hinges on the clarity and quality of his plans for India's hectic season ahead

## Make or break

**Meaning** : Cause either total success or total ruin,

**Example** : The recent Europe tour was expected to be the make-or-break outing for the Dutchman and a final decision will be taken when the Hockey India panel, formed to evaluate the team's performance, meets in New Delhi from August 31 to September 3.

## Step up

**Meaning** : To make something go or run faster, increase,

**Example** : What he has done so far is appreciated but there is now need to step up to another level, compete and win against the top-four.

## Turn down

**Meaning** : A rejection or refusal.

**Example** : How could you turn down such a fantastic job?

## In the scheme of things

**Meaning** : The way things are organized or happen in a particular situation, or the way someone wants Them to be organized

**Example** : He insisted that R. Ashwin, despite playing only 15 ODI matches since the 2015 World Cup, is very much in the scheme of things

## Back up

**Meaning** : One that serves as a substitute or support

**Example** : Looking ahead to the 2019 World Cup, we will need to have back up options for every bowler that we have."

## Bestowed on

**Meaning** : To give something to someone; to present something to someone

**Example** : Knighthoods had been bestowed on West Indian cricketers like 'confetti'

## Cross the line

**Meaning** : To change from being acceptable to being unacceptable, to do something wrong

**Example** : Chasing a target of 224, India-A took 62.3 overs to cross the line as Karun got rid of his wretched form, hitting 13 boundaries in 144 balls.

## Pulled off

**Meaning** : To succeed in doing something that is difficult

**Example** : In the biggest upset in the section, France's Brice Leverdez pulled off the first shock by defeating second seed Lee Chong Wei 21-19, 22-24, 21-17 in 75 minutes and perhaps end Lee's elusive search for the world title which has seen him take three silver medals just as he has done in the Olympics.

## Bow out

**Meaning** : Withdraw or retire from an activity or role.

**Example** : India top mixed doubles pair of Pranaav Jerry Chopra and N. Sikki Reddy, also seeded 15th, defeated Indo-Malaysian combo of Prajakta Sawant and Yogendran Khirshnan 21-12, 21-19. However, in the other mixed doubles matches, B. Sumeeth Reddy and Ashwini Ponnappa, and Satwiksairaj Rankireddy and K. Manesha suffered contrasting losses to bow out.

## Cast out

**Meaning** : To force someone or something to leave a place

**Example** : The minority verdict said social evils such as sati, infanticide, and devadasi system were cast out by way of legislation and not by judicial orders.

## Every cloud has a silver lining

**Meaning** : Good things come after bad things

**Example** : 'It seems that if you're big, rich and powerful enough, every cloud has a silver lining.'

## Take a stand

**Meaning** : Adopt a firm position about an issue

**Example** : To smoothen the process of merger of the two AIADMK factions, the camp led by chief minister Edapadi K. Palaniswami is expected to take a stand against AIADMK (AMMA) interim general secretary V.K. Sasikala at a meeting at the party headquarters on Monday

## Blew the lid off

**Meaning** : To make public something that was previously not known or was hidden

**Example** : Former DIG of Prisons D. Roopa, who blew the lid off the special treatment meted out to prisoners, including Sasikala submitted the footage taken from the CCTV recording of the central prison complex, as part of her statement to the ACB.

### **Run over**

**Meaning** : To hit someone or something with a vehicle and drive over them, to practise what you are going to say in a speech, performance etc

**Example** : Senior Railway Ministry officials told that welding work was underway near the Khatauli railway station in Uttar Pradesh, leaving a portion of the track without rails when the Utkal Express ran over it and derailed, as per the prima facie investigation

### **Gearing up**

**Meaning** : To prepare yourself, or to prepare something for an activity or event.

**Example** : With the home-stretch in sight, the leading contenders headed by Swapnil Dhopade are gearing up for a powerful finish in the National Challengers chess championship here.

### **Pinned back**

**Meaning** : To hold something back by pinning

**Example** : The 26-year-old Spaniard struck the winner with less than three minutes remaining in an impressive show of character by Chelsea after it had been pinned back when substitute Michy Batshuayi headed into his own net eight minutes from time

### **Part ways**

**Meaning** : To leave each other, to depart from someone

**Example** : After failing to defend their Los Cabos title last month. Purav Raja and Divji Sharan fell 15 places each in the ATP rankings and the pair decided to part ways heading to the US OPEN.

### **Hogging the limelight**

**Meaning** : Making oneself the center of attention to the exclusion of others

**Example** : Over the past few years, the Indian presence in the men's singles has been growing steadily. Initially, women players hogged the limelight due to Saina Nehwal and P.V. Sindhu winning titles. Now Srikanth, Prannoy, Sai Praneeth and I are doing pretty well on the world stage.

### **Drowning out**

**Meaning** : To make it impossible to hear something

**Example** : The hyper-charged crowds were only too happy to comply and shouted back, "Bharat Mata ki Jai", drowning out the Pakistani "attack

### **Wind down**

**Meaning** : Gradually lose power

**Example** : Seventy years after 1947, it's time to wind down the choreographed hostility at the India-Pakistan border

## **Bury the hatchet**

**Meaning** : End a quarrel or conflict and become friendly

**Example** : AIADMK factions bury the hatchet

## **Put off**

**Meaning** : Delay doing something

**Example** : Amit Shah's 3 day trip to TN that was to begin on Tuesday was cancelled on Monday, the second time in less than four months that the BJP president has put off his visit to the state

## **To feel under the weather**

**Meaning** : To not feel well

**Example** : I'm really feeling under the weather today; I have a terrible cold and fever

## **Eked out**

**Meaning** : To make (a supply) last, to add to (something insufficient), esp with effort

**Example** : GM Harika eked out a draw against GM Stupak Kirill from Belarus Many workers can only eke out their redundancy money for about 10 weeks.

## **Signed off**

**Meaning** : To announce the end of a communication; conclude.

**Example** : Vishwanathan Anand signed off with a loss, that resulted in Sergey Karjakin's lone victory, and finished tied eighth with Garry Kasparov

## **Bring up the rear**

**Meaning** : To move along behind everyone else; to be at the end of the line.

**Example** : Having brought up the rear in the 10 player event, Anand and Kasparov will be keen to gain ground when the action shifts to 18 round blitz.

## **Gain ground**

**Meaning** : To become more successful, popular, or accepted

**Example** : Having brought up the rear in the 10 player event, Anand and kasporav will be keen to gain ground when the action shifts to 18 round blitz.

## **Put up a brave front**

**Meaning** : To act confidently in a difficult situation

**Example** : When the National Anthem played, Rashmi Rathore put up a brave front. she'd just received the mixed doubles skeet gold medal with Mairaj Ahmed Khan in the Asian shotgun shooting championship at Astana, Kazakhstan.

## **Pent-up**

**Meaning** : Unable to be expressed or released, closely confined or held back.

**Example** : Ceremony over, she deserted the podium, heading for the closest corner. Pent-up grief gave way to a torrent of tears.

## **Tie up (the) loose ends**

**Meaning** : To deal with the last few things that have to be done before you can finish something

**Example** : We've just got a few loose ends to tie up and then the report will be ready.

## Shore up

**Meaning** : To support or help

**Example** : NPA resolution would necessitate a higher recapitalization of these banks “MR.PATEL said “the government and the RBI are in dialogue to prepare a set of measures to enable state-run banks to shore up the requisite capital in a time-bound

## Run out

**Meaning** : Be used up.

**Example** : Just a year after Rio hosted the Olympics, its crime rate has spiralled out of control, and its top politicians have landed in jail cells for corruption

## Spilled over

**Meaning** : Reach a point at which it can no longer be controlled or contained, to spread to other areas

**Example** : Rio’s poor have been bearing the brunt of gang wars for decades. But in the year since the 2016 Games, robberies, murders, kidnappings and gun battles have spilled over onto the streets.

## Cut down

**Meaning** : Reduce, do less of something bad

**Example** : The troops may stay over till 2018 if their guns fail to cut down the surging violence

## Playing out

**Meaning** : Happen, take place, develop in a particular way

**Example** : As the world is hooked on the Game of Thrones season seven, Pakistan continues to experience its own power games, which have been playing out, in one way or the other, since the early 1950s.

## To take off

**Meaning** : To embark on rapid activity, development, or growth, to begin

**Example** : The Higher Education Financing Agency (HEFA) is set to take off soon, with the Ministry of Human Resource Development (MHRD) asking Centrally funded higher education institutions to send their project proposals to be financed by the agency

## Close on the heels

**Meaning** : Happening soon after another event, following close behind someone or something

**Example** : Her remarks came hard on the heels of a statement by the President.

## Chalk out

**Meaning** : To explain something carefully to someone, as if one were talking about a chalk drawing.

**Example** : Directing status quo in the matter till August 22, which is also the next date of hearing, the apex court ordered the Medical Council of India (MCI) and the State government to chalk out a balancing plan, one by which both students who have got through NEET and rural students ill-equipped for NEET can be “adjusted” in the medical admission list.

## **Mow someone or something down**

**Meaning** : To violently cause someone or something to fall.

**Example** : The car skidded along the side of the road and mowed down several mailboxes before coming to a stop

## **Plough into someone/something**

**Meaning** : To crash into someone or something with force, especially because you are moving or driving too quickly or in a careless or uncontrolled way

**Example** : On Thursday afternoon, Oukabir and his associates drove a van along Barcelona's crowded Las Ramblas thoroughfare, ploughing into tourists leaving 13 dead and more than 100 injured.

## **Wearing off**

**Meaning** : lose effectiveness or intensity.

**Example** : With the impact of the slowdown on the city's residential market wearing off, inventory levels are now gradually decreasing

## **Have/take a crack at something**

**Meaning** : To try something

**Example** : He didn't win the tennis championships, but he plans to have another crack at it next year. I would love to have another crack at the pro game, says Staffordshire's, Sam Kelsall

## **Brushed aside**

**Meaning** : To refuse to accept that something is important or true

**Example** : PCB has announced that it would serve Umar Akmal with a show cause notice even as head coach Mickey Arthur brushed aside the allegations leveled against him by the middle order batsman.

## **Knockout**

**Meaning** : Defeat

**Example** : Conor Mc Gregor believes he will knock out Floyd Mayweather inside two rounds but is ready for all scenarios when the two fighters clash in their eagerly anticipated superfight next week.

## **Picked up**

**Meaning** : Become better; improve, to come down with

**Example** : Tests carried out on Thursday morning confirm that the Uruguayan has a distension in the posterior articular capsule in his right knee picked up in the second half of the Clasico in the Santiago Bernabeu

## **Ruled out**

**Meaning** : To prevent, disqualify, overrule, or cancel someone or something

**Example** : Juventus on Thursday ruled key defender Giorgio Chiellini out of the Champions League final against Barcelona after he suffered a muscle tear in training

## Hit the right note

**Meaning** : If something you say or do hits the right note, it is suitable and has a good effect

**Example** : It was an optional session where Dhoni, Kedar Jadhav, Manish Pandey, Shardul Thakur, Yuzvendra Chahal and Jasprit Bumrah looked like hitting the right notes ahead of what will be the start of a long limited-over engagement for the Men in Blue.

## Fend off

**Meaning** : Prevent the occurrence of; prevent from happening;

**Example** : The spotlight, though, was on the 36-year-old Dhoni, who now has to fend off questions about his future with alarming regularity.

## Pale shadow

**Meaning** : Less impressive or not as good as before or when compared with someone or something similar

**Example** : Yet, there is no denying that the former skipper has looked a pale shadow of his past glorious self on many occasions, the last of which was in the West Indies recently, when he scored a painful 54 off 114 in the fourth ODI at Antigua, again as India lost the game by 11 runs.

## Dig in

**Meaning** : To prepare yourself for a difficult situation

**Example** : Both sides are digging in for a long and bitter dispute.

## To burst the bubble

**Meaning** : To disabuse someone of a false notion or rationalization that has grown comfortable

**Example** : Daniel Craig's comments came just hours after he told a radio station; I'd hate to burst the bubble, but no decision has been made at the moment

## On the run

**Meaning** : Trying to avoid being captured

**Example** : A third woman came forward on Tuesday to accuse Roman Polanski of sexual assault when she was a minor, four decades after he went on the run for raping another girl

## Put on airs

**Meaning** : Pretend to be better than one is

**Example** : He didn't have to put on airs. He was the nicest guy.

## A bolt out of the blue.

**Meaning** : A sudden unexpected event

**Example** : Bill's dropping his life insurance was a bolt from the blue for his wife

## Don't look a gift horse in the mouth

**Meaning** : Don't be ungrateful when you receive a gift

**Example** : I know the car is not in great condition, but you shouldn't look a gift horse in the mouth.

## Shoots up

**Meaning** : To increase very quickly in size or amount

**Example** : Some athletes are suspected of shooting up steroids to improve their strength.

## Wrapped up

**Meaning** : Involved with someone or something

**Example** : She is all wrapped up with her husband and his problems

## Keep's his nerves/ holds his nerves

**Meaning** : You remain calm and determined in a difficult situation

**Example** : Justin Thomas keeps his nerve, wins PGA championship

## Has an edge

**Meaning** : To have an advantage, enjoy a superior or winning position

**Example** : The new Renault has the edge on other similar models - it's larger and cheaper.

## Set down

**Meaning** : To consider something in a particular way, or write something on a piece of paper so that it will not be forgotten and can be looked at later

**Example** : It's often a lot of work to set your thoughts down on paper.

## In the pink

**Meaning** : Very healthy

**Example** : He recovered completely from his surgery and has been in the pink ever since

## Pulled up

**Meaning** : Come to a halt. increase the altitude

**Example** : A van pulled up outside the cottage with six men inside

## To be on cloud nine

**Meaning** : To be extremely happy

**Example** : Was Helen pleased about getting that job?" "Pleased? She was on cloud nine!

## To run hot

**Meaning** : Be ahead of one's schedule

**Example** : Sundar is running hot in his cricket career

## Roar to life

**Meaning** : To begin working

**Example** : He puts his foot on the accelerator and the innings roars to life

## Sketched out

**Meaning** : To give a short description of something, containing few details:

**Example** : In his shortest Independence Day address yet, Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Tuesday sketched out the broad contours of his idea of a "New India" as one that was free of communalism, casteism, terrorism, corruption, and nepotism, and also one that would require citizens to do their bit to create it

## Blacked out

**Meaning** : To suppress by censorship

**Example** : The CPI(M) said on Tuesday that Tripura Chief Minister Manik Sarkar's Independence Day speech was blacked out by Doordarshan and All India Radio

## **Trampling on**

**Meaning** : To crush someone or something underfoot, To tread heavily or destructively on something

**Example** : The children trampled on the flowers

## **Give up**

**Meaning** : To stop doing something that you do regularly

**Example** : The Union home ministry is set to give up its power to impose the 'disturbed areas' tag on Assam and Manipur, both ruled by BJP

## **Trickle in**

**Meaning** : To come into something or a place, a few at a time

**Example** : More people trickled in, almost all of them in their sixties and seventies. Bulbul Sen, a retired school teacher and joint secretary of the Samity, said without the government's support, the house languished in obscurity.

## **Ring in**

**Meaning** : (Ring in something), to ring bells to celebrate something, especially the new year

**Example** : Janamastmi was rung in with religious fervor in Maharashtra on Tuesday.

## **To fan the flames**

**Meaning** : Make something more intense; to make a situation worse

**Example** : The riot fanned the flames of racial hatred even more.

## **Cruise around in something**

**Meaning** : To drive or ride around in something

**Example** : Would you like to cruise around in a car like that?

## **Chips in**

**Meaning** : To add something to someone else's conversation, To contribute to something being undertaken by a group, such as a task or collection

**Example** : Athisyaraj chips in with a four wicket haul as the side eases past super gillies

## **Tighten the screws**

**Meaning** : Exert strong pressure on someone.

**Example** : Washington contained and struck to tighten the screws on the Super Gillies' batting and then waded into the attack for the quickest half century in TNPL

## **Set the tone**

**Meaning** : To establish a particular mood or character for something

**Example** : The lanky Wahington's Blitzkrieg shut out the opposition. To the super gillie's attack, he must have seemed a force of nature. Washington blasted paceman for three successive sixes in the opening over to set the tone – an imperious hit over the off side field the best among them

## **Shut out**

**Meaning** : To not allow someone to enter a particular place, if you shut something out, you stop yourself from seeing it, hearing it, or thinking about it

**Example** : The lanky Wahington's Blitzkrieg shut out the opposition. To the super gillie's attack, he must have seemed a force of nature. Washington blasted paceman for three successive sixes in the opening over to set the tone – an imperious hit over the off side field the best among them

### **Racked up**

**Meaning** : To get a large number or amount of something

**Example** : Mr. Trump deleted his retweet on Tuesday after about five minutes, but not before the message sent to his 35 million followers racked up a big response.

### **A penny for your thoughts**

**Meaning** : A way of asking what someone is thinking

**Example** : For several minutes they sat silently, then finally she looked at him and said, "A penny for your thoughts, Walter"

### **To keep one's head above water**

**Meaning** : Avoid succumbing to difficulties, typically debt.

**Example** : The business is in trouble, but we are just about keeping our heads above water.

### **To cut the crackle**

**Meaning** : To stop talking and start

**Example** : The politicians in India needs to cut the crackle for the benefit of the masses.

### **A clarion call**

**Meaning** : A strong and clear request for people to do something

**Example** : In 1942, the clarion call was 'Kareng ya mareng' (Do or Die) — today it is 'Kareng aur kar ke rahenge' (We will do and accomplish). These five years are about Sankalp se siddhi (commitment to fulfilment),"Modi said

### **Against the odds**

**Meaning** : Despite many difficulties

**Example** : Congress president Sonia Gandhi's political secretary Ahmed Patel may have won a high-stakes Rajya Sabha battle against great odds, but the mystery about the one extra vote that proved decisive for him still remains amid claims and counterclaims and speculation.

### **Pitched against someone**

**Meaning** : To make someone fight or compete against someone else

**Example** : Mr. Patel received a total of 44 votes to win the prestigious fight that saw him pitched against BJP's Amit Shah, known for his election and political strategies.

### **Teeming down**

**Meaning** : To rain very heavily

**Example** : It's been teeming down all day.

### **Send someone to glory**

**Meaning** : To kill someone, to officiate at the burial services for someone

**Example** : The preacher sent him to glory amidst the sobs of six or seven former fans.

## **Run into**

**Meaning** : Collide with, reach a level

**Example** : Fourth seed Sindhu could face Hong Kong's Ngan Yi Cheung, seeded 13, for a place in the quarterfinals where she could run into fifth seed Sun Yu.

## **Tees off**

**Meaning** : To start the first hole in a game of golf, to begin [doing anything]; to be the first one to start something, (to tee someone off)

**Example** : Jordan Spieth and Rory McIlroy make their bids for golfing history when the 99th PGA Championship tees off Thursday at Quail Hollow with heavy rain and storms forecast.

## **Bow out**

**Meaning** : To leave a job or stop doing an activity, usually after a long time:

**Example** : With this win, super Gilies qualified for the knock outs, while tricky warriors bowed out of tournament

## **Claw back**

**Meaning** : To get something again that you had lost such as power, especially gradually and with difficulty

**Example** : Schwartzman claws back from the brink

## **Tune up**

**Meaning** : To prepare for something

**Example** : Croatia's Vekic powered to a 6-3, 6-4 victory, to the disappointment of a partisan crowd whose support couldn't lift Bouchard. She was broken six times by Vekic, 21, who is in the main draw of this US Open tune-up for the first time.

## **Shoot off**

**Meaning** : To write and send a message quickly

**Example** : My daughter will shoot off an e-mail before she'll sit down and write a letter.

## **At the eleventh hour**

**Meaning** : At the last possible moment or opportunity.

**Example** : Millions of companies in India are still not ready to file their first returns under the new Goods and Services Tax (GST) ahead of an Aug. 20 deadline, a top official told Reuters, urging them not to leave things to the eleventh hour

## **Crunch up**

**Meaning** : To break someone or something up into piece

**Example** : Yet he gave an assurance that the huge IT back end that is designed to crunch up to 3 billion invoices a month and calculate companies' taxes would be stable, even if there is a last-minute rush to file.

## **A chip off the old block**

**Meaning** : Someone who resembles their parent in character or appearance

**Example** : Meher has a very little patience-a chip off the old block.

## **To throw up the sponge/throw in the towel**

**Meaning** : To stop trying to do something because you know that you cannot succeed

**Example** : Three of the original five candidates have now thrown in the towel.

## **Cry down**

**Meaning** : To belittle; disparage, to silence by making a greater noise

**Example** : Men of dissolute lives cry down religion because they would not be under the restraints

## **Take on**

**Meaning** : Become very upset, fight against someone

**Example** : After a delay in counting, the Election commission announced the names of the winners, while the fourth candidate Balwantsinh Rajput of the BJP, who resigned as Congress leader to take on Mr. patel lost the contest that became a tightrope walk for Congress president Sonia Gandhi

## **Tightrope walk**

**Meaning** : To be in a situation where one must be very cautious.

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## **Passed himself off**

**Meaning** : Pretend to be

**Example** : He passed himself off as a great and rich man

## **Spick and span**

**Meaning** : Neat, clean, and well looked after.

**Example** : She keeps her house spick and span

## **To take the call on**

**Meaning** : Make a decision or a judgment

**Example** : The supreme court Bench denied any relief to petitioner and advocate, saying that it was for the government to take the call on such issues.

## **Ramp up**

**Meaning** : To increase the amount or size of something

**Example** : The maker of iconic products like the iPhone and the Mac is looking at a multi pronged strategy to ramp up its presence in one of the fastest growing markets in the world.

## **Scaling up**

**Meaning** : To make something larger in size, amount etc than it used to be

**Example** : This includes scaling up its manufacturing, developing localized features on its OS, setting up self-owned retail outlets and creating an ecosystem for developers to shift from android to the ios platform

## Narrowing down

**Meaning** : To reduce the number of possibilities or choices

**Example** : In this case, for the first time, we were able to identify some key papers and documents. we also spoke to the banks, gathered CCTV footage and collected bank officials statements before narrowing down on the person

## Roped in

**Meaning** : To persuade to take part in some activity or to trick or entice into some activity

**Example** : Despite the smashing success of the show elsewhere, and actor Kamal Haasan being roped in, there were doubts over whether a show that depends on surveillance and an intrusion on privacy would work in Tamil.

## Notched up

**Meaning** : To win something, or to achieve something

**Example** : Jones, who notched up 3631 runs in 52 Tests at 46.55, said "A couple of law firms approached me later for suing Cricket Australia for 'dismissal from service.

## Held off

**Meaning** : To stop an opponent from starting to win or lead

**Example** : In a fantastic race that erupted on the final lap, Kipyegon held off all-comers, including double-hunting Semenya, down the home straight to clock 4min 02.59sec.

## Bear the brunt of

**Meaning** : To receive the worst part of something unpleasant or harmful, such as an attack

**Example** : Young people are bearing the brunt of unemployment

## Hush up

**Meaning** : To keep something a secret; to try to stop a rumour from spreading. Example: Centre attempting to hush up incident , alleges Congress There was some financial scandal involving one of the ministers but it was all hushed up.

## To keep its flock together

**Meaning** : To gather together in great numbers.

**Example** : Gujarat MLAs , who were flown to Bengaluru 10 days ago s part of the party's desperate move to keep its flock together amid several defections .returned to Gujarat only to be taken to another resort in Anand, 70 km from Ahmedabad

## In the dock

**Meaning** : On trial or under intense scrutiny.

**Example** : Under attack fro diluting the case of alleged stalking and attempted kidnap of a young woman on Friday night by Vikas Barala , son of the Haryana state BJP president Subahsh barala and his Ashish , the Chandigarh police on Monday fount itself again in the dock after it was reported that CCTV footage from at least five locations was missing as the cameras were non-functional.

## Hover over

**Meaning** : To stay close to someone or something, waiting, ready to advise or interfere.

**Example** : Please don't hover over me, watching what I am doing. I have to hover over this project or someone will mess it up.

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**Meaning** : To start discussing a subject

**Example** : Mr. Sonowal brought up the idea when he called on the president on Saturday.

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**Meaning** : To visit someone, usually for a short time,

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**Meaning** : To defeat or demoralize someone.

**Example** : Samir Singh got to within 36 km of his goal of running 10000km in 100 days when pain and exhaustion beat him down

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**Meaning** : If someone has their tail up, they are optimistic and expect to be successful.

**Example** : The Indian team keeps their tail up for the upcoming match

## Boxed into a corner

**Meaning** : To create a predicament or unpleasant situation for oneself whereby there are no or very few favourable solutions or outcomes

**Example** : This is not the first time that Jadeja has found himself boxed into a corner.

## Map out

**Meaning** : To decide in detail how something will be done

**Example** : He was plagued by Gastro-intestinal infections and contracted viral fever but has run 9964.19 kms in 100 days, said Vikram Bhatti, who handled Mr. Singh's campaign, Mr. Singh wants to rest and map out a new challenge this time over 40000kms

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**Example** : Jordan's king Abdullah visited the west bank on Monday – a signal to Israel that he is closing ranks with the Palestinians on key issues.

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**Example** : The bodyguards whisked away the politician after the speech.

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**Meaning** : Exactly right; perfectly accurate

**Example** : Drag flick specialist Diwakar Ram, who had put up a sterling show throughout the tournament was spot on in the final too

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**Meaning** : To do something with vigour or intensity.

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**Meaning** : Appearing frightened or cowardly

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**Meaning** : You do something bad to someone that they have done to you to teach them a lesson.

**Example** : John, who is often rude and abrupt with people, was devastated when the teacher treated him rudely. He doesn't like having a dose of his own medicine.

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**Meaning** : An equal chance to do something

**Example** : In India all the students should be given a fair crack of the whip.

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**Meaning** : Have his revenge

**Example** : From his attitude it is clear that he wants to pay off old scores

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**Meaning** : To behave in an uncontrolled, wild way

**Example** : Don't be too hard on them - they're just kids and they need to cut loose sometimes.

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**Meaning** : To kill someone, a decisive defeat, to clean completely by wiping:

**Example** : Malawi on Thursday celebrated successful conclusion of a two year project moving 520 sedated elephants by truck to a reserve where the animals had been nearly wiped out  
They wiped him out to keep him from testifying.

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**Meaning** : To raise or hoist something, such as a flag , to cause something to go higher, such as the price of stocks or commodities

**Example** : Example : In the Run up to the implementation of GST , we did expect many challenges including an impact on trade pipeline inventory

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**Meaning** : Meaning : having good fortune; in a very good situation, especially financially

**Example** : If I get this contract, I'll be in clover for the rest of my life.

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**Meaning** : To find mistakes in something someone has done or said, to show that it is not good or not correct

**Example** : He is always picking holes in every project

### **Buck the odds**

**Meaning** : To buck the odds means to go against the odds. Despite the odds not being in your favour, you still won.

**Example** : Given the manner she has been bucking the odds, nothing seems impossible for the brave Jyotika far far away from the glitz-laden metros.

### **Break through**

**Meaning** : If you break through, you achieve success even though there are difficulties and obstacles.

**Example** : Indeed , the shy Jyothika has a heart larger than her small frame. Given her background and modest means, she has been breaking through barriers.

### **Zero in on**

**Meaning** : To direct all your attention to one thing , If you zero in a weapon, you aim it directly at something you want to hit:

**Example** : 'This was not the first time . he had come to meet his wife on two occasions earlier, and he followed the same pattern and time .It was easy for the police to zero in on him.' Said the official.

### **Holed up**

**Meaning** : To take shelter somewhere, to hide somewhere.

**Example** : Soldiers seen at the house at Hakripura in Pluwara district ,where the militants were holed up, on Tuesday. The robbers were holed up in a deserted warehouse.

### **Live something down**

**Meaning** : To make people forget that you made a big mistake or did something very embarrassing in the past:

**Example** : Having mishandled NEET is one failure that the Tamilnadu government will struggle to live down

## Music to the ears

**Meaning** : A welcome sound to someone; news that someone is pleased to hear

**Example** : The winter session of 2016 hit a low point of 16%. It is shameful. Taxation bills, as significant as Aadhaar, were passed within two weeks without being referred to a committee' he said. The reference to the 'hurried' passage of Aadhaar, however, may not be music to the government's ears.

## Lavish something on someone

**Meaning** : To give someone a lot, or too much, of something such as money, presents, or attention:

**Example** : MR. Trump lavished praise on Gen. Kelly after he was sworn in, but that may not necessarily guarantee anything in the long term.

## Wound up

**Meaning** : Brought to a state of great tension

**Example** : A former India captain, who served the squad as its team director just a year back, Shastri steps into the shoes of Anil Kumble, whose manner of exit showed the BCCI and Skipper Virat Kohli in poor light. Shastri spoke to the media at the Sinhalese sports club on Tuesday and just as he wound up, it was time for him to bond with Sri Lanka's eternal fan.

## Step into someone's shoes

**Meaning** : To take on a particular role or task that someone else has been doing

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## Served up

**Meaning** : To offer something

**Example** : Serena Williams served up a rallying cry for equal pay for black women, decrying that they would have to work on average eight months longer to earn the same as male counterparts in one year

## Chip on one's shoulder

**Meaning** : An angry attitude from someone who feels unfairly treated:

**Example** : She's not going to make any friends if she walks around with a chip on her shoulder like that.

## Call The Shots (Or Tune)

**Meaning** : To be in command; to have the authority to make decisions

**Example** : The boss is the boss and he calls the shots. Petroleum will call the shots again.

## Steal The Show

**Meaning** : Attracts the most attention and praise.

**Example** : Falcons TTC'S Wu Yang, who stole the show on the final night of the inaugural Ultimate Table tennis league on Sunday, walked away with the biggest individual purse of Rs. 1.5

lakh after being named the 'Ultimate One' besides winning Rs. 1 lakh for being the most valuable player among women.

### **Walked Away (With Something)**

**Meaning** : To win a prize or competition very easily

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### **Walk All Over Someone**

**Meaning** : To treat someone badly by always making them do what you want them to do

**Example** : If you don't want to work at the weekend, say so - don't let the boss walk all over you.

### **Make The Cut**

**Meaning** : To survive an elimination when a team or group is being chosen

**Example** : By his own admission, Jeev Mikha Singh has not had a great 2017, he has made the cut only four times from 13 appearances on the Asian and European Tours, his best finish a tied 22nd at the jointly-sanctioned ISPS Handa World Super 6 in Perth in February.

### **Bring / Ring The Curtain Down**

**Meaning** : To bring something to an end; to declare something to be at an end

**Example** : Caeleb Dressel brought the curtain down on the World championships with a historic seventh medal here on Sunday, equaling the record of swim legend Michael Phelps.

### **Make A Splash**

**Meaning** : To get a lot of public attention

**Example** : Now she's made a splash in the American television show 'Civil Wars'.

### **Spruced Up**

**Meaning** : To improve the appearance of someone or something, Make neat and trim,

**Example** : The Karnataka Golf Association has undergone much work to be ready for this week's TAKE SOLUTIONS MASTERS, the first Asian Tour event at the venue since the Indian open in 2012. 'KGA has always been good, but for this event, we've really spruced it up' He said.

### **Shunted Out**

**Meaning** : To move (someone or something) to a different and usually less important or noticeable place or position.

**Example** : Daniel Ricciardo blasted Red Bull teammate Max Verstappen for 'amateur' diving on Sunday after the Dutch teenager shunted him out of the Hungarian GP on the opening lap.

### **Taking Its Toll**

**Meaning** : To cause harm or suffering

**Example** : A little more than a year after the alleged Russian effort to interfere in the US. Presidential

election came to light, the diplomatic fallout –an unravelling of the relationship between the Moscow and Wahington o na scale not seen in decades – is taking its toll

### **Mended His Ways**

**Meaning** : To improve your behaviour after you have been behaving badly for a long time

**Example** : Appearing before a Bench led by Justice Dipak Mishra, Attorney General K.K.Venugopal highlighted that Mr.khan had not mended his ways even after rendering an apology to the supreme court and was recently booked for sedition for allegedly making statements against the army.

### **Back to drawing board**

**Meaning** : Revising something (such as a plan) from the beginning, typically after it has failed

**Example** : Having triggered an avalanche of litigation across the country, the prevention of Cruelty to animal (regulation of livestock market) rules of 2017, which ban the sale of cattle in livestock markets for the purpose of slaughter or animal sacrifice, is now back to the drawing board.

### **Lash out**

**Meaning** : To suddenly attack someone or something physically or criticize him, her, or it in an angry way

**Example** : After the incident, Mr.Gandhi lashed out on twitter at the BJP govt. in the state and at the centre, saying he would not be deterred by stones or black flags.

### **Ratcheting up**

**Meaning** : To cause something to increase in increments

**Example** : Ratcheting up the political temperature, TTV Dhinakaran, deputy general secretary of the All India Anna Dravida Munnetra Kazhagam (amma), announced his plan to tour the state and appointed 64persons to various positions n the party.

### **Hunt down**

**Meaning** : To try to find a particular thing or person

**Example** : The summer postcard campaign by the European policy agency, Europol , was unveiled on Friday on its EU most wanted website as part of its ongoing initiative to hunt down Europe's most wanted criminals.

### **On the run**

**Meaning** : If someone is on the run, they are trying to escape or hide from someone such as the police or an enemy

**Example** : Online initiative by Europol helps people check profile of 21 criminals on the run

### **Hang up**

**Meaning** : To disconnect a phone call, o give up on someone or something; to quit dealing with someone or something.

**Example** : Usain Bolt insists he will hang up his running spike after the world championships in London.

### **Stack up (against something)**

**Meaning** : To compare with something else , To make sense; add up

**Example** : We wondered how London restaurants stacked up against Atlanta's. The story he gave the police was full of contradictions—it just didn't stack up.

### **Raise the bar**

**Meaning** : To make a task a little more difficult, To raise the standards of quality that are expected of or required for something

**Example** : Now free and confident Anna after winning maiden Asian 400 m gold at Bhubaneshwar, Ana could raise the bar in London

### **Playing second fiddle to someone**

**Meaning** : To play a supporting or minor role in relation to someone else

**Example** : He also denied that he had tired out of playing second fiddle to Lionel Messi at Barcelona.

### **Miss the cut**

**Meaning** : (Golf)to achieve a greater score after the first two rounds of a strokeplay tournament than that required to play in the remaining two rounds

**Example** : He arrives here after having missed the cut at the Irish and scottish opens , but then he was in similarly wretched form before thesecured the Indian open in March

### **Rule out**

**Meaning** : To stop considering something as a possibility

**Example** : Mr.Tillerson did not rule out a military strike against North Korea in remarks that were overall not strident at the state department

### **Cut to the size**

**Meaning** : To make someone or something less important or detailed

**Example** : Has Digvijaya Singh been cut to size?

### **Scrape through**

**Meaning** : To move through something, scraping or rubbing the sides, to get by something just barely; to pass a test just barely.

**Example** : The car, going at a very high speed, scraped through the tunnel. It just managed to scrape through Alice passed the test, but she just scraped through it. I just scraped through my calculus test.

### **Knock on the door of**

**Meaning** : To be very close to achieving

**Example** : The Income – tax raids on the premises of Energy Minister D.K.Shivakumar and his close aides have sent shock waves among leaders of the ruling congress in Karnataka, with apprehensions of taxmen soon knocking on their doors.

### **Pulled out**

**Meaning** : Withdraw from an undertaking.

**Example** : While the Jaiprakash Associates led consortium, including IBM and Israel's tower semiconductor, had pulled out in March last year, things were not moving ahead for the consortium led by HSMC Technologies, according to the sources

### **On a knife's edge**

**Meaning** : If a person or organization is on a knife-edge, they are in a difficult situation and are worried about what will happen in the future

**Example** : She's been living on a knife-edge since her ex-husband was released from prison last month. The theatre is on a financial knife-edge and must sell 75% of its seats every night to survive.

### **Hinged on**

**Meaning** : To depend on someone or something; to depend on what someone or something does

**Example** : The Monetary Policy Committee's majority decision hinged on the observation that some "upside risks to inflation have either reduced or not materialized"

### **Roll out**

**Meaning** : To offer a new product or service to the public

**Example** : Driving down India's national highways could be a much safer experience by the end of this year, with the National Highways Authority of India (NHAI) set to roll out an 'incident management system'.

### **Shot back**

**Meaning** : Return quickly

**Example** : The Congress shot back with Mr. Gandhi suggesting that the Chief Minister should resign for the controversial deaths of the children in the hospital.

### **Slipped back**

**Meaning** : To move quietly and cautiously back to someone or something

**Example** : Lieutenant Governor (L-G) Kiran Bedi on Friday slipped back into her erstwhile role of a cop by riding pillion with her staff on a midnight motorbike inspection of the streets of Puducherry.

### **Under fire**

**Meaning** : Being criticized

**Example** : Under fire for the deaths of more than 100 children in the BRD Medical College hospital, Mr. Adityanath launched a week-long cleanliness drive in UP — Swachh Uttar Pradesh, Swaasth Uttar Pradesh

### **Fired up**

**Meaning** : To motivate someone; to make someone enthusiastic

**Example** : I was so fired up with a nationalistic fervour that I whipped out my smartphone and took a video of myself taking the 'Sankalp se Siddhi' (achievement through resolve) pledge.

## Whipped out

**Meaning** : To make or produce something quickly

**Example** : I was so fired up with a nationalistic fervour that I whipped out my smartphone and took a video of myself taking the 'Sankalp se Siddhi' (achievement through resolve) pledge.

## Showed up

**Meaning** : To cause or allow to be seen; display

**Example** : The inexperience of two young Gujarat players Udit Kamdar and Fenil Shah showed up at inopportune times and allowed the Grandmaster duo of Swapnil Dhopade and Himanshu Sharma escape to hard-earned victories in the ninth round of the National Challengers chess championship here on Saturday.

## Lays down

**Meaning** : To state officially what someone must do or how they must do it, to give up, establish

**Example** : The EU has laid down tough standards for water quality

## Tumbled out

**Meaning** : To fall, topple, or drop out of something, arise

**Example** : Akash Saharan tumbled out first in the trap final in the Junior shotgun World Cup here on Friday. He qualified for the final with the score of 114

## Wriggle out

**Meaning** : To free oneself from something by turning or twisting the body with sinuous writhing motions

**Example** : With 13 points, Chaudhari was the best raider in action and his ability to wriggle out of tough situations played a big role in his team's victory

## Squares off

**Meaning** : To get ready for an argument or a fight

**Example** : The Tests clinched without much of a strain, India will begin the journey to identify the core of its 2019 World Cup squad when it squares off against a low-on-confidence Sri Lanka in a five-match ODI series, starting here on Sunday

## Peg back

**Meaning** : To prevent an opponent from winning in a game or competition

**Example** : The underdogs were pegged back by United after that had taken a shock lead.

## Blessing in disguise

**Meaning** : An apparent misfortune that eventually has good results.

**Example** : Losing that job was a blessing in disguise really.

## Draw level

**Meaning** : To move into a position where you are equal to someone else in a race, game, or competition

**Example** : Bronze in the 400m proved to be a bittersweet consolation for US track legend Allyson Felix as she drew level with Jamaicans Merlene Ottey and Usain Bolt on having won 14 World Championships medals.

## **Stroll through**

**Meaning** : To walk casually through something or some place

**Example** : Federer, Nadal stroll through Let's stroll through a few shops and see what the prices are like here.

## **Crashed through**

**Meaning** : To break through something forcefully.

**Example** : Felix crashed through into bronze in Wednesday's 400m after Bahamas rival and race leader Shaunae Miller-Uibo faltered 20 metres from the finish line.

## **Edge out**

**Meaning** : To beat someone in something such as a competition or election by a small amount

**Example** : Earlier, Jaipur Pink Panthers edged out Puneri Paltan (pune)

## **Drew first blood**

**Meaning** : The initial advantage gained by one side in any game, contest or competition.

**Example** : Tamil Thalaivas drew first blood in the first minute as Prapanjan scored with a raid point

## **Wash out**

**Meaning** : To fail and be removed from something such as school, to rain on or flood an event so that it must be cancelled

**Example** : I studied all I could, but I still washed out.

## **Rip up**

**Meaning** : To tear something into small pieces, to decide that something such as a plan or an agreement is useless and stop using it

**Example** : Felix's unheralded team-mate Phyllis Francis ripped up the form book to claim a shock gold, with Bahrain's Salwa Eid Naser taking silver

## **Fit (or fill) the bill**

**Meaning** : Be suitable for a particular purpose.

**Example** : It is never easy to step into the shoes of a genuine all-rounder like Kapil or exude the multi-faceted dimensions that were intrinsic to Dhoni but Kohli & Co. are hoping that Pandya will somehow fit the bill.

## **Hold off**

**Meaning** : To not do something immediately

**Example** : The 21-year-old former multi-eventer demonstrated all the strength he has acquired from competing as an all-rounder as he led from the first hurdle and was powerful enough to hold off his pursuers on the home straight to win in 48.35 seconds.

## **Step into someone's shoes**

**Meaning** : Take someone's place

**Example** : It is never easy to step into the shoes of a genuine all-rounder like Kapil or exude the multi-faceted dimensions that were intrinsic to Dhoni but Kohli & Co. are hoping that Pandya will somehow fit the bill.

## To pigeon hole

- Meaning** : To decide that someone or something belongs to a particular type or group, especially without knowing much about them
- Example** : Pandya is in an unenviable position, his role is one into which previous managements tried to pigeon-hole Ajit Agarkar, Irfan Pathan and more recently Stuart Binny

## Dished out

- Meaning** : To give something too freely and in large amounts, to give out trouble, scoldings, criticism
- Example** : The 23-year old from Gujarat, a certainty in India's limited-over squads, secured a berth in Tests during the current tour of Sri Lanka. At Galle and in Colombo, Pandya dished out quickfire knocks (50 and 20) and had bowling figures of 1/13, 0/21 and 2/31.

## Bits and pieces

- Meaning** : Small things of different types
- Example** : These are early days still but the numbers hint that Pandya could be more than a bits-and-pieces player, a species prevalent among Kapil's men who won the 1983 World Cup. To top it, Pandya is excellent in the outfield.

## Saw off

- Meaning** : Deadlock or stalemate, a compromise
- Example** : Anand accepted the offer, saw off the offensive and then pushed a queenside pawn to the seventh rank.

## On the hunt

- Meaning** : Searching Example: The police are still on the hunt for the escaped convicts 263. On the hunt Meaning: searching

- Example** : The police are still on the hunt for the escaped convicts

## Turn the clock back

- Meaning** : If you try to turn the clock back, you want things to be the way they were in the past.
- Example** : DMK working president M.K.Stalin warned on Sunday that his party would not hesitate to put an end to the AIADMK government, which, according to him, had turned the clock back years and destroyed administration and governance in TN.

## Turns up the heat

- Meaning** : To put pressure on someone or something; apply additional pressure to someone or something.

- Example** : Regulator turns up heat on erring Chartered accountants

## Buried the hatchet

- Meaning** : End a quarrel or conflict and become friendly.
- Example** : AIADMK deputy general secretary T.T.v Dhinakaran , who recently buried the hatchet with his aunt and jailed party leader V.K. Sasikala's brother Divakaran, on Sunday announced that he would get back to active party work on August .

## Draw flak

**Meaning** : To draw criticism

**Example** : A.P.J.M.Sheik Saleem , the grand nephew of Kalam , placed a copy of the Koran and the bible at the statue podium near the Bhagavad Gita on Sunday, only to draw flak from the HMK

## Took on

**Meaning** : To begin to perform or deal with

**Example** : Union Finance minister Arun Jaitely took on detractors of the GST on Sunday , saying the regime was an integral part of the government's efforts to mobilizemore fundss for the armed forces.

## Flagged off

**Meaning** : To inaugurate, to induct

**Example** : Earlier this month , the ministry of Housing flagged off a new index – the NHB Residex – designed to track housing price trends I n cities across India.

## Shoot one's wad or bolt

**Meaning** : Do all within one's power; exhaust one's resources or capabilities.

**Example** : They were asking for more ideas but Bob had shot his bolt and couldn't come up with any

## Hive off

**Meaning** : To set something apart from a group

**Example** : An expression of interest from India's oldest private sector MRO service provider Air works, has come as a shot in the arm for the centre that is considering an option to split Air India's different businesses and hive them off separately.

## To take a call on

**Meaning** : Informal, not very common, way to say 'make a decision or a judgment

**Example** : Vivek Gour , MD and CEO , Air works, said ' I am watching the situation very carefully but it is too early to say anything because the government has to take a call on whether they will sell Air India asa whole or break up its subsidiaries and sell.'

## To win laurels

**Meaning** : To win honour

**Example** : The two, who have won many laurels for the country by winning medals in the Commonwealth, Asian and World championships, exhorted the students to focus on physical fitness.

## Snuffed out

**Meaning** : To make something end quickly, especially by using force

**Example** : It was the government's most brutal attempt to snuff out the rebellion.

## Knock out

**Meaning** : To make someone leave a competition by defeating them

**Example** : Denis Shapovalov makes his glee known after knocking out top seed Rafael Nadal.

## Crash out

**Meaning** : To be badly defeated so that you have to leave a competition

**Example** : Davinder Singh became the first Indian to qualify for the javelin final even as his more fancied compatriot Neeraj Chopra crashed out in the qualification round.

## Lay in tatters

**Meaning** : Damaged beyond repair

**Example** : Wayne van Niekerk's dreams of emulating legend Michael Johnson's -m world double lay in tatters on Thursday as Turkey's / outsider Ramil Guliyev edged the m final

## Turn in

**Meaning** : Hand in, submit

**Example** : Ramil Guliyev turned the file in.

## Sweat something out

**Meaning** : To anxiously wait for something , to get rid of something in one's body by sweating.

**Example** : With team selection imminent, Dhoni and Suresh Raina, who last played an ODI for India in October , sweated it out on Friday. Sent in my application and now I have to sweat out the two months until I get an answer.

## Keep at bay

**Meaning** : To prevent someone from moving closer

**Example** : Refreshed with a day's rest thanks to the inclement weather, Virat Kohli reiterated that his men will keep complacency at bay while playing the third and final Test against Sri Lanka here from Saturday

## Tone down

**Meaning** : Altered so as to be less extreme or intense.

**Example** : The ground is surrounded by cloud-enveloped mountains and acres of verdant green. The last-named shade was however toned down on the pitch with the ground-staff scrubbing away the grass.

## Scrub away

**Meaning** : To clean something away by rubbing.

**Example** : The ground is surrounded by cloud-enveloped mountains and acres of verdant green. The last-named shade was however toned down on the pitch with the ground-staff scrubbing away the grass.

## Wear and tear

**Meaning** : Damage from work or use

**Example** : The visitor's dominance has been overwhelming against a host that is still searching for the right combination and ideal performance while also resembling the walking-wounded, losing players to freak incidents on the ground or to regular wear-and-tear that affects athletes.

## Tick all the boxes

**Meaning** : To satisfy or fulfill everything that is necessary or desired.

**Example** : Virat Kohli's men have ticked most of the boxes, be it runs or wickets, with the lone worry being a few butter-fingers in the close-in cordon.

## Butter-fingers

**Meaning** : Someone who is clumsy and often drops things or else fails to catch something

**Example** : Virat Kohli's men have ticked most of the boxes, be it runs or wickets, with the lone worry being a few butter-fingers in the close-in cordon.

## Lose ground

**Meaning** : To fall behind someone or something , become less successful

**Example** : Equity benchmark indices lost ground for the fifth consecutive day on Friday as weak domestic corporate numbers along with global negativity on account of geopolitical tensions dampened investor sentiment

## Stem the tide

**Meaning** : To stop something from increasing

**Example** : This law may stem the tide of pollution of our beautiful river from the factories built along its banks.

## Burn your fingers

**Meaning** : To have a bad experience when something such as a relationship or a business deal goes wrong

**Example** : Many investors burned their fingers on those stocks.

## Jump the gun

**Meaning** : Act before the proper or appropriate time.

**Example** : We all had to start the race again because Jane jumped the gun

## Shot in the arm

**Meaning** : A boost or act of encouragement.

**Example** : Fresh investment would provide the shot in the arm that this industry so badly needs

## Cast away

**Meaning** : Wrecked

**Example** : The boat was cast away by the storm

## Worked up

**Meaning** : Excited

**Example** : He got worked up just by the mention of her name

## To go at each other hammer and tongs

**Meaning** : To do something or perform some task with tremendous fervor, determination, energy, or forcefulness. , to do something, especially to argue, with a lot of energy or violence

**Example** : What started as a minor disagreement has escalated into a heated argument, and the two have been going at it hammer and tongs ever since

## **To hold a brief for**

**Meaning** : Be retained as counsel for , to argue for

**Example** : Often counsel holding a brief for another does not read it in the confident expectation that the case would be postponed

## **A mare's nest**

**Meaning** : A complex or confused situation; a muddle , an illusory discovery.

**Example** : The involvement of teachers in the scheme of education proves to be a mare's nest

## **Lay by**

**Meaning** : Save for future needs - We should lay by our natural resources.

**Example** : We should be wise and lay by a considerable amount

## **Make out**

**Meaning** : Prove , discover , decipher

**Example** : I cannot make out of this word I cannot make out the inscription on this wall

## **Off the hook**

**Meaning** : No longer in difficulty or trouble

**Example** : Pinarayi vijaiyan off the hook in SNC- lavalin case (a Canadian company)

## **Come down hard on**

**Meaning** : To criticize or punish severely

**Example** : They're coming down heavily on people for not paying their licence fees. Joe's parents came down hard on him when they learned he had been suspended from school

## **Jump the gun**

**Meaning** : Act before the proper or appropriate time.

**Example** : We all had to start the race again because Jane jumped the gun

## **Shot in the arm**

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**Example** : We should be wise and lay by a considerable amount

## **Doing the rounds**

**Meaning** : To be passed from one person to another

**Example** : Since morning, the talk doing the rounds was that Mr. Panneerselvam would come out with a statement on the merger after Chief Minister Edappadi K. Palaniswami on Thursday announced the government's move to constitute a commission of inquiry, one of the two demands that the AIADMK (PTA) had been raising.

## **Put off**

**Meaning** : An evasive reply , to delay doing something, especially because you do not want to do it

**Example** : The "strong stand" taken by leaders, including former Minister K.P. Munusamy, was said to have prompted Mr. Panneerselvam to put off a decision on the merger. Mr. Munusamy was not available for comment

## **Takes a beating**

**Meaning** : To be damaged because of performing badly or being criticized

**Example** : Vishal sikka quits as Infosys CEO, shares take a beating

## **Turn up/on the heat**

**Meaning** : To use force to persuade someone to do something; to increase the pressure on someone to do something

**Example** : Management is turning the heat up to increase production. The teacher really turned up the heat on the students by saying that everyone would be punished if the real culprit was not found.

## **Rip apart**

**Meaning** : To destroy something completely

**Example** : The nine judge bench of the supreme court on Thursday ripped apart its own judgment of upholding section of the Indian penal code , which criminalises consensual sexual acts of adults in private

## **Step down**

**Meaning** : Withdraw or resign from an important position or office

**Example** : R. Seshasayee, chairman of the board, along with former CEO and managing director

Vishal Sikka, Jeffrey Lehman and John Etchemendy, decided to step down from the board, Infosys said in a release.

### Strikes a blow

**Meaning** : To do something to help or to support an idea, movement, or group , to do something to harm or oppose an idea, movement, or group

**Example** : The supreme court judgment strikes a blow on the unbridled encroachment and surveillance by the state and its agencies in the life of the common man

### Hold on

**Meaning** : Wait; stop , endure in difficult circumstances.

**Example** : The result helped UP hold on to the top spot in Zone B but, in a group where the difference between the top and bottom-placed sides is just points, it would be a fragile lead

### Pull through

**Meaning** : Get through an illness or other dangerous or difficult situation

**Example** : Second seed Harinder Pal was in a lot of trouble after a sluggish start against Aditya Jagtap, but regained the surety of his touch to pull through in four games.

### Pumped up

**Meaning** : To fill with enthusiasm or excitement , to fill with or as if with air

**Example** : "I like the fast court. I am pretty happy and pumped up to play the semifinal," said Kush.

### Leave no stone unturned

**Meaning** : To do everything possible in order to achieve or find something

**Example** : Ahead of its return to the IPL in , Chennai Super Kings is leaving no stone unturned to get its campaign back on the track. One of the key reasons for its success in the first eight years was that the team managed to retain a core group of players and the support staff.

### Rope in

**Meaning** : You mean that someone persuaded you to help them do that task

**Example** : For the intentions remains the same with the team intending to rope in former coach Stephen Fleming.



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