UPSC Daily Current Affairs| One Liners 03-06-2026

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Polity & Governance

National Highway Projects in Mizoram, Manipur & Nagaland

Union Ministry of Road Transport & Highways reviewed the progress and maintenance of 4,826 km of National Highways across Mizoram, Manipur, and Nagaland.

• **Aims -** To timely execution, strict adherence to high-quality standards, adoption of advanced technologies for sustainable highway infrastructure.

• **Economic Impact -** Improved road networks are vital for driving economic growth, boosting regional connectivity, and enhancing commuter convenience across key corridors.

• **Monsoon Preparedness -** Officials were directed to implement effective drainage management, slope protection, and quick-response mechanisms to minimize seasonal disruptions.

Mukhyamantri Sugam Parivahan Seva

Madhya Pradesh will launch "Mukhyamantri Sugam Parivahan Seva" in July-August 2026, reviving its state-run public bus network after a 21-year gap.

• **Phase One Model -** Indore is selected as the model city for the first phase, which will deploy 1,688 buses, including 150 electric buses under the PM e-Bus Service. Indore serving as a major urban hub.

• **Framework -** The network operates via a Public-Private Partnership (PPP) model, ensuring private operators with valid permits continue their services alongside government operations.

Who is an undertrial prisoner?

An undertrial prisoner is an accused person who is kept in judicial custody during the time their case is being heard in the court.

• **Difference between police and judicial custody**

• A person under police custody will be held at the police station in the physical custody of police officers.

• Under judicial custody, they will be in the custody of a Magistrate in a jail. Undertrial prisoners are under judicial and not police custody.

Maximum period of detention for an undertrial prisoner

• As per section 436-A of the Code of Criminal Procedure, 1973, an undertrial prisoner who is not accused of an offence punishable with life imprisonment or death should be released if they have been detained for half the period of imprisonment prescribed for the offence.

PM Surya Ghar Excellence Awards

Recently, Odisha was selected for the PM Surya Ghar Excellence Awards, recognizing its performance in the May 2026 "Month of Solar" campaign.

• **Medium Consumer Category -** Among states with a medium number of consumers, Odisha secured the top ranking by leading in three distinct performance categories.
• **Application and Installation -** The state achieved first place for generating the highest number of solar applications and completing the most rooftop solar installations.
• **DISCOM Performance -** Odisha's electricity distribution companies excelled, securing first place for conducting the highest number of DISCOM inspections during the campaign.
• **Vendor Registration -** Expanding its clean energy network, Odisha also secured a notable third-place finish nationwide for Maximum Vendor Registrations.
• **Scheme Objective -** The PM Surya Ghar: Muft Bijli Yojana drives India's renewable energy goals by funding household-level rooftop solar adoption.

Economy

Consumer-friendly centralised portal for PNG

Government plans to launch a national portal for Piped Natural Gas (PNG) applications to monitor gas distribution utilities in real time and expedite consumer requests.

• **The Catalyst -** A West Asia supply crisis has severely disrupted LPG imports through the Strait of Hormuz, forcing a strategic shift toward domestic PNG infrastructure.
• **Mandatory Transition -** Recent mandates prohibit households from holding dual connections, forcing consumers with nearby PNG access to switch within three months or forfeit LPG benefits.
• **Security Concerns -** Publishing digitized gas grid maps online to help consumers locate nearby pipelines presents potential security risks regarding critical fuel infrastructure layouts.
• **Network Expansion -** To free up LPG for non-PNG regions, the Centre is incentivizing states to accelerate network expansion, adding over 8 lakh active connections since March.
• **Supply Contrast -** India relies on imports for 60% of its LPG compared to 50% for natural gas, making PNG a more resilient energy alternative during maritime choke-point disruptions.

Environment

Potato Patch

A massive *Pavona clavus* coral colony, nicknamed the "Potato Patch," was documented near Kadmat Island in the Lakshadweep archipelago.

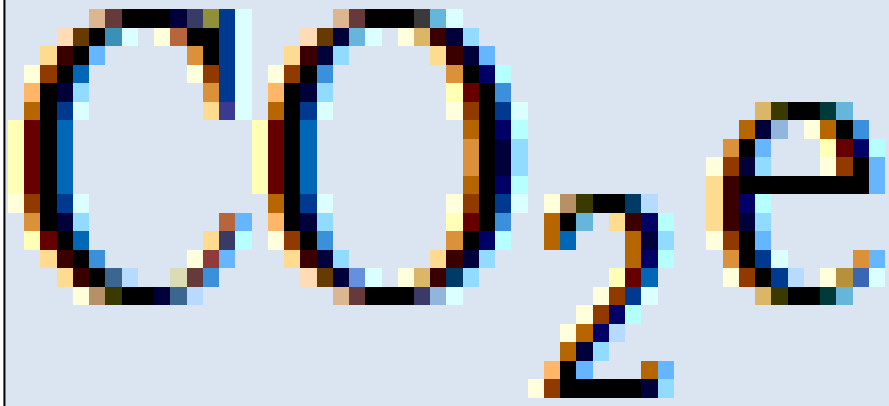
• **Size & Age -** Covering 4,250 square metres—half a football pitch—preliminary estimates place this colossal formation's age between 700 and 1,800 years.
• **Living Cover -** A scientific survey revealed that the historic reef-building stony coral colony maintains an impressive 58.47% live coral tissue.
• **Depth Range -** The colony thrives in south-eastern Kadmat waters, beginning at 5.2 metres depth and extending down a steep slope to 20 metres.
• **Collaborative Research -** The documentation was conducted by India’s Department of Science and Technology, the Research and Environmental Education Foundation, and The Habitat Trust.
• **Kalpeni Finding -** Additionally, on February 19, 2026, a 1.8-kilometre reef stretch hosting 35 distinct coral species was recorded near Kalpeni Island.

Science

Irritable Bowel Syndrome IBS

IBS, causes uncomfortable or painful abdominal symptoms. Constipation, diarrhea, gas and bloating are all common symptoms of IBS.

• IBS doesn't damage digestive tract or raise risk for colon cancer. Person can often manage symptoms through medications, diet and lifestyle changes.



3I/ATLAS Discovery

Discovered on July 2025, by Chile's ATLAS survey, 3I/ATLAS is the third confirmed interstellar object entering our Solar System.

• **James Webb Space Telescope Observation -** NASA and ESA utilized the James Webb Space Telescope's Mid-Infrared Instrument (MIRI) to analyze the comet during December 2025.

• **Historic Methane Detection -** This marks the first direct detection of methane (CH_4) and the first mid-infrared chemical fingerprint of an interstellar body.

• **Chemical Composition -**Data revealed unusually high carbon dioxide levels and a distinct methane-to-water ratio compared to native Solar System comets.

• **Astrochemistry Insights -** Comparing these volatiles helps scientists map temperature zones and composition variations across different protoplanetary systems.

• **Publication -** The historic findings were published in *The Astrophysical Journal Letters* on April 8, 2026.

Miscellaneous

Pradhan Mantri Rashtriya Bal Puraskar 2026,

Government of India is inviting nominations for the Pradhan Mantri Rashtriya Bal Puraskar 2026. It is a prestigious honor.

• **Conferred by** - President of India for exceptional achievements.

• **Eligibility Criteria -** Children residing in India aged between 5 and 18 years (as of July 31, 2026) are eligible for this national recognition.

• **Award Categories -** Conferred across six distinct fields: Bravery, Social Service, Environment, Sports, Art & Culture, and Science & Technology.

• **Application Process -** Nominations must be submitted online exclusively via the official Rashtriya Puraskar Portal (https://awards.gov.in). Self-nominations, or submissions by individuals and institutions, are allowed.



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