

UPSC Daily Current Affairs | One Liners 03-09-2025

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Geography

Afghanistan

A devastating 6.0 magnitude earthquake struck eastern Afghanistan.

It is also known as "Gateway to Asia".

Capital - Kabul.

Political features -

It is a *landlocked mountainous country* in Southern Asia.

Bordering Countries - Turkmenistan, Uzbekistan, Tajikistan, Iran, Pakistan, India and China.

Geographical Features

Major rivers - Amu Darya, Helmand River, Kabul River.

Mountain ranges - Hindu Kush, Pamir Mountains in the northeast and Safed Koh range in the south.

 $\underline{Mt.\ Nowshak}$ is the <u>highest point</u> in Afghanistan and the 2^{nd} <u>highest peak</u> in the Hindu Kush Mountain range.

Climate - Continental climate, categorized by hot summers and cold winters.

Social Issues

National Council of Educational Research and Training (NCERT)

NCERT celebrates its 65th Foundation Day and launched a host of initiatives including Diksha 2.0.

It is an *autonomous organisation*.

Established in - 1961, by Ministry of Education.

Aim - To assist and advise the Central and State Governments on policies and programmes for *qualitative improvement in school education*.

Swachhata Pakhwada 2025

It is an annual fortnight long cleanliness drive conducted by various departments and ministries.

Started in - 2016.

Umbrella scheme - Swachh Bharat Mission.

Aim - To promote cleanliness, hygiene, and sustainability across the nation.

Theme - "Swachhata is Everyone's Business".

Dr. Ambedkar National Merit Award

Organised by - Dr. Ambedkar Foundation

Aim - To felicitate awards to the top 3 SC and ST students of each recognized category for secondary education Board and SC Students in senior secondary education Board.

Awards -

Highest marks Rs. 60,000/-

2nd highest marks Rs. 50,000/-

3rd highest marks Rs. 40,000/-

Special award to - The highest-scoring girl student in cases where no girl featured among the top 3.

Agriculture

World Coconut Day

Coconut Development Board has celebrated the World Coconut Day by launching its newly revised schemes and presenting the Export Excellence Awards.

Observed on - 2nd September.

Commemorate to - Formation of Asian Pacific Coconut Community (APCC).

Aim - To raise awareness about the use and benefits of coconuts across various industries.

Theme - "Uncovering Coconut's Power, Inspiring Global Action."

Asian Pacific Coconut Community (APCC)

Established in - 1969, under United Nations-Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (UN-ESCAP).

Headquarter - Jakarta, Indonesia.

Member - 18 full members including *India*.

Aim - To promote, coordinate and harmonize all activities of the coconut industry to achieve the maximum socio-economic development of the industry.

Coconut Development Board

Established in - 1981, under the Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare.

Headquarter - Kochi, Kerala.

4 regional Offices - Bangalore, Chennai, Guwahati and Patna.

Aim - To boost productivity, diversify products, expand cultivation, and enhance the quality and global marketing of coconut goods.

Coconut

Scientific name - Cocos nucifera.

Family - Arecaceae.

Climate - Tropical & tropical coastal areas.

Benefits - Rich source of electrolytes and lauric acid, coconuts contain many antioxidants and antibacterial, anti-fungal, and antiviral.

Top producer - *Indonesia*, followed by the Philippines and India. Currently, *India is the 3rd* <u>largest producer.</u>

Export - 90% of the world's coconut production for exports, sources from the Asia-Pacific region.

Security

Yudh Abhyas 2025

An Indian Army contingent has departed for Alaska to participate in the 21st edition of military exercise.

It is an annual joint military drill with the *United States*.

Indian contingent - Battalion of the Madras Regiment.

Rehearse consist of - Tactical drills including heliborne operations, use of surveillance assets and unmanned aerial systems.

Rock craft, mountain warfare, casualty evacuation, combat medical aid, and the integrated employment of artillery, aviation, and electronic warfare systems.

Other military exercise - Vajra Prahar (Army), MALABAR (Navy Multilateral), Cope India, Red Flag (Air Force Multilateral).

Science

All India Institute of Speech and Hearing (AIISH)

All India Institute of Speech and Hearing celebrates its diamond jubilee.

It is an *autonomous pioneer national* organisation.

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Established in - 1966, by Ministry of Health and Family Welfare.

Objectives - To impart professional training and render clinical services.

To conduct research and educate on issues related to communication disorders such as <u>hearing impairment, mental retardation, voice, fluency and phonological & language</u> <u>disorders</u>.

