

UPSC Daily Current Affairs | One Liners 04-09-2026

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History, Art and Culture

Megalithic Burial Site with Neolithic Artefacts

Megalithic burial complex found at Kadamakuttai village, Krishnagiri, Tamil Nadu.

- **Burial Layout** - Includes dolmens and cist burials within a structural wall; isolated dolmen outside enclosure.
- **Neolithic Finds** - Polished stone celts, soapstone objects, grinding stones, lithic implements, clay figurines, rubbing stones, urn fragments.
- **Polishing Grooves** - Massive boulder with three grooves showing stone-tool processing.
- **Historical Continuity** - Krishnagiri has 200+ Megalithic sites; rock art depicts elephant migrations over 2,000 yrs and living traditions today.
- **Significance** - Provides insights into prehistoric funerary rituals, tool-making and cultural continuity in northern Tamil Nadu.
- **Megalithic Age** - A prehistoric period marked by the building of large stone monuments and structures.
- **Neolithic Age** - New Stone Age, was a historic period marked by the birth of farming, animal domestication, and permanent human settlements.



International Relations and Issues

India-Belgium Talks 2026

PM Modi and Belgian PM Bart De Wever set goal to double bilateral trade in 5 years.

- **Focus** - Pharma, life sciences, semiconductors, defence, critical minerals, renewable energy, ports, logistics, space and advanced tech.
- **EU Agreements** - Conclusion of India-EU Free Trade Agreement; urged early completion of Investment Protection and GI Agreement.
- **Defence and Security** - Belgium condemned Pahalgam terror attack; agreed on Joint Working Group on Counter-Terrorism;
- **Letter of Intent** - LoI for defence cooperation and MoU between CBI and Belgian Federal Police on organised crime and cybercrime.
- **Strategic Dialogue** - Launch of India-Belgium Strategic Dialogue; Belgium backed India's candidature for permanent UNSC membership.
- **Energy and Tech** - Renewed cooperation in green hydrogen, solar, offshore wind, AI, semiconductors, startups.
- **Connectivity and People Ties** - Plans for direct air connectivity, expanded visa processing, Belgian universities invited to India.



The Statesman

India, Belgium Deepen Strategic Partnership with Defence, Clean Energy and Semiconductor Cooperation; PM Modi Sets Five-Year Trade Doubling Target

The two leaders held extensive bilateral talks at Hyderabad House in New Delhi and witnessed the exchange of key memoranda of understanding and agreements before addressing a joint press statement.

Economy

Tripura's Organic Ethnic Rice Exports

18-metric-tonne consignment of NPOP-certified ethnic rice flagged off from Tripura to Austria and Netherlands.

- **Varieties** - Aromatic Kali Khasa, Aromatic Harinarayan, Biron (white sticky), Maimi Hanga (black rice).
- **Supported by** - Agricultural and Processed Food Products Export Development Authority (APEDA) and Tripura State Organic Farming Development Agency (TSOFDA) with Farmer Producer Companies (FPCs) aggregation.
- **APEDA** - An Indian statutory body established in February 1986 under the APEDA Act of 1985.
- To promote scheduled agri-exports, establish quality standards, and issue the Registration-Cum-Membership Certificate (RCMC) for exporters.
- **Benefit** - Farmers to earn up to 40% higher price realisation than domestic market.
- **Market Linkages** - Shipment follows Reverse Buyer-Seller Meet (RBSM) in Tripura.

TRIPURA EXPORTS 18.7 MT OF ORGANIC RICE TO EUROPE
FIRST-EVER EXPORT TO THE EUROPEAN MARKET

18.7 MT OF CERTIFIED ORGANIC AROMATIC RICE EXPORTED FROM TRIPURA TO EUROPE

4 ORGANIC RICE VARIETIES
Shipment comprises:
• 1.2 MT Kalikhasa rice
• 1.5 MT sticky rice
• 6 MT black rice
• 10 MT Harinarayan rice

FIRST EXPORT TO EUROPE
A major milestone connecting Tripura's organic produce with international markets.

CERTIFIED UNDER NPOP
Shipment flagged off at Pragya Bhaban, Agartala, under the National Programme for Organic Production (NPOP).

SUPPORT FROM GOVERNMENT
Under the state's flagship programme 'Bana Kaly' (Hand-holding) scheme.

Coconut Park in Kerala

Kerala CM seeks Union government and Coconut Development Board support for Coconut Value-Addition Park in Kerala.

- **Aim** - Modernise coconut sector, restructure farming from traditional to scientific and planned plantation models.
- **Focus** - Increase productivity through scientific management and effective disease control.
- **Plan** - Agriculture Minister announces Coconut Rejuvenation Plan; Project to be submitted to Coconut Development Board.
- **Coconut Development Board (CDB)** - An organization under Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare, **Headquartered in Kochi, Kerala.**
- To increase coconut production, improve crop quality, and promote new coconut-based products
- **Funding** - First phase: Rs.500 crore (Board's share) + Rs.41 crore (State share).



Environment

Rural Waste Handling - Lessons from Majuli and Tawang

- **Majuli (Assam)** - Waste once dumped in Brahmaputra has built 19 Central Material Collection Facilities (CMCFs), hired sanitation workers, and used e-vehicles.
- **CMCFs** - Specialized infrastructure units set up at the local government (panchayat) level to systematically receive, aggregate, and segregate non-biodegradable waste before it is transported to recyclers or off-site processing facilities.
- **Tawang (Arunachal Pradesh)** - Without door-to-door collection, villagers segregate waste at home and gather monthly for "Swachchata Divas" (Cleanliness Days).
- Small monthly household fees keep the operations financially independent.
- **Approach** - Awareness drives, segregation, transport logistics, material recovery facilities, community ownership.
- **Challenges** - High transport costs, limited recyclers, resistance from shops; funding through household/shop fees.
- **Significance** - Shows rural waste management can succeed with community participation, local leadership and sustainable financing.



What two districts can teach India
about dealing with rural waste

Science

BAM-H24 - DRDO-UoH Patent for Next-Generation Rocket Fuel

DRDO and University of Hyderabad researchers secure patent for Next-Generation Solid Rocket Propellant Fuel.

- **Invention** - Developed by Muddamarri Hanumantha Rao and Muralidharan Krishnamurthi; compound named BAM-H24, rich in boron, hydrogen and nitrogen.
- **Features** - High-energy performance with enhanced safety; strong chemical and thermal stability; resistant to impact and friction.
- **Performance** - Offers high specific impulse, reduced ignition delay, non-hygroscopic nature preventing moisture absorption.
- **Significance** - Patent marks academia-defence collaboration; supports safer manufacturing, operational logistics and India's self-reliance in defence technologies.

The infographic features a central image of a rocket launch with a large plume of fire and smoke. To the left of the rocket, the text 'DRDO & UoH DEVELOP NEXT-GEN ROCKET FUEL!' is written in large, bold, blue and red letters. Below this, a dark blue box contains the text 'DRDO and University of Hyderabad researchers have developed a next-generation solid rocket propellant, BAM-H24.' To the right of the rocket, a cylindrical propellant grain is shown with 'BAM-H24' written on it. On the far left, there are two circular logos: the DRDO logo and the University of Hyderabad logo. Below the main text, there are four sections with icons and text: 'DESIGNED FOR' (rocket icon) 'Potential use in missile systems and launch vehicles.', 'ADVANCED COMPOSITION' (molecular structure icon) 'Boron-, hydrogen- and nitrogen-rich compound.', 'PATENTED IN INDIA' (document icon) 'Secured an Indian patent, marking a significant step for indigenous defence tech.', and 'KEY ADVANTAGES' (shield icon) 'Offers strong stability and reduced sensitivity, supporting future advancements.' At the bottom, there is a dark blue banner with the Indian flag and the text 'STRONGER. SAFER. SELF-RELIANT. POWERING INDIA'S FUTURE!'.

**DRDO & UoH
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ROCKET FUEL!**

DRDO and University of Hyderabad
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AgniKawach

Agnikawach Safety Solutions Pvt. Ltd. unveils AgniKawach, India's 1st Indigenous AI Platform to Strengthen Industrial Safety

- **Features** - It Combines AI, GPU-native computing, adaptive-mesh CFD, cloud delivery and risk modelling on one platform.
- **Hazards Covered** - Unified workflow for 8 major risks - Jet fire, pool fire, flash fire, explosions, BLEVE/fireball, toxic dispersion, cryogenic releases and domino effects.
- **Applications** - Green Hydrogen, ammonia, oil and gas, LNG, petrochemicals, refineries, fertilizers, bioenergy, nuclear, defense, aviation and hazardous industries.
- **Vision** - Build Indian safety ecosystem connecting industry, MSMEs, universities, regulators, emergency response and insurance.



Miscellaneous

Tenzing Norgay National Adventure Awards 2024

Government announces Tenzing Norgay National Adventure Awards 2024, recognising outstanding achievements in adventure.

- **Categories** - Awards in Land Adventure, Water Adventure, Air Adventure and Lifetime Achievement.
- **Awardees** -
 - Baljeet Kaur and Skalzang Rigzin (Land Adventure),
 - Rimo Saha (Water Adventure),
 - Shiv Prasad Chamoli (Lifetime Achievement).
- **Honour** - Each awardee receives statuette, certificate and Rs.15 lakh.
- **Selection** - Based on recommendations of National Selection Committee.
- **Objective** - Promote courage, endurance, discipline, risk-taking, teamwork and quick decision-making in challenging situations.
- **Ceremony** - To be conferred by President along with National Sports Awards 2025.



National Nutrition Week 2026

Observed in India from Sep 1-7, 2026; week-long campaign on healthy eating and balanced diets.

- **Focus** - Nutrition awareness, balanced diets, healthy food choices and better health.
- **History** - Started in 1982 by Food and Nutrition Board to educate people on nutrition and public health.
- **Objectives** - Promote awareness of essential nutrients, balanced diets, healthy eating habits, address deficiencies, encourage better food choices.
- **Importance** - Poor nutrition leads to health issues; balanced diet supports growth, energy, immunity, concentration and physical activity.
- **Impact** - Families, schools and communities review eating habits; supports children and youth during rapid growth stages.
- **Significance** - Reinforces link between food and health, guiding India's public health and community development.



SCO Tourism and Cultural Capital 2026-27 - Lahore

Pakistan's cultural hub Lahore named SCO Tourism and Cultural Capital 2026-27 at 26th SCO Summit in Bishkek.

- **Rotation** - Title annually rotated among Shanghai Cooperation Organisation (SCO) members since 2022 to promote tourism and cultural heritage.
- **Past Capitals** - Varanasi (India, 2022-23), Almaty (Kazakhstan, 2023-24), Qingdao (China, 2024-25), Cholpon-Ata (Kyrgyzstan, 2025-26).
- **Presidency** - Pakistan assumed SCO presidency 2026.
- **Theme** - *"Turning Vision into Action: Connectivity, Innovation and Shared Prosperity."*
- **Organisation** - SCO, headquartered in Beijing, marks 25th anniversary; founded 2001; 10 members including India.
- **Significance** - Strengthens people-to-people contacts, tourism and cultural cooperation across Eurasia.

