

UPSC Daily Current Affairs| One Liners 04-10-2026

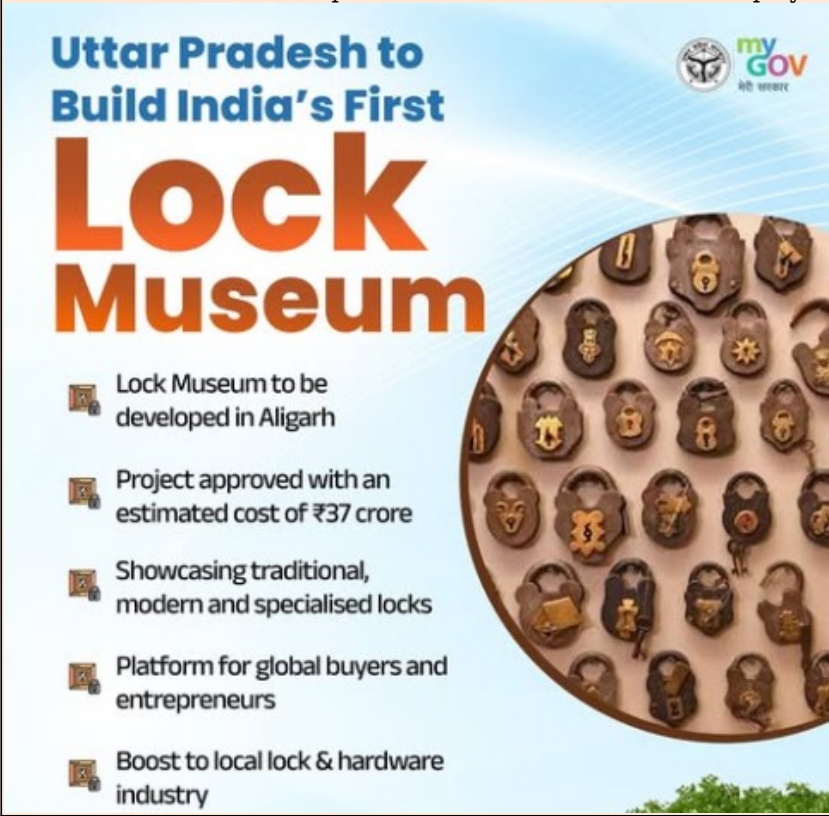
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History, Art and Culture

India's first lock museum

India's first lock museum is being built in Aligarh, Uttar Pradesh, to celebrate the city's rich lock-making history.

- Aligarh is famously known as Tala Nagri, or the City of Locks. The new museum will preserve this 150-year-old industrial heritage.
- **History of Locks** – Exhibits will show how locks evolved from the Vedic era to modern digital and cyber security systems.
- **Local Craftsmanship** – Displays will highlight Aligarh's traditional handmade designs alongside modern hardware.
- **The Wish Wall** – A special area where visitors can attach locks as symbols of their prayers or messages
- **Facilities for Visitors**
- **Workshops** – Spaces where visitors can see live lock-making and learn traditional skills.
- **Family Areas** – A children's play zone, food courts, souvenir shops, and an auditorium.
- **Business Platform** – A space for local manufacturers to display modern products to global buyers.



Uttar Pradesh to Build India's First Lock Museum

- Lock Museum to be developed in Aligarh
- Project approved with an estimated cost of ₹37 crore
- Showcasing traditional, modern and specialised locks
- Platform for global buyers and entrepreneurs
- Boost to local lock & hardware industry

Danish Ship 'Elephant' - Tharangambadi

The model of 'Elephant', a Danish frigate, was donated to the Tranquebar Maritime Museum in Tamil Nadu by the Danish Tranquebar Association.

- Elephant is believed to be the first Danish ship to reach **Tharangambadi in 1620**.
- **Danish Expedition** - Elephant was part of a fleet of **two warships and three merchant ships**.
- The expedition aimed to establish **trade links with South Asia**.
- It was commanded by **Admiral Ove Gedde**.
- The fleet reached Tharangambadi on **13 September 1620**.
- **Treaty & Fort Dansborg** - Admiral Ove Gedde subsequently signed a **treaty with the Naik of Thanjavur**, leading to the establishment of Danish presence and construction of **Fort Dansborg** at Tharangambadi.
- **Museum Model** - The ship model was built by Koge Maritime Model Builders' Guild, Denmark, symbolising the historic friendship and cooperation between India and Denmark.



FORTRESS America Initiative

FORTRESS America is a U.S. defense infrastructure and readiness initiative launched by Secretary of War Pete Hegseth on September 30, 2026.

- An acronym for **Federal Operations for Resilience, Troop Resources, Energy, Supply, and Survivability**, the program is designed as a "national insurance policy" to decouple domestic military capabilities from external vulnerabilities and foreign dependencies.
- **Core Objectives**
- **Grid Independence** - Mandates that every major domestic military installation generate its own power to maintain continuous operations during cyberattacks, blackouts, or sabotage.
- **Supply-Chain Repatriation** - Brings the manufacturing, mining, and refining of critical materials—such as rare earth elements, specialty metals, semiconductors, and propellants—back to the United States.
- **Strategic Reserves** - Builds up domestic stockpiles of essential wartime materials including fuel, munitions, blood, and medicine.
- **Five Pillars of the Initiative**
- **Energy Independence** - Self-sustaining power generation for military bases.
- **Supply-Chain and Defense-Industrial Base Resilience** - Securing domestic sources for critical production inputs.
- **Strategic Defense Reserve** - Enhancing stockpiles to survive major wartime supply line disruptions.
- **Installation Hardening and Cyber Resilience** - Protecting facilities against physical sabotage, drones, and cyber threats.
- **Resilience in Space and Spectrum** - Securing high-ground assets, communication airwaves, and satellite navigation.

US Defence Secretary Pete Hegseth announced 'Fortress America' to make military bases more self-sufficient in power.

The initiative aims to reduce reliance on the civilian grid and build independent power capacity, helping bases maintain operations during grid disruptions.

11th BIMSTEC Counter-Terrorism Meeting

The 11th Meeting of the BIMSTEC Joint Working Group on Counter Terrorism and Transnational Crime (JWG-CTTC) was held in New Delhi, India, on September 28-29, 2026.

- **Key Details**

- **Host & Chair** - Hosted by the Government of India and chaired by Dr. Suhel Ajaz Khan, Additional Secretary (Counter Terrorism) in the Ministry of External Affairs (MEA).

- **Participants** - Delegations from all seven BIMSTEC member states—Bangladesh, Bhutan, India, Myanmar, Nepal, Sri Lanka, and Thailand—attended.

- **Core Focus** - Discussions centered on traditional and emerging non-traditional security threats within the BIMSTEC region, as well as ways to strengthen regional collaboration.

- **Major Agenda Items & Outcomes**

- **Sub-Group Reports** - Reviewed reports from various sub-groups covering human trafficking, illicit drug and narcotic trafficking, anti-money laundering, counter-terrorism financing, legal enforcement, and countering radicalization.

- **Action Plans & Endorsements** - Endorsed outcome documents and action plans from constituent sub-groups regarding drug control, combating human trafficking, and illicit financial flows.

- **Future Preparations** - Laid the groundwork and prepared for upcoming meetings involving BIMSTEC Senior Officials of Home Ministries and Home Ministers.



Tajikistan's Rogun Hydropower Project

It is a massive 335-meter-high clay-core rockfill dam on the Vakhsh River that is set to become the tallest dam in the world.

- **Project Overview**

- **Location** – Vakhsh River in Tajikistan, about 110 kilometers from the capital city of Dushanbe.
- **Builder** – Constructed by Italian engineering firm Webuild Group for OJSC Rogun HPP.
- **Timeline** – Construction began during the Soviet era in 1976, stopped in 1991, and restarted later to secure energy independence.

- **Key Specifications**

- **Final Height** – 335 meters (currently standing at about 190 meters and 1,155 meters above sea level).
- **Power Capacity** – 3,600 MW total capacity across six planned 600 MW turbines.
- **Current Status** – Two turbines are already active and generating electricity while construction continues upward. The third unit is scheduled for 2027.

- **Benefits and Impact**

- **Energy Output** – Doubles Tajikistan's national electricity production and helps eliminate severe winter power outages.
- **Regional Supply** – Provides reliable renewable energy to roughly 10 million people and supports export plans to neighboring countries.
- **Financing** – Backed significantly by the World Bank alongside other international and domestic funds.



Kumkum Mohod - Asian Games 2026

Kumkum Mohod, a 17-year-old Indian archer, won India's first gold medal in the women's individual recurve event at the Asian Games 2026.

- She defeated South Korea's Oh Yejin in a shoot-off after the final ended 5-5.
- In the shoot-off, Kumkum scored a perfect 10, while Oh Yejin scored 8.
- **Recurve Archery** - It is an Olympic and Asian Games discipline governed by World Archery.
- The limbs of a recurve bow curve away from the archer when unstrung.
- It is used in target archery competitions.
- **Match Format & Scoring** - Individual recurve matches are conducted in sets.
- The first archer to reach 6 set points normally wins.
- If the match is tied, a shoot-off is conducted.
- Each archer shoots one arrow; the higher score wins.
- If scores are equal, proximity to the centre determines the winner.



Environment

First Tigress in Buxa Tiger Reserve

The Union Environment Minister and the West Bengal Chief Minister released the first tigress translocated from Bihar's Valmiki Tiger Reserve into Buxa Tiger Reserve.

- The initiative was undertaken to mark **Wildlife Week 2026**.
- It forms part of efforts to restore a **self-sustaining tiger population** in Buxa.
- **Buxa Tiger Reserve**
- **Location** - Dooars region, West Bengal.
- **Tiger Reserve** - Notified as **India's 15th Tiger Reserve in 1983**.
- **National Park** - Declared in **1997**.
- **Altitude** - Extends from plains to around **1,750 m**.
- **Vegetation** - Moist tropical forests.
- **Wildlife** - Asian elephants, gaur, clouded leopards, leopard cats, marbled cats and dholes.
- **Aquatic ecosystem** - Hill streams provide habitat for **mahseer**.
- **Important Wildlife Corridors**
- Buxa forms part of a wider transboundary landscape connecting:
 - Phipsoo Wildlife Sanctuary - Bhutan
 - Jaldapara National Park - West Bengal
 - Ripu Reserve Forest - Assam
 - Manas Tiger Reserve - Assam
- **Tiger Reintroduction Programme** - A scientific conservation programme involving:
Translocation → Acclimatisation → Release → Monitoring
- Its objective is to restore **self-sustaining breeding tiger populations** in their historical habitats.
- Guided by the **Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972**.
- **National Tiger Conservation Authority (NTCA)** provides the institutional framework.
- **Wildlife Institute of India (WII)** provides scientific and technical support.
- **Buxa Recovery Project**
- **Tiger Augmentation and Recovery Project** began in **2018**.
- Collaboration among:
 - **West Bengal Forest Department**
 - **NTCA**
 - **Wildlife Institute of India (WII)**
- **Main Objectives**
- Restore a **self-sustaining tiger population**.
- Improve **prey availability**.
- Enhance **habitat quality and connectivity**.
- Strengthen **human-wildlife coexistence**.
- Re-establish tigers within their **historical range**.



India's first plastic-free oil terminal

The Mumbai Port Authority declared the Jawahar Dweep Marine Oil Terminal India's first plastic-free oil terminal on October 2, 2026, during the Swachhata Abhiyan 2026 cleanliness campaign.

- **Key Details of the Milestone**

- **Location** – Jawahar Dweep (also called Butcher Island) sits about four kilometers off the coast of Mumbai in Maharashtra.

- **Announcement Date** – October 2, 2026 (Gandhi Jayanti), coinciding with the Swachhata Abhiyan drive led by Union Minister of Ports, Shipping and Waterways Sarbananda Sonowal.

- **Operations** – The offshore terminal features five berths/jetties handling crude oil and petroleum products for major refineries like BPCL, HPCL, IOCL, and ONGC.

- **Significance** – Single-use plastics have been completely banned and eliminated from the island facility to curb marine pollution.

- **Broader Port Initiatives**

- The Mumbai Port Authority plans to extend similar single-use plastic reductions to its docks, nearby residential colonies, and coastal areas.

- New Oil Spill Response facilities were also dedicated to the nation during the same event.



TAPAS-1

TAPAS-1 (*Thermal Access Platform for Analytics & Solutions*) is India's first indigenously designed commercial private thermal-imaging nanosatellite payload.

- It is a **1.5-kg modular CubeSat** developed by Ahmedabad-based **Satleo Labs**.
- **Launch & Orbit**
 - Launched aboard **SpaceX's Falcon 9** under the **Transporter-18 rideshare mission** from California.
 - Deployed into a **500-km Sun-Synchronous Low Earth Orbit (LEO)**.
 - Designed for a **three-year operational mission**.
- **Technology & Objective**
 - TAPAS-1 captures **thermal infrared radiation** emitted by Earth's surface, functioning as an orbital thermometer. It aims to provide **cost-effective, high-resolution thermal intelligence** to commercial, civic and defence users.
- **Major Applications**
 - **Urban** - Urban Heat Island mapping and heat-stress management.
 - **Agriculture** - Crop stress, soil moisture and irrigation monitoring.
 - **Disaster Management** - Wildfire and industrial hotspot detection.
 - **Geology & Archaeology** - Detection of buried structures and geological features.
 - **AI Analytics** - Cloud-based machine learning converts thermal data into actionable insights.



Miscellaneous

India's First WASH Social Bond

NABKISAN Finance Limited, a subsidiary of NABARD, listed India's first Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene (WASH) social bond on the National Stock Exchange (NSE) on October 1, 2026.

- **Key Details of the Bond**
 - **Amount Raised** - Rs.180 crore (oversubscribed 1.8 times by investors).
 - **Tenure** - 5 years, maturing in September 2031.
 - **Coupon Rate** - 8.10%.
 - **Credit Ratings** - CRISIL AAA (Stable) and CARE AAA (Stable).
 - **Use of Proceeds** - To expand safe water, sanitation, and hygiene infrastructure in rural and underserved communities.
- **Knowledge Partner** - Water.org

