UPSC Daily Current Affairs| One Liners 04-12-2025

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Government Policies and Interventions

Samagra Shiksha scheme

Union Education Minister reiterated the Centre's position that all States will have to abide by conditions laid under the Samagara Shiksha to receive funds.

• It is an integrated scheme for school education covering the entire gamut from *pre-school to class XII.*

• **Aligns with –**
  - Implementing the recommendation of NEP 2020.
  - Supporting States & UTs in implementing RTE Act, 2009.

• **Extension for 5 years –** From 2021-22 to 2025-26.

• **Objective –** To ensure that all children have access to quality education with an equitable and inclusive classroom environment.

• **Significance –** It treats school education as a continuum and is in accordance with *Sustainable Development Goal for Education (SDG-4).*

Polity & Governance

Question Hour

• **1st hour of every parliamentary sitting –** During this time, the members ask questions and *the ministers usually give answers.*

• **3 types of questions**
  - A **starred question (Green) –** It is distinguished by an asterisk, requires an *oral answer and hence supplementary questions* can follow.
  - An **unstarred question (White) –** It requires a *written answer* and hence, supplementary questions cannot follow.
  - A **short notice question (Light pink) –** It is one that is asked by giving a notice of *less than 10 days and answered orally*.

• **Private member (Yellow)**

• A question may be addressed to a private member if the subject matter of the question relates to some Bill, resolution or other matter connected with the business of the House for which that member is responsible.

• The procedure in regard to such question is the same as that followed in the case of questions addressed to a minister.

Doctor-Population Ratio

• **Doctor-Population ratio –** 1:811 (Assuming 80% of registered practitioners in both allopathic and AYUSH systems).
• **Registered doctors**
  - Modern Medicine – 13,88,185
  - AYUSH System – 7,51,768
• **Total registered practitioners –** ~21.4 lakh.
• **Measures to improve doctors' availability –**
  - "*Hard-area allowance*" for specialist doctors serving in rural and remote areas, and for their residential quarters.
  - Negotiable salary to attract specialists, including flexibility with strategies such as "You Quote We Pay Other".

Economy

Aviation Fuel Through Petroleum Pipeline

Officials from the two countries are set to hold a meeting next week in New Delhi.
• **Discussion between –** India and Nepal.
• **Existing pipeline infrastructure –**
• Currently, Government-owned Nepal Oil Corporation (NOC) imports petrol and diesel from the Indian Oil Corporation.
• **Motihari-Amlekhgunj petroleum pipeline –** Since 2017, NOC has been transporting diesel, and expanded its use to include petrol since March 2025.

IMF Grade for National Accounting

• **IMF's grade to India –** C (2nd lowest)
• **Key problems –**
  - Outdated base year (2011-12) for National Accounts, Index of Industrial Production (IIP), and Consumer Price Index (CPI).
  - Inability to accurately capture the informal sector.

India's Smartphone Exports

• **U.S –** More than *3-fold year-on-year* to $1.47 billion despite tariff-related uncertainties threatened to weigh on demand and pricing.
• **Worldwide –** It raised from $10.68 billion to $15.95 billion in April-October 2025, *marking a 49.35% expansion.*
• **Reason behind growth –** India's strategic advantages, scale efficiencies, improved production-linked incentives, deepening vendor ecosystems, and sustained investment from global smartphone majors.

Agriculture

Panchagavya

• It is an organic product having the potential to play the role of promoting growth and providing immunity in plant system.
• **Consists of 9 products –** Cow dung, cow urine, milk, curd, jaggery, ghee, banana, Tender coconut and water.
• **Periodicity of spraying**
  - **Pre flowering phase –** Once in 15 days, two sprays depending upon duration of crops.
  - **Flowering and pod setting stage –** Once in 10 days, two sprays.
  - **Fruit / Pod maturation stage –** Once during pod maturation.

Jeevamrut

• It is a *natural, microbial-rich fertilizer* made from locally available ingredients.
• **Meaning –** Jeevan means “Life” and Amrit means “Medicinal potion.”
• **Formulation –**
- **Cow Dung –** Provides beneficial microbes and acts as a source of organic matter.
- **Cow Urine –** Contains nitrogen and minerals, which help enrich the soil.
- **Jaggery or Molasses –** Provides a food source for microorganisms and promotes their growth.
- **Gram Flour (Besan) –** Acts as a binding agent.
- **Water –** To mix and dilute the ingredients.

• **Advantages –** It contains beneficial microorganisms that help improve soil fertility and promote plant growth.
• These microorganisms that enhance nutrient availability to plants and protect them from diseases.

Beejamrit

• It is an ancient organic formulation commonly used as a *seed treatment in organic and natural farming in India.*
• This low-cost formulation is primarily a *product of dairy excreta and forest soil*, often supplemented with limestone.
• **Ingredients –** Indigenous cow dung, Cow urine, Cow's milk, Lime or bud, Water, Seed, Soil (prefer soil around Banyan tree roots).
• **Verified by –** National Centre of Organic Farming, Ghaziabad (India).

Mulching

• **Mulch** - It is a layer of material applied to the surface of an area of soil.
• It is a widely-practiced gardening technique that is beneficial for plants when done properly.
• It is the act of covering the soil with *mulches, such as bark, wood chips, leaves, and other organic material*, in order to preserve moisture and improve the condition of the soil.

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