UPSC Daily Current Affairs| One Liners 05-03-2025

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Bilateral Relations

India-Japan S&T Collaboration

• Indo-Japan S&T cooperation was formalized through Inter-Governmental Agreement signed in 1985.
• **Indo-Japan Joint S&T Committee** – Is the *apex body* which provides vision and direction to the cooperative S&T activities.
• The committee is Co-chaired by Department of Science & Technology (DST) India and Ministry of Foreign Affairs (MoFA), Japan.
• **Celebrated on** – India's *National Science Day (28 Feb, 2025)* at Indian Embassy, Tokyo in Japan.
• **Collaboration in** – Artificial Intelligence (AI), Machine Learning, Quantum Technology, and Space.

Economy

India's Research and Development (R&D) Spending

• **R&D funding** – Led to India's Gross Expenditure on Research and Development (GERD) *more than doubling* in the last decade (i.e Rs 60,196 cr-Rs 1,27,381 cr).
• It is shaping the future economy in artificial intelligence, biotechnology, and quantum computing.
• **Atmanirbhar Bharat** – It is not only investing in research but also ensuring that these innovations are seamlessly transitioned from labs to industries, strengthening the foundation of *Atmanirbhar Bharat*.

Navratna Status

• **Navratnas** – It is a *2nd category* of the central government-owned 'Ratna' companies, placed between the Maharatnas and the Miniratnas based on criteria.
• **Navratna status in Indian Railways (IR):**
• Indian Railway Catering and Tourism Corporation (IRCTC) – 25th
• Indian Railway Finance Corporation (IRFC) – 26th
• **IR CPSEs** – Totally *12*, out of which 7 are listed Central Public Sector Enterprises (CPSEs) have Navratna status.

Agriculture

Central Plantation Crops Research Institute (CPCRI)

• **Established in** – *1970,* under the Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR).
• **Headquarters** – Kasaragod district, Kerala.
• It is one of the agricultural research institutes in the National Agricultural Research System (NARS).
• It is mandatory for the Institute to conduct research on *coconut, arecanut, Palmyrah and cocoa*.

Environment

Vantara

• **About** – It is a *large-scale animal (wildlife) rescue center*, that operates through caves, conservation, and rehabilitation measures.
• **Located in** – Jamnagar, *Gujarat*.
• **Established by** – Reliance Industries and Reliance Foundation.
• **Area** – 3,000 acres.
• **Fauna** – It is home to over 2,000 animals across 43 species.

Carbon Intensity (CI)

Recently, China lowered its carbon intensity by 3.4% in 2024, by missing its target of 3.9%.
• **About** – It is a useful way to *measure how much carbon a particular sector is emitting* and how it has increased or decreased over time.
• **Measurement** – An entire country's carbon intensity can be calculated by *dividing the growth in GDP per capita by the amount of carbon dioxide emitted*.

Science

Agentic AI

• **About** – It is meant to *automate tasks for users* so that they do not have to prompt the systems to take actions for them.
• It has the potential to be the next multi-billion business.
• **Amazon Web Services (AWS)** – It forms a new group to focus on agentic Artificial Intelligence (AI).

Small Modular Reactors (SMRs)

• **SMR** – It is an advanced nuclear reactors that have a power capacity of up to *300 MW (e) per unit*.
• **Deployed in** – Industrial zones, remote areas, and hard-to-abate sectors like cement and steel manufacturing.
• **India's aim** – To develop at least 5 indigenously SMRs by 2033.

Miscellaneous

Penshurst Estate

• **Established in** – *1875.*
• **Located in** – Peerumade hills of Idukki, Kerala.
• It is *Kerala's 1st commercial tea plantation* industry that has reached a historic milestone of 150 years.
• **FY2023-24** – It was ranked *1st in South India for tea productivity* per hectare, yielding 4,735 kg per hectare.

Mobile World Congress (MWC) 2025

• **About** – It is the *world's biggest mobile industry trade show*.
• **Location** – Barcelona, Spain.
• **Agenda** – It's the place where leaders of business, nations, and startups come together to *set the agenda for the year ahead*.
• Tech and telecom companies gearing up to launch new smartphones, AI hardware, and concept devices.

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