

UPSC Daily Current Affairs| One Liners 07-08-2026

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History, Art and Culture

Hero stone in Karnataka

A newly discovered inscription has provided critical clues to solving a long-standing historical mystery regarding the Hoysala dynasty.



- **Location** - Neeragunda, Arsikere taluk, Karnataka.
- It was commissioned by a woman named Maravve, the text honours her husband Boppa, a soldier sacrificed his life shortly after the death of the **Hoysala King Vishnuvardhana**.
- It explicitly lists the date of death as the Ekadashi of Pushya Masa in the Durmathi Samvatsara year, which precisely corresponds to December 11, 1141 CE.
- For decades, historians argued over when Vishnuvardhana died, with estimates split between 1149 and 1152 CE.
 - This inscription definitively establishes his passing to late 1141 CE at Bankapura.
- Hoysala dynasty was a prominent Kannada empire that ruled most of modern-day Karnataka, India, from the 10th to the 14th centuries.
- Originating as hill chieftains in the Western Ghats, they built a magnificent cultural and architectural legacy before falling in the 1340s.

Polity & Governance

ANUGYAN

ANUGYAN (Nuclear Technology Orientation Programme) is launched recently.

- **Launched jointly by** - IIT Hyderabad and Crimson Energy Experts.
- It is India's first industry academia programme with a 3-month residential course trains engineers for the country's ***civil nuclear energy sector***.
- **Aim** - To build a skilled workforce to help boost India's nuclear capacity from 8.8 GWe to 100 GWe by 2047.
- All the engineering graduates, working professionals, PSU executives, EPC contractors, and industrial equipment manufacturers are eligible to participate in the programme.
- The candidates will receive a completion certification after finishing training.

International Relations and Issues

BRICS Industry Ministers' Meeting

The 10th BRICS Industry Ministers' Meeting concluded recently under India's BRICS Chairship.

- **Location** - Jaipur, Rajasthan, India
- **Theme** - “Building for Resilience, Innovation, Cooperation and Sustainability”.
- **4 priority outcomes**
 - Finalisation of the Framework for Cooperation in the SME Working Group.
 - Adoption of Terms of Reference and Action Plan for Working Group on Photovoltaic Industry
 - Finalisation of the Action Plan on innovation-led growth by Startups.
 - Resilient industry related transport and logistics systems, including GIS-based Infrastructure Planning and City Logistics Planning.
- The delegates adopted a joint declaration to advance MSMEs, photovoltaic supply chains, startup innovation, and logistics cooperation.

'Seafarer-First' initiative

- **Launched by** – Ministry of Ports, Shipping and Waterways.
- **Objective** – To protect and track Indian merchant navy crew members operating in conflict-hit West Asian waters.
- **Geographic coverage** –
 - The Strait of Hormuz
 - The Persian Gulf
 - The Gulf of Oman
- The strategy prioritizes the welfare of Indian crew members regardless of their ship's flag.

India Becomes the World's **2ND LARGEST** **SUPPLIER OF SEAFARERS**



GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF PORTS, SHIPPING
AND WATERWAYS

From **5th place in 2015 to 2nd globally in 2026**, India now contributes **12.16%** of the world's maritime workforce, strengthening its position as a global maritime talent powerhouse

KEY HIGHLIGHTS



311,936 Indian seafarers serving the global shipping industry



12.16% share of the global seafaring workforce



140,718 officers, accounting for **13.41%** of the world's officer workforce



171,218 ratings, representing **11.29%** of global ratings



India rises from **5th position (2015)** to 2nd position (2026) globally



Mission **20% aims** to make 1 in every 5 global seafarers an Indian



Driven by maritime reforms, enhanced training, digitalisation, and **world-class skilling initiatives**

Environment

Mission Clouded Leopard

Meghalaya Chief Minister officially launched "Mission Clouded Leopard" recently.

- It is a groundbreaking flagship conservation programme specifically designed to safeguard the Mainland Clouded Leopard (*Neofelis nebulosa*).
- Mainland Clouded Leopard is the official State Animal of Meghalaya.
- **Objectives of the Mission**
 - Habitat Protection
 - Landscape Connectivity
 - Anti-Poaching Enforcement
 - Community Engagement
- Click to know about India's [Clouded Leopard Conservation Action Plan \(CAP\)](#).

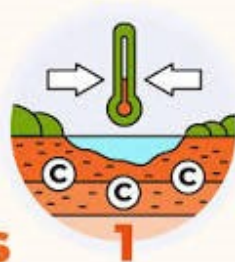


FAO Peat-Emit Report (2026)

The report, *Peat-Emit: Supporting Developing Economies to Estimate and Report Greenhouse Gas Emissions from Organic Soils*, introduced updated emission factors and identified key data gaps recently.

- **Released by** – Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO).
- The report provides updated emission factors and methods to improve GHG estimates from peatlands and organic soils, especially in developing countries.
- **Carbon Importance** – *Peatlands cover just 3-4% of global land but store 30% of soil organic carbon (450-650 Gt).*
- **Emission Risk** – Drained, degraded or burnt peatlands become major sources of CO₂, CH₄ and N₂O, water-table depth strongly influences emissions.
- Data remain concentrated in Southeast Asia, with limited measurements from Africa, Latin America and other regions, highlighting the need for improved methodologies.

Benefits of wet peatlands



1
Limit global
warming by
storing carbon



2
Foster rare
biodiversity and
unique species



3
Minimize fire,
flood and
drought risks



4
Provide
clean water



5
Offer cultural
and recreational
space



Food and Agriculture
Organization of the
United Nations



Agni-4 Missile

Recently, India successfully test-fired the nuclear-capable Agni-4 ballistic missile from the Integrated Test Range at Chandipur, Odisha.

- **Missile class** - Medium-Range Ballistic Missile (MRBM)
- **Strike range** - Up to 4,000 kilometres
- **Propulsion** - Two-stage, solid-fuel rocket motor
- **Payload capacity** - Capable of carrying nuclear and conventional warheads
- **Special feature** - Equipped with an advanced re-entry heat shield able to withstand temperatures exceeding 3,000°C.

AGNI MISSILE SERIES BREAKDOWN

DEFENCEHQ
Presented by THE TIMES OF INDIA

AGNI-IV

Advanced IRBM

RANGE
**3,500–
4,000 km**

PURPOSE | Tactical nuclear deterrence against neighbouring threats

TECHNOLOGY | Ring laser gyro and composite rocket motor

CAPABILITY | Nuclear-capable precision strike missile



RANGE
5,000+ km

AGNI-V

INTERCONTINENTAL BALLISTIC MISSILE (ICBM)

STAGES | Three-stage solid-fuel missile

TECHNOLOGY | Canister launch system and MIRV capability

KEY FEATURE | Faster launch readiness and multiple warhead delivery

STATUS | Successfully tested with MIRV technology in 2024 and 2025



AGNI-P (Prime)

NEXT-GENERATION BALLISTIC MISSILE

RANGE
**1,000–
2,000 km**
(estimated)

PURPOSE | Replacement for Agni-I and Agni-II

TECHNOLOGY | Lighter composite body with advanced guidance

KEY FEATURE | High accuracy and dual-canister launch capability



mFlusiva - Influenza vaccine

The U.S. FDA approved mFlusiva (mRNA-1010), the world's first messenger RNA (mRNA) seasonal influenza vaccine for adults aged 50 and older.

- **Developed by** - Moderna.
- The FDA split its authorization based on patient age groups
 - **Adults aged 50 to 64** - Granted full, traditional approval.
 - **Adults aged 65 and older** - Granted accelerated approval based on strong immune responses.
- **Clinical findings** -
 - Cut the risk of laboratory-confirmed flu cases by 26.6% compared to a standard-dose vaccine.
 - Generated stronger antibody levels than existing senior-targeted high-dose shots.
- This milestone introduces a flexible manufacturing platform that can design and manufacture flu shots in 6 weeks instead of the traditional 6 months required for egg-based vaccines.



'Ghost particles'

Researchers in France from the Double Chooz collaboration have made the first precise measurement of antineutrino ("ghost particle") signatures emitted by spent nuclear fuel

- This breakthrough allows inspectors to remotely monitor nuclear inventory and detect the secret removal of fuel assemblies meant for illicit plutonium extraction
- **Ghost particles** also known as Neutrinos and antineutrinos carry no charge and have tiny mass, letting them pass through matter untouched.
- Even after a reactor shuts down, decaying isotopes like Praseodymium-144 and Ruthenium-106 in spent fuel emit a steady stream of antineutrinos.
- Detectors measure this stream from a distance to verify if fuel assemblies remain intact inside cooling pools.

Miscellaneous

'India Day'

Massachusetts Governor Maura Healey and Boston Mayor Michelle Wu have declared August 15 as 'India Day'.

- It is recognising the Indian-American community's contributions and marking India's 79th Independence Day.
- The proclamation described India as a composite civilisation, an ancient nation extraordinarily unique, distinguished by its cultural mosaic of people.
- **Note** - India has the world's largest diaspora, with over 36 million (3.6 crore) people of Indian origin living abroad.
 - More than five million (50 lakh) people of Indian origin live in the United States, who greatly contribute to the social, economic and civic health of the nation and community.



SHANKAR
IAS PARLIAMENT
Information is Empowering