UPSC Daily Current Affairs| One Liners 07-10-2026

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Polity & Governance

Integrated Transport & Logistics Authority (ITLA)

The Union Cabinet approved the setting up of a Special Purpose Vehicle called the Integrated Transport & Logistics Authority (ITLA) on October 6, 2026, to act as the national apex body for unified multi-modal transport planning and coordination.

• **Key Details of ITLA**

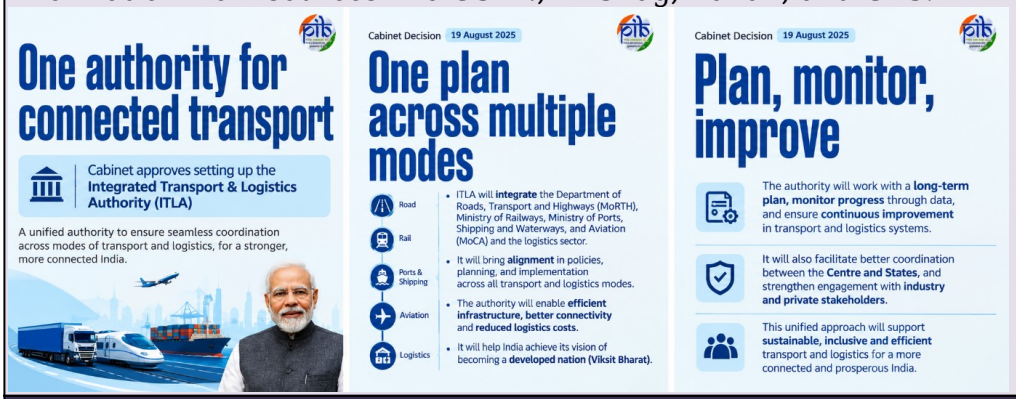
• **Apex Coordination –** Resolves fragmented planning across multiple transport ministries and agencies.

• **National Transport Master Plan –** Prepares a long-term blueprint with a 10-year or longer horizon, alongside 5-year sectoral and annual plans.

• **Scope of Coverage –** Integrates roads, railways, ports and shipping, civil aviation, inland waterways, coastal shipping, urban mobility, and logistics.

• **Project Appraisal –** Conducts technical evaluations for government infrastructure projects costing Rs.500 crore or more.

• **Data Repository** – Builds a unified national transport data repository combining information from sources like GSTN, FASTag, Vahan, and GPS.



International Relations and Issues

The India-EFTA Trade and Economic Partnership Agreement

The India–EFTA Trade and Economic Partnership Agreement (TEPA) marked its first anniversary on October 1, 2026, following its entry into force on October 1, 2025.

• **Overview & Core Commitments**
• **Signatories –** India and EFTA nations (Switzerland, Norway, Iceland, Liechtenstein)
• **Investment Pledge –** USD 100 billion over 15 years
• **Job Creation –** 1 million direct jobs targeted in India
• **Market Access –** EFTA covers 92.2% of tariff lines; India covers 82.7% while protecting sensitive domestic sectors like dairy and agriculture.
• **First Anniversary Milestones**
• **Bilateral Talks –** Swiss President Guy Parmelin met PM Narendra Modi in New Delhi to review progress.
• **Surge in Interest –** Corporate engagement and bilateral business interest have surged strongly across sectors.
• **Expanded Cooperation –** Ties are broadening beyond trade into defence production, civil nuclear energy, and AI governance.



Health

Cervavac: WHO Prequalified HPV Vaccine

Serum Institute's Cervavac vaccine receives WHO prequalification.

• Cervavac is India's first indigenously developed **gender-neutral quadrivalent Human Papillomavirus (HPV) vaccine**, developed by the **Serum Institute of India, Pune**.

• It has received **WHO prequalification**, enabling its consideration for procurement by UN agencies and international health programmes.

• **Vaccine Profile –** Cervavac targets **HPV types 6, 11, 16 and 18** and is indicated for **girls and boys aged 9–26 years**. It helps prevent HPV-related cancers and genital warts.

• **Development & Launch –** Developed with support from DBT, BIRAC, IARC and the Gates Foundation, it was approved by **DCGI** and nationally launched on **24 January 2023**.



World Cerebral Palsy Day 2026

It was observed on October 6, 2026, uniting a global movement for over 50 million people living with cerebral palsy through the official World Cerebral Palsy Day platform.

• **Key Details for 2026**

• **Date** – Tuesday, October 6, 2026

• **Theme** – "Unique and United" (#UniqueANDUnited)

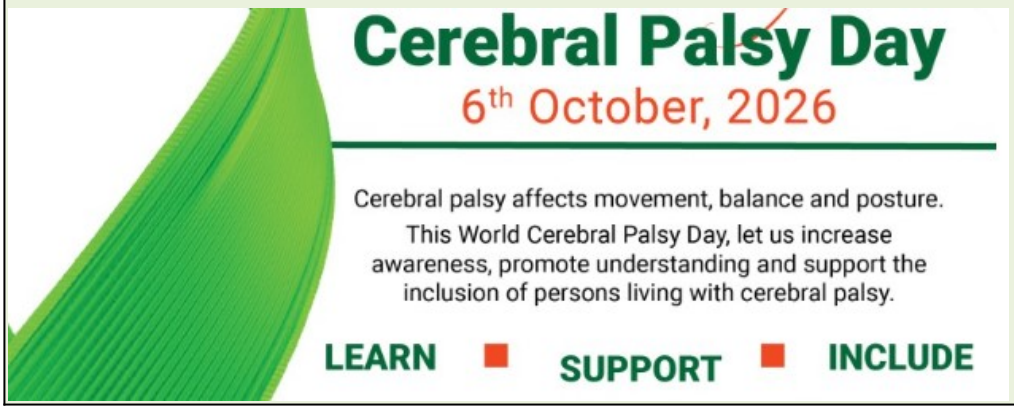
• **Focus** – Connecting individuals with cerebral palsy and supporters to demand actionable changes—such as inclusive education, better assistive technology, lifelong healthcare, and accessible public spaces.

• **Awareness Color** – Green

• **About Cerebral Palsy (CP)**

• **Definition** – A group of permanent neurological disorders affecting movement, muscle tone, and posture due to early brain injury.

• **Scope** – It is the most common physical disability in childhood, impacting people across a wide spectrum from mild coordination difficulties to complete reliance on daily assistance.



eSanjeevani: 50 Crore Teleconsultations

India's national telemedicine service eSanjeevani crossed 50 crore (500 million) teleconsultations on 15 September 2026.

• It covers all 36 States and UTs, improving healthcare access in rural, remote and underserved areas.

• **Expanding Reach**

• Supports 1.42 lakh+ Ayushman Arogya Mandir spokes, 19,473 medical hubs and 901 online OPDs.

• Has 2.41 lakh+ registered healthcare providers and operates in 15 languages.

• Women account for 57.14% of utilisation, while 40.15% of consultations are by citizens aged 46+.

• **Technology & Integration**

• Integrated with an AI-powered Clinical Decision Support System (AI-CDSS) to improve clinical decision-making.

• Linked with ERSS-112 to strengthen emergency medical support.

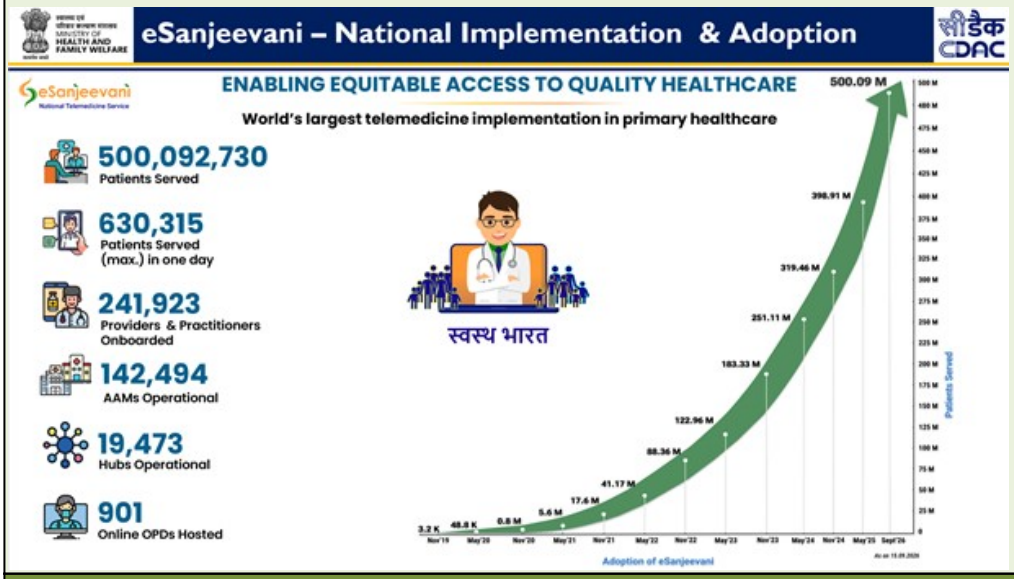
• **Specialist Healthcare**

• Specialist OPD teleconsultations have begun at AIIMS Jodhpur, Jammu and Patna, reducing travel and waiting burdens.

• Further expansion to AIIMS, JIPMER and PGIMER is envisaged.

• **Significance**

• eSanjeevani demonstrates India's capacity to build indigenous Digital Public Infrastructure (DPI) for healthcare, advancing Universal Health Coverage, Aatmanirbhar Bharat and Viksit Bharat.



Environment

Japanese sparrowhawk

A rare Japanese sparrowhawk (Tachyspiza gularis) was recently spotted by birders at Chennai's Adyar Estuary, marking one of the very few rare records of this bird on the Indian mainland.

• **Significance –** This adds to a tiny handful of mainland Indian records for the species, which typically breeds in East Asia and winters in Southeast Asia.

• **Details of the Bird –** The individual spotted was an adult female, noted for its brown upperparts, white body and wing linings with brown-grey barring, and yellow eyes and legs.

Quick Facts – Japanese Sparrowhawk

• **Scientific Name –** *Tachyspiza gularis*

• **Family –** Accipitridae

• **Normal Range –** Breeds in Japan, Korea, eastern China, and parts of Russia; winters in Southeast Asia.

• **Habitat Preferences –** Woodlands, forest edges, and open areas.

• Raptor experts emphasize that local green spaces like the Adyar Estuary, Theosophical Society, and Guindy National Park provide crucial urban refuges for such vagrant birds and require active preservation.



Defence

First Indigenous Fleet Support Ship ‘Surya’

*Defence Minister Rajnath Singh launched India's first indigenously built Fleet Support Ship (FSS-1), named '**INS Surya**', at Hindustan Shipyard Limited (HSL) in Visakhapatnam on October 6, 2026.*

• **Key Specifications & Features**

• **Dimensions –** 223.6 metres long and 31.5 metres wide, with a draught of 9.3 metres.

• **Displacement –** About 43,500 tonnes.

• **Speed & Range –** Top speed of 20 knots, built for extended 60-day missions.

• **Cargo Capacity –** Carries 20,000 tonnes of high-speed diesel, 2,500 tonnes of aviation turbine fuel, 1,000 tonnes of fresh water, and provisions/ammunition.

• **Capabilities –** Equipped with onboard maintenance workshops, a helicopter deck for medium-role helicopter operations, and self-defence systems.

• **Strategic Importance**

• **FSS Programme –** Part of a Rs.19,000-crore contract to build five fleet support ships by HSL to serve as floating logistics hubs.

• **Atmanirbhar Bharat –** Features roughly 82% indigenous content, significantly boosting India's domestic defence manufacturing and naval endurance across the Indian Ocean Region.

• **Milestone Events –** During the ceremony, the keel for the fifth ship (FSS-5) was laid, and upgraded HSL infrastructure—including a 300-tonne Goliath Crane—was inaugurated.



High-Altitude Platform System (HAPS)

The Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) successfully tested an indigenously developed High-Altitude Platform System (HAPS), achieving a peak altitude of 21 km and sustaining 20 km for over 30 minutes.

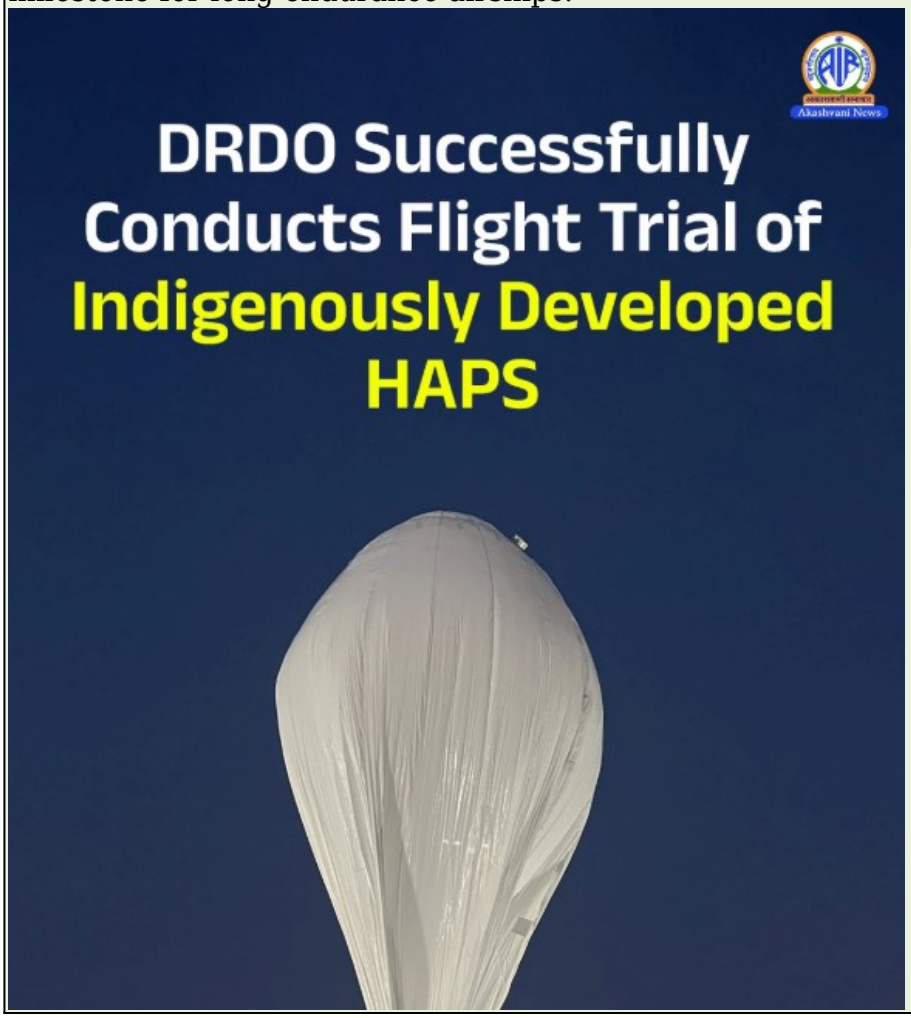
• **Mission Highlights**

• **Altitude Performance** – Reached 21 km AMSL and maintained 20 km AMSL for over 30 minutes prior to a safe recovery.

• **System Design** – Created by ADRDE, Agra, as a lighter-than-air stratospheric platform.

• **Instrumentation & Coordination** – Featured IMU, GPS, cameras, and altitude control, backed by the IAF, CEMILAC, DGCA, and AAI.

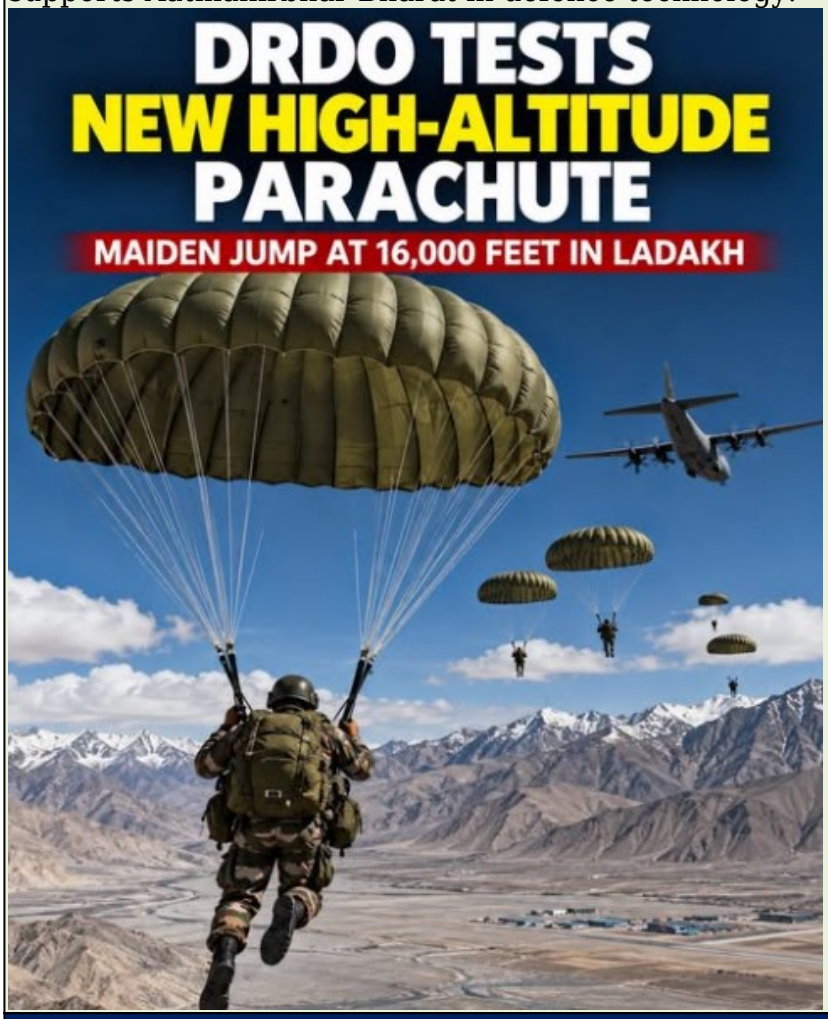
• **Significance –** Praised by Defence Minister Rajnath Singh as a key Aatmanirbhar Bharat milestone for long-endurance airships.



Advanced High-Altitude Parachute (AHAP)

DRDO conducted the maiden live jump of AHAP on 6 October 2026 at Mudh Drop Zone, Nyoma, Ladakh.

• The jump was executed from 16,000 ft AMSL, testing its suitability for high-altitude military operations.
• The parachute deployed at 15,500 ft, with landing at 13,700 ft.
• **Design & Manufacturing**
• **Designed and developed** – Aerial Delivery Research and Development Establishment (ADRDE), Agra.
• **Manufactured by** – Ordnance Parachute Factory (OPF), Kanpur.
• Operational altitude range extends up to 18,000 ft.
• **Key Features**
• AHAP is a static-line parachute designed for mass deployment of paratroopers.
• Static-line deployment uses a line attached to the aircraft to initiate parachute opening.
• It supports multiple deployment modes for aerial delivery.
• **Significance**
• The successful trial strengthens India's indigenous high-altitude military capability and supports Aatmanirbhar Bharat in defence technology.



Sports

First Indian woman golfer to win an individual gold medal

Pranavi Urs made history at the Asian Games by becoming the first Indian woman golfer to win an individual gold medal.

• **Tournament Details**
• **Athlete –** Pranavi Urs, age 23, from Mysuru
• **Score –** 15-under 265 total over four rounds
• **Final Round –** Even-par 70, recovering from an early triple bogey
• **Podium Finish –** Finished one stroke ahead of the silver and bronze medalists
• **Team Success**
• **Team Event –** Won a silver medal in the women's team competition
• **Teammates –** Aditi Ashok and Diksha Dagar
• **Milestone –** Ended India's 24-year wait for an individual golf gold at the Asian Games since 2002.



Miscellaneous

World Architecture Day 2026

World Architecture Day 2026 was observed on Monday, October 5, 2026, focusing on the theme "Housing is a Human Right. Build It."

• **Overview and Details**
• **Date** – October 5, 2026 (celebrated annually on the first Monday of October)
• **Organizer** – International Union of Architects (UIA)
• **Parallel Event** – Aligned with the United Nations' World Habitat Day, which focused on the theme "Adequate Housing for All".
• **Core Focus and Significance**
• **Global Housing Crisis** – The 2026 observance highlighted safe, adequate, and affordable housing as a fundamental element of human dignity rather than a luxury.
• **Role of Architects** – The UIA called upon architects and planners to tackle housing deficits through inclusive design, research, policy advocacy, and the reuse of existing buildings.
• **Global Activities** – Member sections and institutions worldwide marked the day through public lectures, exhibitions, webinars, and discussions on sustainable urbanization.



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