

UPSC Daily Current Affairs| One Liners 10-03-2026

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Geography

Dzukou Valley

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It is Known as the "*Valley of Flowers*".

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Located at - Nagaland-Manipur border.

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Altitude - 2,438 metres, behind the *Japfu mountain range*.

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Adjacent to - Pulie Badze Wildlife Sanctuary (Nagaland).

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Biodiversity

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Rare and vulnerable birds - Blyth's Tragopan (Nagaland's state bird), Rufous-necked Hornbill, Dark-rumped Swift.

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Endangered species - Western Hoolock Gibbons.

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Vegetation - Bamboo, grasses, and endemic Dzukou Lily (*Lilium chitrangada*).

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Home to - Angami people.

Social Issues

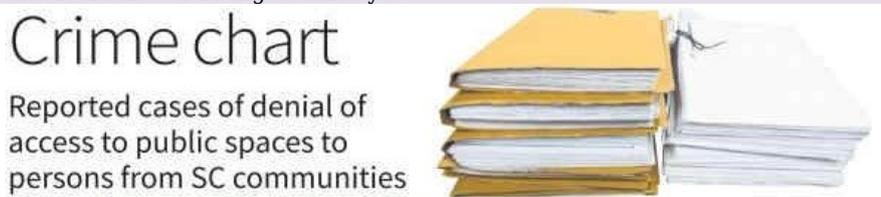
National Crime Records Bureau (NCRB) data on denial of access to public spaces for SC/ST communities

Highlights (NCRB 2023)

- Total cases nationwide - 180.
- Uttar Pradesh - 173 cases (dominant share).
- U.P.'s share has been consistently high
 - 300 out of 305 cases in 2022.
 - 68% in 2018.
 - 80% in 2019.

NCRB Classification

- Crime category introduced in 2017 under the SC/ST (Prevention of Atrocities) Act.
- New columns added to classify crimes such as *“Prevent or deny or obstruct usage of public place/passage.”*
- In 2017, U.P. reported zero cases in this category but 57 cases under “SC persons forced to leave residence or facing social boycott.”



Year	Total cases (India)	Cases in U.P.	U.P. share (%)
2017	12	0	0%
2018	16	11	68%
2019	26	21	80%
2022	305	300	98.3%
2023	180	173	96.1%

Polity & Governance

Safeguards for SCs and STs

Constitutional Provisions

- **Article 15** - Prohibition of discrimination.
- **Article 17** - Abolition of untouchability.
- **Article 46** - Promotion of educational and economic interests.
- **Articles 330, 332, 335** - Political representation and services.
- **Articles 338, 338A** - National Commissions for SCs and STs.

PM-DAKSH Scheme

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PM-DAKSH - Pradhan Mantri Dakshata Aur Kushalata Sampanna Hitgrahi Yojana.

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It is a Central Sector Scheme.

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Launched during - 2020-21.

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Nodal ministry - Ministry of Social Justice & Empowerment.

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Objective - To provide high quality skills through good quality institutions so that the training can result in finding jobs or self-employment ventures for the target group.

Types of Trainings

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Up-skilling/Reskilling

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Short Term Training

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Entrepreneurship Development Programme

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Target Group - SCs, OBCs, EWSs, DNTs Safai Karamcharis including waste pickers etc.

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Age Criterion - 18-45 years.

Income Criteria

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SCs, Safai Karamcharis Including waste picker and DNT - No Income limit.

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OBCs and EWSs - Annual income family below Rs.3 lakh.

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Cost of the training to trainees - Free of cost.

Environment

Orcas - Mother Nature & Boss Ladies

- It also called killer whales.

- Largest members of the dolphin family.

- Earth's largest predator.

- **Found in** - Every ocean.

- **Matrilineal society** - They live in close-knit groups led by mothers, with leadership passed down to daughters.

- **Knowledge transfer** - Female orcas teach their young about food sources and social behaviours.

- **Survival strategy** - This cultural transmission helps them adapt to the Anthropocene.

- **Threats** - Orcas face marine pollution, overfishing, and disrupted echolocation due to noisy shipping zones.



Deinococcus radiodurans

- A bacterium famous for surviving extreme radiation and dryness.

- **New Finding** - It can withstand intense pressures (14,000-24,000 Earth atmospheres), similar to being blasted off a planet's surface.

- **Survival Mechanism** - Genetic analysis shows survivors rely on:

- DNA repair systems.

- Iron transport for recovery.

- **Implications**

- It supports the panspermia hypothesis.

- It expands the scope of the search for extraterrestrial life.

Key Concepts behind Deinococcus Radiodurans

- **Extremophiles -**

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Extremophiles are organisms that thrive in extreme environments (e.g., hydrothermal vents, high pressure, high temperature).

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Applications - Potential use in genetically based medicines, industrial chemicals, and processes.

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Perspective - "Extreme" is relative—conditions hostile to humans (like no oxygen) can be normal for some organisms.

- **Panspermia Hypothesis** - Life distributed across the universe via meteoroids, asteroids, planetoids.

Security

11th Edition of Exercise LAMITIYE - 2026

- **Joint Military Exercise between** - Indian Armed Forces and Seychelles Defence Forces (SDF).

- 'LAMITIYE' meaning 'Friendship' in the Creole language is a biennial training event.

- **Conducted in** - Seychelles since 2001.

- **Participants** - All three services of the Indian Armed Forces.

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Personnel from the ASSAM Regiment and Indian Navy and IAF including INS Trikand and a C-130 aircraft.

- **Aim** - To enhance synergy in the domains of *Sub-conventional Operations in Semi-Urban environment* and cooperation and interoperability between both the sides during Peace Keeping Operations.

Science

THAAD

It is an advanced U.S. missile defence platform designed to *counter ballistic missile threats*.

Capabilities

Intercepts missiles in the *terminal (final) stage of flight*.

Destroys threats *inside and outside Earth's atmosphere*.

Defends against short, medium, and limited intermediate-range ballistic missiles.

Effective at ranges of 150–200 km, at high altitude.

"Hit-to-Kill" Technology

Interceptors destroy targets by direct collision at high speed.

Uses kinetic energy, not explosives.

Improves precision and reduces debris risk.

Key Components

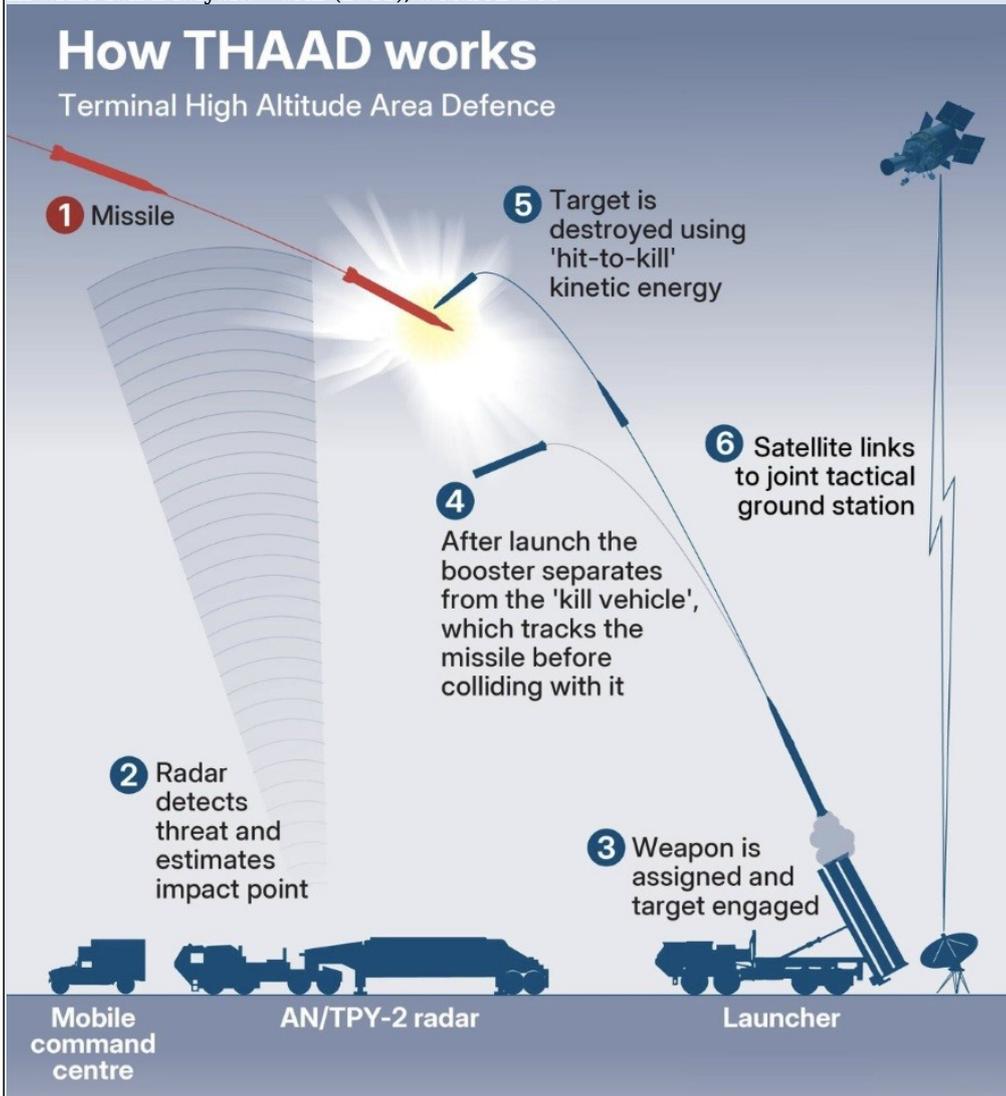
Interceptors - kinetic impact destroyers.

Truck-mounted launchers - mobile deployment.

AN/TPY-2 radar - long-range detection and tracking.

Fire control & communications unit - tactical coordination.

International buyers - UAE (2011), Saudi Arabia.



WHO Malaria-Free Certification

Recently, the International Malaria Conference 2026 concluded in New Delhi after three days of scientific deliberations and global engagement on malaria elimination.

- **Malaria-Free Certification** - Granted when local transmission is interrupted *for 3 consecutive years* with a functional surveillance system.

- **Global Status** - 47 countries/territories certified malaria-free (mid-2025).

Examples - Sri Lanka (2016), China (2021), Algeria (2019), Paraguay (2018).

- **Note** - World Malaria Day observed globally every year on 25th April.



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