

UPSC Daily Current Affairs| One Liners 10-11-2025

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History

Buddha Relics as a "Goodwill Gift"

India sent sacred Buddha relics to Bhutan as a "goodwill gift" for the Global Peace Prayer Festival.

- **Public display in** - Grand Kuenray of Tashichhodzong, Thimphu.
- **Relics origin** - Named after Piprahwa, a site in Uttar Pradesh near the Nepal border, identified as ancient Kapilavastu.
- **Excavated by** - British archaeologist William Claxton Peppe in the late 19th century.
- **Significance** - Strengthens spiritual and cultural ties between India and Bhutan.
 - Highlights India's cultural diplomacy.
 - Reinforces shared Buddhist heritage.

Social Issues

"Operation White Cauldron"

DRI dismantles multi-state drug network by busting a clandestine factory manufacturing alprazolam in Valsad.

- **Conducted by** - Directorate of Revenue Intelligence (DRI).
- **Seized materials** - Alprazolam and key chemicals Such as p-Nitrochlorobenzene, Phosphorous Pentasulfide, Ethyl Acetate, and Hydrochloric Acid.
- **Legal status** - Alprazolam, a psychotropic substance under the Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances (NDPS) Act, 1985.
- **Significance** - It underscores its commitment to the Government's by protecting citizens from the menace of narcotic and psychotropic substances.

Polity & Governance

Right to Vote vs. Freedom of Voting

- **Right to vote** - Only a statutory right conferred by Section 62 of the Representation of the People Act of 1951, and subject to the limitations given in the statute.
- **Freedom of voting** - It was a "species of the right to expression under Article 19(1)(a) of the Constitution".
- **2003 Supreme Court judgment** - In Civil Liberties (PUCL) versus Union that "the initial right (right to vote) cannot be placed on the pedestal of a fundamental right, but at the stage when the voter goes to the polling booth and casts his vote, his freedom to express arises.

'NOTA - Not a Candidate'

- **NOTA** - None Of The Above.
- **Centre argued** - NOTA did not fit within the definition of a 'candidate' under Section 79(b) of the RP Act, 1951.
- NOTA cannot be given an artificial personality.
- It is merely an option or an expression.
- It cannot be termed as a candidate so as to take a poll in terms of Section 53(1) of the RP Act,".

Section 53 of RP Act, 1951

- **Section 53(1)** - The election would be put to vote only if the number of candidates were *more than the number of seats* to be filled.
- **Section 53(2)** - when the number of candidates *equals the number of seats* to be filled in an Assembly or Lok Sabha election.
- In such cases, the provision instructs a Returning Officer (RO) to declare all such candidates as duly elected by filling in Form 21 (in case of a general election) or Form 21B (in case of an election to fill a casual vacancy).
- **Section 53(3)** - Again, there would be no poll if the number of candidates *were fewer than the seats* in an election.

Science

Emerging Science, Technology, and Innovation Conclave

- **Held in** - New Delhi.
- **Organized by** - Department of Science and Technology (DST), with ARCI, Hyderabad.
- **Aim** - To accelerate India's STI (Science, Technology & Innovation) mission in alignment with the vision of "Viksit Bharat 2047".
- **Participants** - Nobel Laureates, global experts, S&T leaders, policymakers, deep-tech startup CEOs, women entrepreneurs, researchers, industry representatives, and students.
- **Theme** - "Viksit Bharat 2047 - Pioneering Sustainable Innovation, Technological Advancement and Empowerment".
- It reflects India's mission to become a global innovation leader by 2047 through inclusive, deep-tech, and future-ready advancements.

11 Focus Areas of ESTIC 2025

- Quantum Science & Technology
- Artificial Intelligence
- Advanced Materials & Manufacturing
- Health & Medical Technologies
- Electronics & Semiconductor Manufacturing
- Energy, Environment & Climate
- Digital Communications
- Space Technologies
- Bio-Manufacturing
- Blue Economy
- Emerging Agricultural Technologies

Miscellaneous

World Travel Market (WTM)

The Ministry of Tourism, Government of India, is participating at World Travel Market (WTM).

- **Held in** - Excel London.
- **Delegates from India** - 30 stakeholders including State Governments / UT Administrations, inbound tour operators from the Indian travel industry along with IRCTC.
- To showcase India's vibrant cultural diversity and the range of tourism products and immersive experiences.
- **Objectives** - To bring together leading global travel industry professionals, buyers and exhibitors in London.
 - To engage in shaping the future of travel, exchange ideas and build partnerships.

International Tourist Arrivals (ITAs)

- **India received** - 20.57 million International Tourist Arrivals (ITAs) during 2024.
- **FTAs major source countries** - *United States, United Kingdom, Australia, Singapore, Canada* have shown an upward trend in 2024.
- UK along with USA and Australia continue to remain as the top few source countries for inbound tourists to India.
- **World Economic Forum Travel & Tourism Competitiveness index** - India is ranked *39th among 119 countries* in 2024.

National Legal Services Day

- **Observed on** - 9th November.
- **Commemorate to** - The Legal Services Authorities Act, 1987, which led to the establishment of organisations providing free legal aid to the needy.
- **Key highlights** -
 - India's legal aid system has reached 44.22 lakh people (2022-25) and resolved 23.58 crore cases through Lok Adalats.
 - From 2022-23 to 2024-25 over 23.58 crore cases were resolved through the state, permanent and national Lok Adalats.
 - About 2.10 crore people (as on February 28, 2025) were given pre-litigation advice, pro bono services, and legal representation and awareness through the DISHA scheme.