UPSC Daily Current Affairs| One Liners 10-11-2026

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History, Art and Culture

Ningol Chakouba Festival – Manipur

• It is a traditional festival symbolising the bond between married women, their brothers and paternal families.
• Celebrated in – Manipur.
• Celebrated annually on – **2nd day of Hiyangei month** of the Meitei calendar.
• **Tradition**
  - Married women visit their parental homes with their children.
  - Brothers and family members host a special feast and give gifts to the women.
  - Traditional dishes include **fish curry**, an essential part of the celebration.

Fish Fair

• Manipur's Department of Fisheries organises the *Annual Fish Fair-cum-Fish Crop Competition* ahead of the festival.
• **Venue –** Imphal.
• **Objective –** To make fish available to the public at affordable prices.

4,000-Year-Old Rock Paintings



• **Discovered at –** Karadimalai, Ottampattu Thandari village, Villupuram district, Tamil Nadu.
• **Key Findings**
• **Location –** Rock overhang near the foothills of Karadimalai.
• **Material** – Paintings executed in *red ochre.*
• **Depictions**
  - Plant resembling the Peruvian Apple Cactus.
  - Deer-like figures and a wild boar.
  - Geometric square patterns, rectangular boundaries and parallel vertical strokes.
  - Animal figures, including bovids, with stylised bodies.
• **Interpretation –** Geometric motifs may represent enclosures or settlement maps and reflect prehistoric/protohistoric rock-art traditions.
• **Other Archaeological Evidence**
  - Three rock depressions discovered at nearby *Karadichunai.*
  - It is believed to have been formed by Neolithic people while sharpening or polishing stone tools.
  - It indicates the presence and activities of ancient hunter-gatherer communities.

Geography

Maharashtra's 3 Blue Flag Beaches

*Recently, 3 Maharashtra beaches received the **International Blue Flag certification for the 2026-27 season.***

• It marks the state's 1st entry into the international list of Blue Flag beaches.

• **Newly Certified Beaches**
  - **Shrivardhan** – Raigad district.
  - **Ladghar –** Ratnagiri district.
  - **Guhagar** – Ratnagiri district.

*Shrivardhan is the 1st **beach in Raigad district** to receive this recognition.*



Blue Flag Certification

• An international eco-label awarded by the **Foundation for Environmental Education (FEE), Denmark**.

• It recognises beaches that meet standards relating to:
  - Water quality and beach cleanliness.
  - Environmental management and biodiversity conservation.
  - Tourist safety and emergency services.
  - Sanitation, waste management and basic facilities.
  - Environmental education and accessibility for persons with disabilities.

Economy

COP31 – Global Electrification Initiative

*COP31 (Antalya, Türkiye) launched the **Electrify Now Finance Coalition** on 10 November 2026.*

• **Aim –** To accelerate clean electrification investments in developing countries.

• **Electrify Now Finance Coalition:**
  - Backed by COP31 Presidency and Ethiopia (COP32 host).
  - Co-chaired by *World Bank Group and African Development Bank (2027).*
  - Operates until COP33 (2028).

• **Climate Investment Funds (CIF)**
  - Announced **$94 million catalytic finance** under AMPLIFi programme.
  - Aims to mobilise **over $1.2 billion** in private investment for clean power, grids, storage and electrification.

• **Investment Gap**
  - Developing economies account for *80% of global electricity demand growth.*
  - Advanced economies and China receive 90% of energy-transition investments.
  - Africa receives only **2%**.

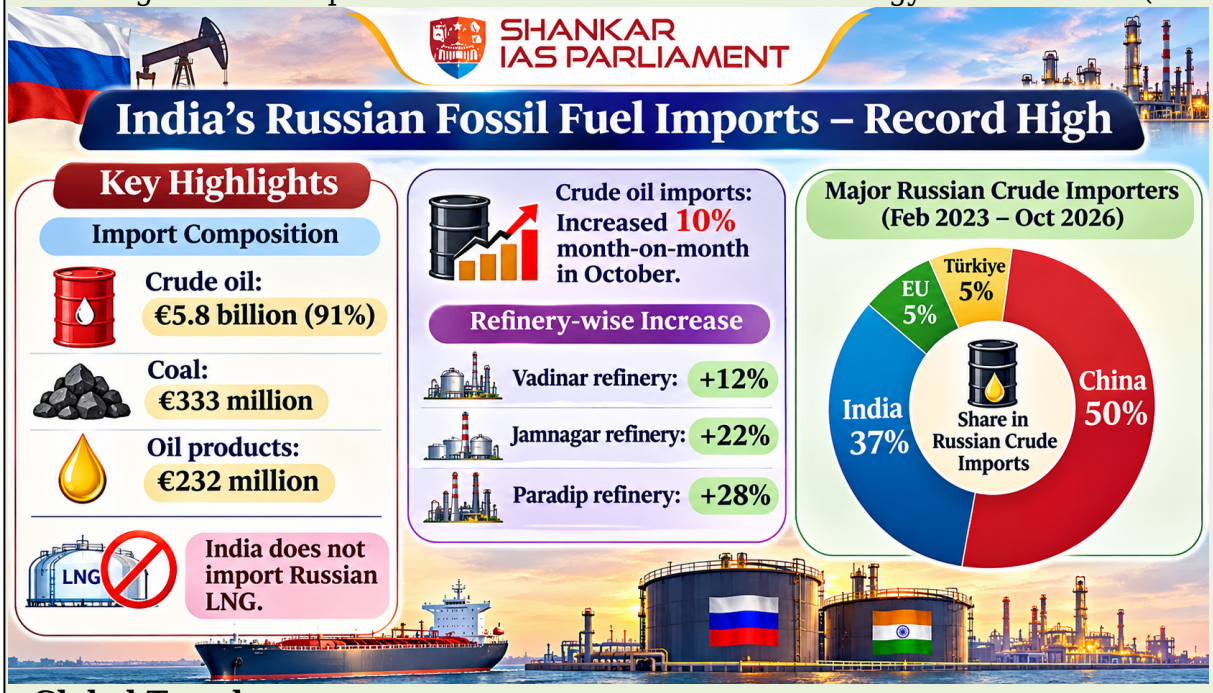
• **Global Electrification Pledge (35-by-35)**
  - Increase electricity's share in final energy consumption from *23% to 35% by 2035.*
  - **Focus –** Transport, buildings and industries.
  - Supports the *1.5°C climate goal.*

• **Associated Initiatives**
  - **Grids Technical Assistance Solutions Hub –** Grid modernisation and renewable integration.
  - **IEA –** Global Electrification Tracking Mechanism.
  - **IRENA –** D-GRIDS programme for distribution-grid development.



India’s Russian Fossil Fuel Imports - Record High

• India’s imports of Russian fossil fuels reached a record €6.4 billion in October 2026, according to the Europe-based Centre for Research on Energy and Clean Air (CREA).



• **Global Trends**

- China remained the largest buyer of Russian fossil fuels (€10.7 billion), followed by India (€6.4 billion).
- Russia’s fossil fuel export revenue rose 14% month-on-month to €754 million/day in October 2026, despite broadly unchanged export volumes.
- Russian Urals crude price increased 13% to $101.7/barrel, its highest monthly average since at least October 2021.
- Higher global energy prices, partly linked to the West Asia and Russia–Ukraine conflicts, boosted Russian export earnings.

• **Significance for India**

- It supports energy security through diversified crude oil sourcing.
- It provides access to alternative crude supplies, but increases exposure to geopolitical risks, sanctions and price volatility.

India – Renewable Energy Expansion (IEA Report 2026)

• According to the *India Renewable Energy Market Report 2026 by IEA*, India's renewable energy expansion has saved over $100 billion in coal and natural gas import costs over the past 15 years.

• **Key Highlights**

• **Installed Capacity –** India has around 300 GW renewable energy capacity, becoming the *world's 2nd-fastest-growing renewables market.*



• **2030 Target –** Renewable energy capacity expected to reach 530 GW.

• **Climate Achievement –** Achieved the target of 50% installed electricity capacity from non-fossil fuel sources in 2025, five years ahead of schedule.

• **Government Initiatives**

- **PM Surya Ghar Muft Bijli Yojana –** It promotes rooftop solar installations.
- **PM-KUSUM –** It promotes solar-powered agricultural pumps and farm feeders.

Agriculture

El Niño - Impact on Global Food Security (COP31)

• A new IFAD report, *Food Systems Under Stress: Building Resilience from the First Mile*, warns of $11 trillion global income losses due to El Niño over 5–6 years.

• **Key Highlights**

- **2026–27 El Niño** – Expected to peak during October 2026–January 2027, with prolonged agricultural impacts.



• **Agricultural Impact**

- Southern Africa faces over 50% drought probability (Oct 2026–Mar 2027).
- South and Southeast Asian rice-producing regions are vulnerable.
- 2015–16 El Niño reduced regional rice production by 15 million tonnes.
- Food Security – Additional 49 million people may face acute food insecurity by end-2027 (WFP estimate).

Agriwaste-to-Fuels Plant

• India's proposed largest agriwaste-to-fuels plant at *Khed City, near Pune, Maharashtra.*
• **Key Highlights**
  - **Production capacity –** Up to 2 lakh litres of bio-crude per day.
  - **Technology –** Proprietary Integrated Catalytic Thermo Cracking (ICTC) process.
  - Converts agricultural waste at around 600°C, using multiple catalysts, into bio-crude.
  - **Feedstock –** Paddy straw and husk, groundnut and cashew shells, and sugarcane bagasse.
  - **End Products –** Bio-crude can be refined into renewable diesel and bio-naphtha.
  - Around 75% of bio-crude can yield renewable diesel.
  - Renewable diesel can be used in existing vehicles without modification.
• **Expansion Plan**
  - **Existing Chakan plant** – 15,000 → 30,000 litres/day.
  - **Target –** 5 lakh litres/day total capacity by 2028.
• **Funding of Rs.250 crore**
  - Rs.100 crore from Technology Development Board (TDB), Ministry of Science and Technology.
  - Rs.150 crore through Series B funding from investors including Amazon's Smbhav Venture Fund, Climate Pledge Fund, Rainmatter and Strategic Autonomy Fund.
• **Significance**
  - It utilises agricultural waste and helps reduce stubble burning.
  - It avoids the food-versus-fuel conflict associated with food crops and vegetable oils.
  - It supports renewable fuel production and circular economy.

Environment

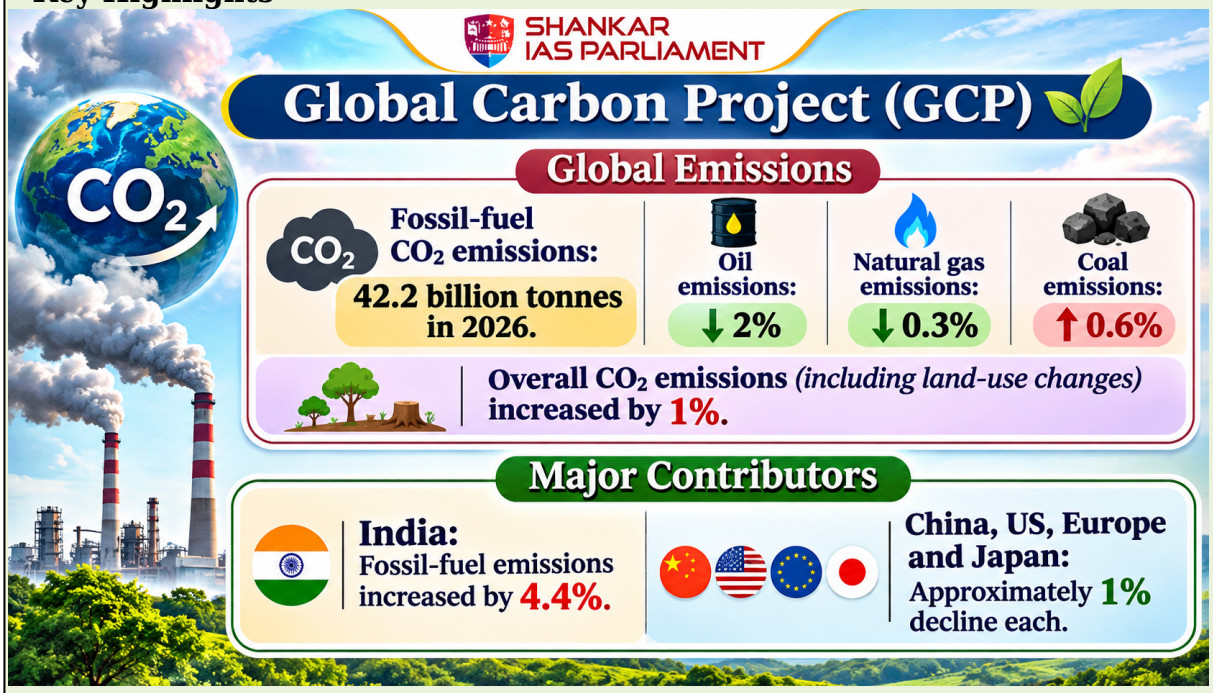
Global Covenant of Mayors (GCoM) – 2026 Impact Report

• GCoM released its **2026 Impact Report** at COP31 (Türkiye), highlighting cities' growing leadership in climate action.
• **Key Highlights**
• **Climate Targets**
  - 7,500 out of 14,000 signatories (58%) have more ambitious emission-reduction targets than national governments.
  - 28% aim to achieve targets earlier.
  - Potential to reduce **4.8 Gt CO_2e annually by 2050**.
• **Climate Action**
  - Net-zero targets with implementation plans increased from 211 (2025) to 580 (2026).
  - 3,078 cities completed climate-risk assessments covering 735 million people.
• **Climate Finance Gap**
  - Emerging economies receive only **$6 billion annually**, against estimated requirements of $147 billion/year by 2030.
  - Only 1% of tracked urban climate finance goes towards adaptation.
• **Global South**
  - 61% of the population represented by GCoM signatories lives in the Global South.
  - 81% of national climate commitments now include strong urban components (UN-Habitat).

Global Carbon Emissions – 2026

• Global fossil-fuel CO_2 emissions declined by 0.4% in 2026, largely due to Iran war-related energy shocks, according to the *Global Carbon Project (GCP).*

• **Key Highlights**



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- **Historical Decline –** 3rd global emissions decline in the 21st century, after the 2009 global recession and 2020 COVID-19 pandemic.
- **Key Concern –** Decline is largely driven by geopolitical energy disruptions rather than a structural transition to clean energy.

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