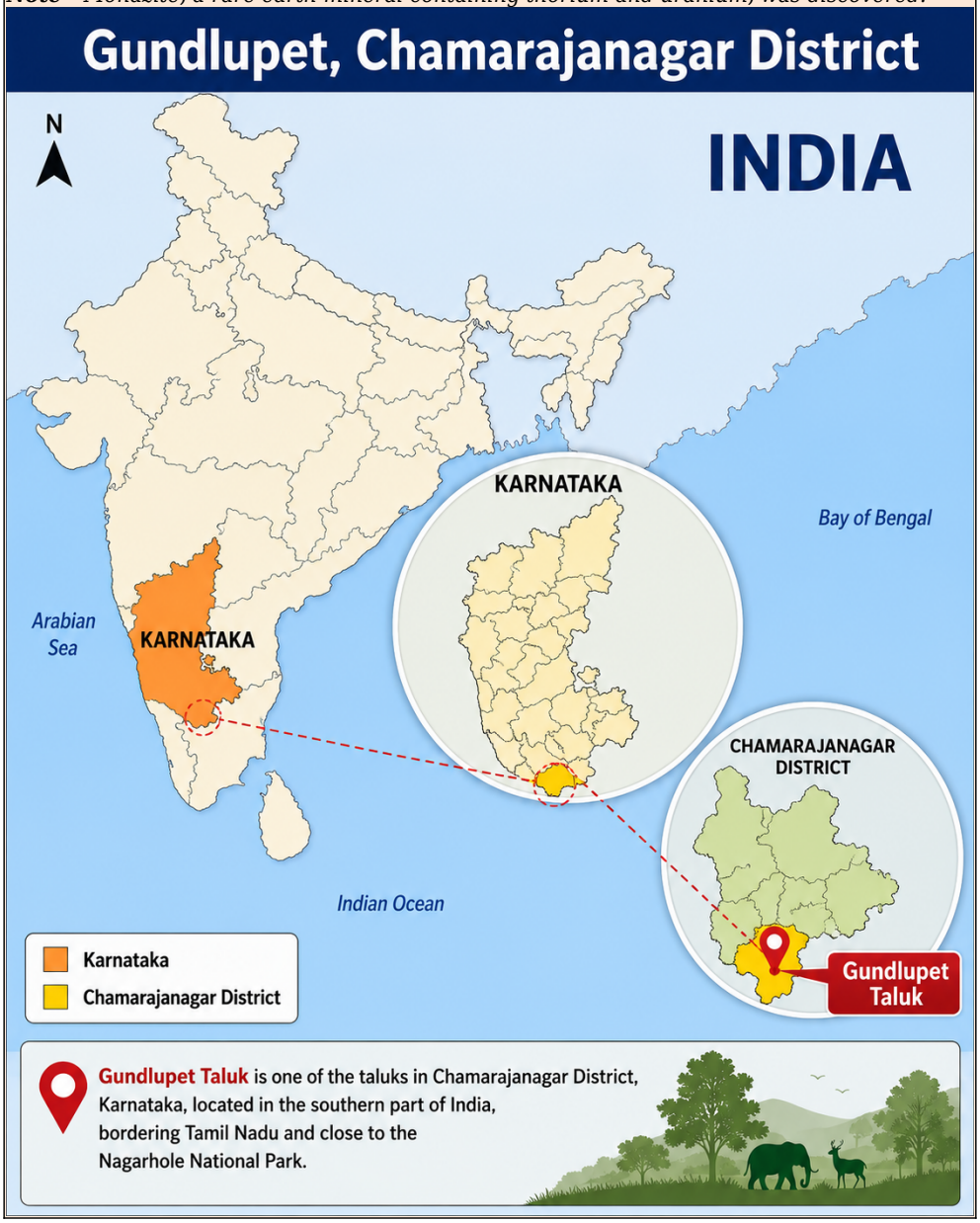
UPSC Daily Current Affairs| One Liners 11-07-2026

One Liners 11-07-2026
Geography

Thorium Mineral Deposit

A recent discovery revealed that thorium deposits cover 700 acres, with 20 acres designated for a mining auction.

- Thorium is a *naturally occurring radioactive metal* and a potential alternative nuclear fuel.
- **Discovered in –** Gundlupet taluk, Chamarajanagar district, Mysuru, by Geological Survey of India (GSI).
- **Significance**
  - It is considered an important fuel for advanced nuclear power generation.
  - It is eco-friendly and reduces emissions, unlike uranium.
  - Applications include aerospace, jet engines, specialised alloys, and high-technology industries.
- **India context**
  - GSI surveys discovered *8.5 lakh tons of thorium deposits* across India.
  - Deposits have been found in coastal areas of *Andhra Pradesh, Kerala, Tamil Nadu, and Odisha.*
  - These reserves are vital for India's *energy security, industrial growth, and strategic development.*
- ***Note -*** *Monazite, a rare earth mineral containing thorium and uranium, was discovered.*



Social Issues

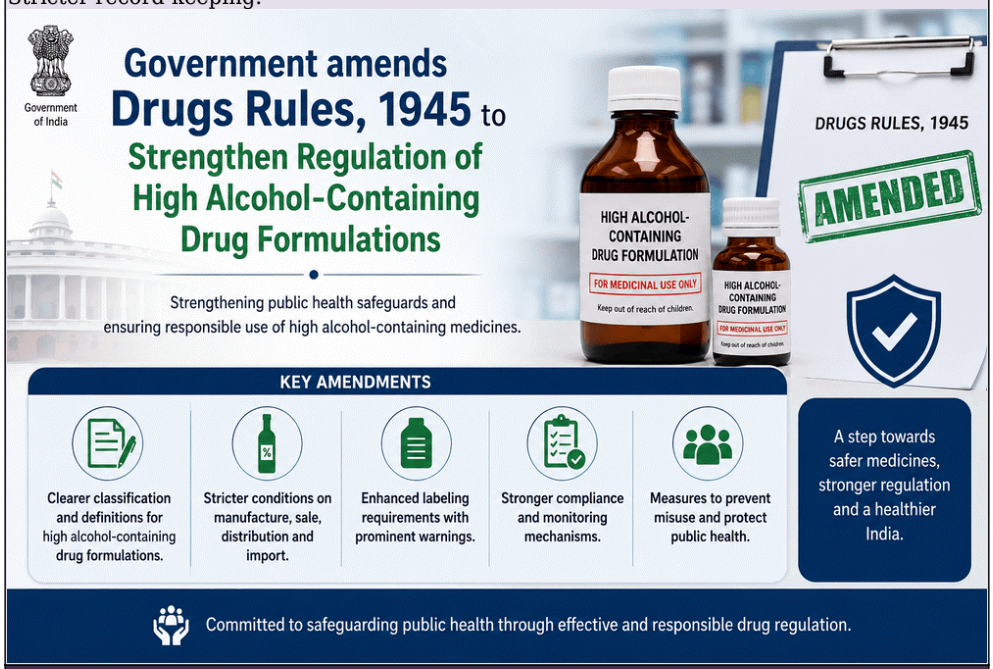
World Population Day

- **Observed on –** July 11.
- **Designated by –** United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA).
- **Objective –** To focus public attention on population-related issues like family planning, maternal health, gender equality, and sustainable development.
- **Theme for 2026 –** "Realizing the hopes and aspirations of young people – today and for the future."
- **Demographic Data (2026)**
  - The global population is about 8.2–8.3 billion, with India the largest, followed by China and the United States.

Polity & Governance

Amendment to Drugs Rules, 1945

- **Aim –** To regulate high alcohol-containing drug formulations.
- **Reason for amendment**
  - Certain medicinal products (e.g., tinctures of cardamom, ginger, and other aromatic preparations) were *exempt under Schedule K.*
  - Some contained *80–90% v/v ethyl alcohol,* raising concerns about *misuse for intoxication.*
  - References from State Governments highlighted risks of diversion and abuse.
- **Key Change -**
  - Formulations with *more than 12% v/v ethyl alcohol* in quantities over 30 mL will *no longer be exempt under Schedule K.*
  - These products are now included in *Schedule H1,* requiring:
    - Licenses under the *Drugs and Cosmetics Act, 1940.*
    - Dispensing only against prescription of a *Registered Medical Practitioner.*
    - Stricter record-keeping.



International Relations and Issues

Australia–Canada–India Technology and Innovation Partnership (ACITI)

Recently, the trilateral partnership countries signed the Australia–Canada–India Technology and Innovation Partnership (ACITI) MoU.

- **Objective** – To boost collaboration in critical and emerging technologies while complementing existing bilateral initiatives between the three countries.
- **Significance**
  - To leverage the strengths of three countries to drive green energy innovation, resilient supply chains and critical minerals.
  - To support net zero goals and promote greater diversification of supply chains for a secure, sustainable and resilient future.
  - To develop and wider adoption of AI to improve the lives of citizens.

LoAs For Sustainable Fisheries in the High Seas

The Vice-President of India launched the national programme for issuance of Letters of Authorisation (LoAs) for Sustainable Harnessing of Fisheries in the High Seas at Bhubaneswar.

- **LoAs** – It is an *authorisation letter (Pass)* that allows Indian fishermen to go beyond 200 nautical miles and fishing in international waters.
  - It is vessel-specific, non-transferable, and fully online.
  - It is a *mandatory provision* under the guidelines for sustainable harnessing of fisheries in the high seas by Indian-flagged fishing vessel.
- **India's Current Status –** India is the world's *2nd largest fish-producing* country, contributing around 8% to global fish production.

100 Years of India–New Zealand Sporting Relations

Recently, the Indian PM attended a Gala Lunch hosted by PM Christopher Luxon in Auckland.

- **Historic Milestone**
  - It marks **100 years of sporting ties** in 2026.
  - The partnership dates back to *Major Dhyan Chand's hockey team's visit* a century ago.
  - PM Modi is the first Indian Prime Minister to visit New Zealand in 40 years.
- **India–New Zealand Joint Action Plan on Sport**
  - The Sports Joint Action Plan expands cooperation beyond cricket, *anchored in rugby and hockey.*
  - **Focus areas -**
    - High-performance training
    - Coaching programs
    - Sports science & analytics
    - Business-to-business sports models
    - Exchanges between national federations
- **Strategic Partnership**
  - It coincides with a broader improvement in bilateral ties:
    - Free Trade Agreement (FTA) signed earlier in 2026.
    - Cooperation in *trade, maritime security, education, and people-to-people exchanges.*

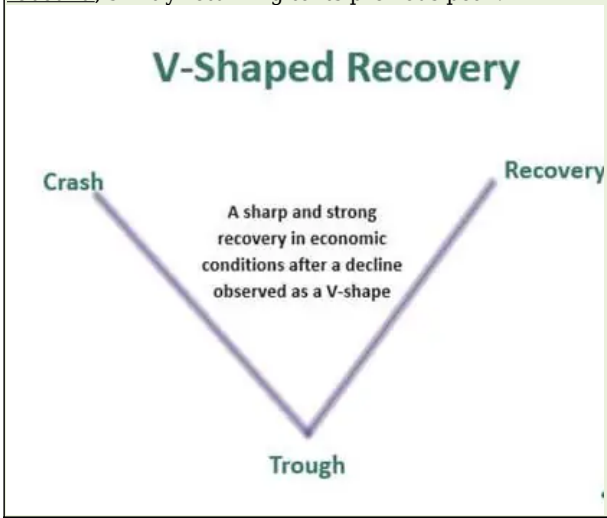
Economy

V-Shaped Recovery

The IMF projects a V-shaped global recovery: weaker growth this year versus pre-war forecasts, followed by a rebound next year.

•

V-Shaped Recovery – It is an economic scenario where an economy suffers a *sharp, steep decline* in metrics like GDP or employment, followed by an *equally rapid and robust rebound*, swiftly returning to its previous peak.



RBI's 3 key surveys

•

Aim – To provide critical inputs for formulating monetary policy.

•

3 key surveys

•

'Inflation Expectations Survey of Households'

- **Objective -** To capture subjective assessments on price movements and inflation, based on their individual consumption baskets.
- **Conducted across -** 19 cities
- **Methodology –**
- Qualitative responses from households on price changes (general prices as well as prices of specific product groups) in the 3 months ahead as well as in the one year ahead period.
- Quantitative responses on current, 3 months ahead and one year ahead inflation rates.

•

Rural Consumer Confidence Survey'

- **Conducted across –** 31 States/ UTs.
- **Objective –** To collect current perceptions and one-year-ahead expectations of households on general economic situation, employment scenario, overall price situation, own income and spending from the households residing in the rural and semi-urban areas.

•

Urban Consumer Confidence Survey

- **Conducted across –** 19 cities, including Ahmedabad, Bengaluru, Chandigarh, Chennai, Delhi, Mumbai, and Thiruvananthapuram.
- **Objective –** To seeks qualitative responses from households, regarding their sentiments on general economic situation, employment scenario, price level, households' income and spending.

Environment

Aldrin Pesticide

Kota mugger crocodile deaths: Banned pesticide Aldrin found in Chandraloi River; forest department denies responsibility.

- **Aldrin** – A pesticide from the organochlorine group, listed as banned; its manufacture, import, and use were banned in India in the 1990s.
- **Reason for Ban –**
  - It persists in the environment for a long time and pollutes soil and water.
  - It gradually accumulates in the food chain cause serious adverse effects on the nervous system of humans and wildlife.
- **Chandraloi River –** It is a small perennial tributary of Chambal River in Rajasthan.

Recognition of Coimbatore Farmer as UN FAO 'Soil Hero'

V.T. Valluvan, a 59-year-old natural farmer from Coimbatore district, was recently awarded third place in the UN FAO Soil Hero Guardian contest.

- He was recognised for increasing *soil organic carbon content to 1.56%.*
- This is the *first time India* has received this recognition.

Soil Health Guardian

- It is also known as *"Soil Health Guardian" or "Soil Hero Guardian".*
- **Initiated by –** the United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) under the Global Soil Partnership.
- **Aim –** To recognises farmers and land managers who adopt innovative, regenerative agriculture.
- **Focuses on -**
  - Improve soil health.
  - Increase organic matter.
  - Prevent soil degradation.

7th Meeting of Governing Body of National CAMPA

- **CAMPA –** Compensatory Afforestation Fund Management & Planning Authority.
- **Held in –** Coimbatore, under *Ministry for Environment, Forest and Climate Change.*
- **Objective –** To review CAMPA's performance and clear new proposals to strengthen afforestation, forest conservation, and wildlife protection nationwide."
- **New wildlife and forestry conservation projects**
- **Recommended by –** the *Executive Committee of National Authority.*
- **Projects –**
  - Conservation and Recovery Action Plan for *River Dolphins,*
  - Project *Snow Leopard Phase-II* (including second cycle of population estimation),
  - Conservation Action Plan for the *Indian Rhinoceros,*
  - a pan-India conservation approach for the *wild Water Buffalo.*
  - It continued support for the conservation of *Manipur's Brow-antlered Deer (Sangai).*

Energy

India Briefly Crosses 50% Clean Power Mark

Recently, the Ministry of New and Renewable Energy announced that clean energy met over 50% of India's electricity demand for the second time.

- First occurred on July 29, 2025, at 51.5 per cent.
- **Key highlights**
- Total electricity demand reached *221.5 gigawatts (GW).*
- Renewable generation, including *solar, wind, hydro, and nuclear* sources, accounted for *approximately 110 GW*.
- Installed Capacity as of July 2026
  - Total installed capacity – 542.3 GW.
  - Thermal power capacity – 250.8 GW.
  - Renewable power capacity – 282.7 GW.
- **Significance**
- It reinforces India's ongoing transition to clean power.
- It underscores the importance of *energy security, climate resilience, and sustainability.*

Index

Global Liveability Index, 2026

The Global Liveability Index 2026 was released recently.

- **Released annually by** – Economist Intelligence Unit.
- **Coverage –** *173 cities worldwide* on 30 indicators.
- **Objective –** To identify those offering the highest quality of life.
- **5 Categories**
  - Stability,
  - Healthcare,
  - Culture and environment,
  - Education, and
  - Infrastructure.

Key Findings

- **Top 3 Cities –** Copenhagen (Denmark), followed by Vienna (Austria) and Melbourne (Australia).
- **Indian Cities –** New Delhi (120), Mumbai (121), Chennai (123), and Bengaluru (127).
- **Cities from India's neighbourhood –** Karachi (170) & Dhaka (171).
- Gulf cities fell due to the Iran war, Chinese cities rose on healthcare investment.
- **Least Liveable City –** Damascus (Syria).

Miscellaneous

Best Egmont Case Award (BECA), 2026

Best Egmont Case Award (BECA) 2026 was presented during the Egmont Group Plenary held in - Baku, Azerbaijan.

- **Objectives –** To recognizes outstanding operational cases that demonstrate excellence in
  - Financial intelligence,
  - Cross-border collaboration, and
  - Global fight against money laundering and terrorist financing.
- **2026 Winners**
  - **Taiwan's investigation of the Prince Group** (winner) – Investigations into money laundering and terrorism financing.
  - **Financial Intelligence Unit–India** (FIU-IND) (runner up) – case regarding a large-scale cyber fraud.

Egmont Group

- A leading international platform for *anti-money laundering information exchange, consisting of financial intelligence units* from across the world.
- **Established in –** Brussels in 1995.

SHANKAR IAS PARLIAMENT
Information is Empowering