

## 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

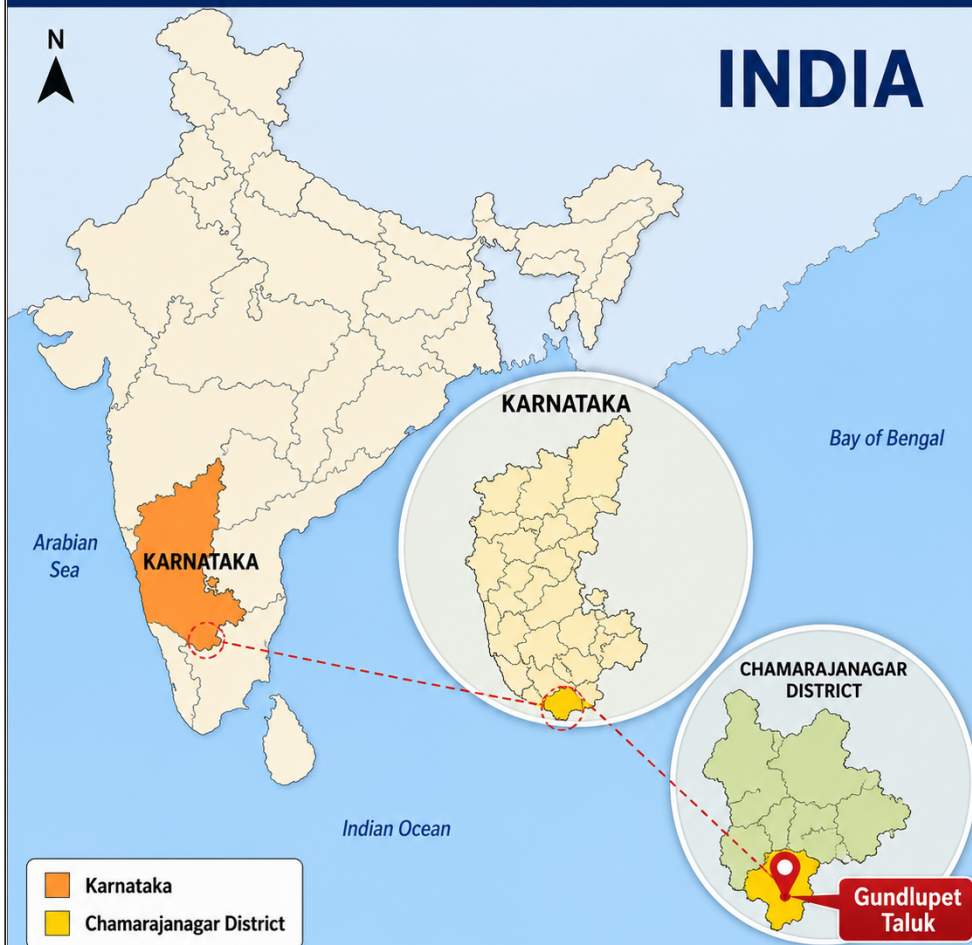
- GSI surveys discovered *8.5 lakh tons of thorium deposits* across India.

- 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.

## Gundlupet, Chamarajanagar District



**Gundlupet Taluk** is one of the taluks in Chamarajanagar District, Karnataka, located in the southern part of India, bordering Tamil Nadu and close to the Nagarhole National Park.



## Social Issues

### World Population Day

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**Observed on** - July 11.

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**Designated by** - United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA).

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**Objective** - To focus public attention on population-related issues like family planning, maternal health, gender equality, and sustainable development.

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**Theme for 2026** - "Realizing the hopes and aspirations of young people - today and for the future."

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### Demographic Data (2026)

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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

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**Aim** - To regulate high alcohol-containing drug formulations.

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### Reason for amendment

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Certain medicinal products (e.g., tinctures of cardamom, ginger, and other aromatic preparations) were *exempt under Schedule K*.

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Some contained *80-90% v/v ethyl alcohol*, raising concerns about *misuse for intoxication*.

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References from State Governments highlighted risks of diversion and abuse.

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### Key Change -

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Formulations with *more than 12% v/v ethyl alcohol* in quantities over 30 mL will *no longer be exempt under Schedule K*.

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These products are now included in *Schedule H1*, requiring:

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Licenses under the *Drugs and Cosmetics Act, 1940*.

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Dispensing only against prescription of a *Registered Medical Practitioner*.

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Stricter record-keeping.

**Government amends Drugs Rules, 1945 to Strengthen Regulation of High Alcohol-Containing Drug Formulations**

Strengthening public health safeguards and ensuring responsible use of high alcohol-containing medicines.

**KEY AMENDMENTS**

- Clearer classification and definitions for high alcohol-containing drug formulations.
- Stricter conditions on manufacture, sale, distribution and import.
- Enhanced labeling requirements with prominent warnings.
- Stronger compliance and monitoring mechanisms.
- Measures to prevent misuse and protect public health.

A step towards safer medicines, stronger regulation and a healthier India.

Committed to safeguarding public health through effective and responsible drug regulation.

## 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 2<sup>nd</sup> 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.

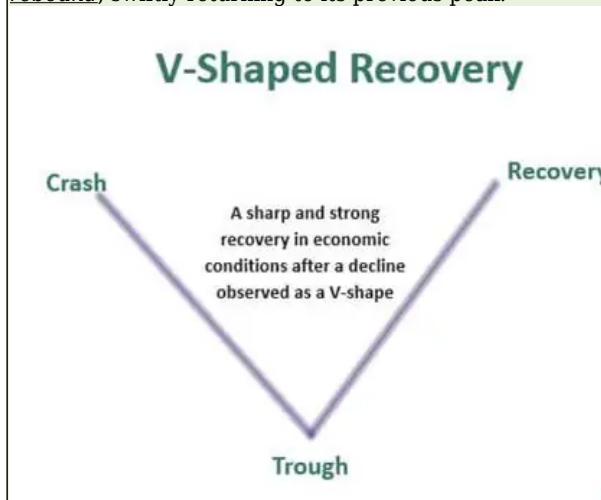
- Cooperation in *trade, maritime security, education, and people-to-people exchanges.*

### **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 recognise 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 recognize 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*