

UPSC Daily Current Affairs| One Liners 15-04-2025

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History, Art and Culture

Jallianwala Bagh Massacre

On a recent occasion, the Prime Minister honored those who tragically lost their lives in the Jallianwala Bagh massacre of 1919.

- This horrific event unfolded on 1919, in Jallianwala Bagh, Amritsar.
- **Tragedy** - Hundreds of unarmed and peaceful civilians gathered to protest against the Rowlatt Act of 1919.
- **Causes** - The Gurkha British Indian army, acting under the command of Brigadier R.E.H. Dyer, carried out the brutal firing upon the defenseless crowd.

Ambedkar Jayanti

Recently, India observed the 135th Dr. Ambedkar Jayanti on April 14th, 2025.

- It is observed annually to commemorate Dr. Ambedkar birth anniversary.
- Bhimrao Ramji Ambedkar, popularly known as Babasaheb was born in 1891 at Mhow, Central Province(now Madhya Pradesh).
- He was a renowned jurist, economist, and social reformer.
- He was the Chairman of the Drafting Committee for the new Constitution.
- He is known as the Father of the Indian Constitution and was the 1st Law Minister.

Polity & Governance

The Hindu Code Bill

The Supreme Court recently recalled the first President's power struggle over Hindu Code Bill in the Tamil Nadu's Governor case.

- **Introduced in** - 1950, when Ambedkar was Law Minister.
- **Objectives** - To codify and modernize Hindu law, specifically focusing on granting enhanced rights to women.
- To equalize social laws between men and women within the Hindu community.
- **Significance** - It focused on issues like marriage, divorce, inheritance, and guardianship.
- It represents a crucial aspect of Ambedkar's vision for social reform.
- **Role of the President** - Dr. Rajendra Prasad had sought to assert his independent authority to withhold assent to the legislation.
- Jawaharlal Nehru government had referred the issue to the Attorney General of India, MC Setalvad, for an opinion.
- Mr. Setalvad clarified that the role of the President under the Indian Constitution was analogous to that of the British monarch and he was expected to serve as a constitutional figurehead

Kavach 5.0

Recently, the Railway Ministry announced the launch of 'Kavach 5.0 for Mumbai's suburban trains.

- **Kavach** - It is an indigenous Automatic Train Protection (ATP) system to enhance railway safety.
- **Developed by** - Research Designs & Standards Organisation (RDSO).
- **Aim** - To prevent train collisions and over speeding by automatically initiating brake application when necessary.
- **Kavach 5.0** - It is a new and an advanced version, currently under development.
- It will be implemented to increase the number of Mumbai local trains by 30%.

Karnataka Caste Census Report

Recently, the Caste Census Report was submitted to Karnataka Chief Minister, marking a significant step in the state's socio-economic landscape.

- **Based on** - Socio-Educational Survey, 2015, which was conducted by the Karnataka State Commission for Backward Classes in 2015.
- **Aim** - To develop and uplift the backward classes in Karnataka.
- **Methodology** - The Data was collected using 54 indicators, to understand the socio-economic conditions of various caste groups.
- **Significance** - It contains detailed social and economic indicators for non-SC/ST communities, including taluk-wise data and insights from secondary sources.

International Relations and Issues

Safeguard American Voter Eligibility (SAVE) Act

The United States (US) House of Representatives recently approved the SAVE Act.

- It is a Republican-backed bill, mandates that individuals provide proof of U.S. citizenship when registering to vote and to update the name or address changes.
- **Objective** - To enhance election integrity by preventing non-citizens from voting in U.S. elections.
- **Existing federal law** - It prohibits non-citizens from voting, with significant penalties in case of violations.
- **Impact** - It will affect new voter registrations.

Sudan's Humanitarian Crisis

The United Nations stated that Sudan is currently facing worst humanitarian crisis, marked by extreme hunger affecting nearly half of its population.

- It is the world's largest humanitarian emergency, over 25 million people require urgent assistance.
- **Causes** - The ongoing civil war, is the primary cause of widespread suffering and immense humanitarian needs across the nation.
- **Impacts** - It has triggered mass displacement, over 8 million people to flee their homes within Sudan and an additional 4 million have sought refuge in neighbouring countries.
- Women and girls are disproportionately affected, facing heightened risks of gender-based violence and severe food insecurity.

Security

India's BM-04 Missile

India's DRDO recently unveiled the BM-04, a next-generation short-range ballistic missile (SRBM) akin to the Agni-P, specifically targeting Pakistan with conventional capabilities.

- **Technical Specifications** - The BM-04 is 10.2m long, weighs 11,500 kg, and has a 1,500 km range with a 500 kg conventional warhead and 30m CEP.
- It utilizes a two-stage solid-fuel system and a six-wheel Transporter Erector Launcher (TEL) for launch.
- **Advanced Features** - Likely a hypersonic missile with AI assistance, the BM-04 can be upgraded with new technologies.
- Its manoeuvrable re-entry vehicle that is designed to evade enemy air defences, enabling strikes on time-sensitive targets.
- **Strategic Implications** - A potential pre-emptive strike posture against Pakistan's military assets and critical infrastructure from a safer distance.

Science

Acoustic Test Facility (ATF)

Recently, the Underwater Acoustic Test Facility (ATF) at the National Institute of Ocean Technology (NIOT) has attained global recognition and international certification.

- **Established in** - 2004.
- It is the only facility accredited by the National Accreditation Board for Testing and Calibration Laboratories (NABL).
- **Objective** - To enhance ocean observation capabilities, support tsunami detection systems, and reinforce national security.
- It includes precise testing and calibration of a wide range of underwater acoustic instruments such as hydrophones, transducers, and acoustic modems.
- **Significance** - ATF is India's only facility accredited by the National Accreditation Board for Testing and Calibration Laboratories (NABL) for hydrophone calibration.
- **Underwater Acoustic Test Facility (ATF)** - It is crucial for ensuring measurement accuracy across strategic sectors.
- In the field of underwater acoustics under the International Bureau of Weights and Measures (BIPM), Paris, have recognised the underwater ATF facility of CSIR-NPL.

Affordable Medicines and Reliable Implants for Treatment (AMRIT) Pharmacy

Recently, the Union Minister of Health inaugurated the EHS Clinic and AMRIT Pharmacy in Bhubaneswar, Odisha.

- It is a pharmacy chain initiative of the Ministry of Health & Family Welfare.
- **Operated by** - HLL Lifecare Ltd.
- **Objective** - To provide essential medicines, life-saving drugs, and medical devices at affordable prices to the public.
- It provides a wide range of products, including specialised medicines for,
 - Oncology and Cardiology, stents, orthopaedic implants, medical disposables, and a variety of branded and generic drugs at discounts of up to 50% on MRP.
- **Significance** - It supports tertiary healthcare facilities such as AIIMS, medical colleges, district hospitals and general hospitals across India.

