

## UPSC Daily Current Affairs| One Liners 16-05-2025

### One Liners 16-03-2025

#### History, Art and Culture

##### **Ayurveda Day: September 23rd**

20. Government of India has declared September 23rd as the annual Ayurveda Day, commencing in 2025.

- **Significance of the Date** - September 23rd aligns with the autumnal equinox, symbolizing nature's balance, mirroring Ayurveda's principle of equilibrium in body, mind, and spirit.
- **Understanding Ayurveda** - Derived from 'Ayu' (life) and 'Veda' (knowledge), Ayurveda, the "science of life," encompasses human, animal, and plant health, promoting positive health and spiritual growth.
- **Structure and Practice** - Ayurveda integrates preventive measures like hygiene and lifestyle with curative therapies including herbal remedies and personalized treatments based on individual constitution and imbalances.
- **Formal Recognition** - The Indian Medical Council Act of 1971 formally recognizes Ayurveda, ensuring standardization and regulation within the Indian medical systems.
- **Core Principles** - Based on the tridosha theory (Vata, Pitta, Kapha), seven body tissues (dhatus), and waste products (malas), Ayurveda defines health as their balanced state, treating the root cause of imbalances.

#### Geography

##### **Mearim River's Tidal Bore**

A Brazilian surfer recently used the Mearim River's powerful tidal bore, known as "pororoca," to highlight climate change and ecological issues.

- **Mearim River** - Located in Maranhão, northern Brazil, this ~800 km river originates in the south and flows north into the Baía de São Marcos, forming an estuary with other rivers.
- **River Characteristics** - Its upper and middle sections feature rapids, hindering navigation, while only the lower course is navigable. It borders a vital biodiversity hotspot.
- **The "Pororoca" Phenomenon** - The Mearim is renowned for its "pororoca," a tidal bore where high ocean tides surge upstream, creating a "great roar" from the water collision.
- **Understanding Tidal Bores** - A tidal bore is a surge of water caused by rising ocean tides pushing against river currents, typically during spring tides and supermoons, lasting around 30 minutes.
- **Significance of Mearim's Bore** - The Mearim's pororoca is a significant remaining tidal bore in Brazil, attracting surfers and researchers alike.

### **Inland Waterways Authority of India (IWAI) Establishes Srinagar Office**

The Inland Waterways Authority of India (IWAI) has opened a new office in Srinagar to boost river navigation infrastructure in Jammu & Kashmir.

- **Focus on National Waterways** - The initiative targets development in three national waterways within the Union Territory: NW-26 (Chenab), NW-49 (Jhelum), and NW-84 (Ravi).
- **About the IWAI**- IWAI is a statutory body established in 1986 under the Inland Waterways Authority of India Act.
- **Parent Ministry**- The IWAI operates under the Union Ministry of Ports, Shipping, and Waterways.
- **Core Functions**- Its primary function involves undertaking projects for the development, maintenance, and regulation of Inland Water Transport (IWT) infrastructure on national waterways.
- **Boosting River Navigation** - The new Srinagar office signifies IWAI's commitment to expanding and improving river navigation capabilities in the region.

### **Himachal Notifies Tsarap Chu Reserve**

The Himachal Pradesh government has notified the Tsarap Chu Conservation Reserve in Spiti Valley, now India's largest.

- **Location of Tsarap Chu** - Situated at the confluence of the Unam River and Charap Nala in the Spiti Valley region.
- **Geographical Boundaries** - The reserve is bordered by Ladakh to the north, Kibber Wildlife Sanctuary to the east, Kabjima Nala to the south, and Chandratul Wildlife Sanctuary to the west.
- **Key Wildlife: Snow Leopard** - Tsarap Chu is particularly renowned as a habitat for the elusive snow leopard, often referred to as the 'ghost of the mountains'.
- **Other Notable Species** - The reserve is also home to the Tibetan wolf, bharal (blue sheep), Himalayan ibex, kiang (wild ass), Tibetan argali, and various rare bird species like the Rose Finch.
- **Conservation Significance** - This notification underscores Himachal Pradesh's commitment to preserving the unique biodiversity of the Spiti Valley, especially its endangered high-altitude fauna.

## **Polity & Governance**

### **National Bank for Financing Infrastructure and Development (NaBFID) Offshore Bond Plans**

NaBFID recently held non-deal investor meetings in Hongkong to prepare for its inaugural offshore bond issuance.

- **Genesis of NaBFID** - Established in 2021 through an Act of Parliament (NaBFID Act, 2021).
- **Core Objective** - A specialized Development Finance Institution focused on bridging long-term non-recourse finance gaps in infrastructure.
- **Market Development Role** - NaBFID also aims to strengthen the development of India's bonds and derivatives markets.
- **Regulatory Oversight** - The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) regulates and supervises NaBFID as an All India Financial Institution (AIFI) under the RBI Act, 1934.
- **Offshore Bond Preparation** - The Hongkong meetings signify a crucial step towards NaBFID's first venture into the offshore bond market.

## **International Relations and Issues**

## **International Day of Families**

Observed annually on May 15th, this UN-established day in 1994 highlights the family's central role in society and promotes its well-being.

- **Historical Roots** - The UN General Assembly recognized family stability in the late 1980s, leading to resolutions in 1989 and 1991 acknowledging evolving challenges and the need for support.
- **Global Significance** - The day raises awareness about hardships families face, emphasizing their role in values, support, and identity development for stronger communities.
- **Heartfelt Wishes** - Common messages convey love, warmth, togetherness, and enduring happiness within family bonds.
- **Inspirational Insights** - Quotes from figures like Louis Zamperini and Mother Teresa underscore the unique love, support, and irreplaceable nature of family.
- **Celebrating Diversity** - The day promotes respect for all family structures and cultural traditions, advocating for inclusive support to ensure every family can thrive.

## **Security**

### **Anti-Terror Operations Intensified in J&K**

1. May 2025, Indian security forces executed significant anti-terror operations in Jammu and Kashmir, responding to recent attacks with strong resolve.

- **Operation Nader Underway** - Launched on May 15, 2025, in Tral, Awantipora, a joint operation by the Army, J&K Police, and CRPF encountered terrorists. A gunfight ensued following suspicious movement; the operation is ongoing.
- **Shopian Encounter Success** - On May 13, 2025, a joint operation in Shopian's Keller Forest resulted in the killing of three terrorists, including a local commander of LeT/TRF.
- **Joint Forces Involved** - These operations saw the coordinated efforts of the Indian Army, Jammu and Kashmir Police, and the Central Reserve Police Force (CRPF).
- **Significant Recoveries** - Following the Shopian encounter, security forces recovered AK-series rifles, substantial ammunition, grenades, and other war-like materials.
- **Firm Stance Against Terrorism** - These actions underscore India's determined approach to counter terrorism in the region based on specific intelligence inputs.

### **Shahid Kuttay Neutralized in Operation Keller**

20. Indian Army successfully neutralized Shahid Kuttay, TRF chief and Pahalgam attack mastermind, in Operation Keller, Shopian, Jammu & Kashmir.

- **Operation Keller Details** - Launched on May 13, 2025, in Shoekal Keller, Shopian, this search and destroy mission was based on Rashtriya Rifles intelligence.
- **Joint Forces Involved** - The operation was a coordinated effort by the Indian Army, Jammu & Kashmir Police, and the Central Reserve Police Force (CRPF).
- **Operation Objectives** - The primary goals were to neutralize TRF terrorists involved in the Pahalgam attack and eliminate Shahid Kuttay to prevent further threats.
- **About Shopian District** - Located in southern Kashmir Valley, Shopian, granted district status in 2007, is bordered by several districts and the Pir Panjal mountains.
- **Shopian's Significance** - Historically a trade route on the Mughal Road, Shopian's economy is mainly driven by apple orchards and agriculture. Its name's origin is debated.

### **Pakistan's Troop Buildup Near Shakargarh**

101. the recent, Pahalgam terror attack, Pakistan has increased its military presence, including troops, tanks, and artillery, near the Shakargarh Bulge, raising alertness on India's western border.

- **Shakargarh Bulge** - This protruding landmass in Pakistan's Sialkot district, bordered by the Ravi and Chenab rivers, offers Pakistan strategic depth for offensive operations due to its flat terrain and access to infrastructure.
- **Strategic Importance** - For India, protecting the Jammu-Pathankot axis was crucial for maintaining connectivity with Jammu & Kashmir. For Pakistan, capturing it could have isolated Indian forces in Kashmir.
- **Battle of Basantar Context** - The Shakargarh Bulge was the site of the Battle of Basantar during the 1971 Indo-Pak war, a major tank battle.
- **Battle of Basantar (1971)** - Fought from December 4-16, 1971, around the Basantar River in the Shakargarh Bulge, India preempted a Pakistani offensive, protecting northern supply lines.
- **Battle Outcomes** - Indian forces, using tactics like night operations and air-land coordination, destroyed over 60 Pakistani Patton tanks, enhancing India's negotiation position and preventing a strategic thrust into J&K.

### **Miscellaneous**

#### **Neeraj Chopra Honored with Lieutenant Colonel Rank**

The Ministry of Defence announced on May 13, 2025, the conferment of the honorary rank of Lieutenant Colonel in the Territorial Army upon Ex-Subedar Major Neeraj Chopra.

**Celebrated Javelin Thrower** - Born in Khandra village, Panipat, Haryana, Neeraj Chopra is a distinguished athlete. He secured a Gold Medal at the Tokyo 2020 Olympics, a Silver Medal at the Paris Olympics 2024, and became World Champion in 2023

- **The Territorial Army (TA)** - Is a part-time volunteer reserve force supporting India's regular army in national security and essential services.
- **Establishment and History** - Inaugurated on October 9, 1949, by Shri C. Rajagopalachari, Territorial Army Day commemorates its founding, evolving from earlier volunteer forces.
- **Core Roles** - The TA primarily relieves the regular army from static duties and aids civil administration during disasters and essential service disruptions.
- **Structure and Personnel** - Composed of officers and other ranks equivalent to the regular army, it includes departmental and non-departmental units of employed civilians.
- **Volunteer Nature** - The TA is a volunteer force of working citizens who undergo military training to serve the nation when needed.
- **Key Functions** - Its functions encompass war support, disaster relief, and maintaining essential services, demonstrating civil-military cooperation.