

UPSC Daily Current Affairs| One Liners 17-12-2025

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International Relations and Issues

List of Outcomes - Visit of Prime Minister to Jordan

• **MoUs / Agreements**

- MoU on Technical Cooperation in the Field of New and Renewable Energy.
- MoU on Cooperation in the field of Water resources Management & Development.
- Twinning Agreement between Petra and Ellora.
- Renewal of the Cultural Exchange Programme for the years 2025-2029.
- Letter of Intent on Cooperation in the field of sharing successful digital solutions implemented at population scale for digital transformation.

2nd WHO Global Summit on Traditional Medicine

- **Co-hosted by** - World Health Organization (WHO) and the Ministry of Ayush.
- **Theme** - "Restoring balance: The science and practice of health and well-being."
- **Guided by** - WHO Global Traditional Medicine Strategy 2025-2034.
- **Objectives** -
 - To focus on investing in science to drive progress in Traditional Medicine.
 - To centre on re-imagining health systems for balance, safety and resilience.
 - To strengthen the evidence base, policy environment and global cooperation in Traditional Medicine.

The Great Honour Nishan of Ethiopia

Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Tuesday (December 16, 2025) was conferred with Ethiopia's highest award 'The Great Honour Nishan of Ethiopia' by his Ethiopian counterpart Abiy Ahmed Ali.

- **Ceremony hosted at** - Addis International Convention Centre.
- **Award for** - His exceptional contribution towards strengthening India-Ethiopia partnership and for his visionary leadership as a global statesman

Economy

New chief of Coal India

State-owned miner Coal India appointed B. Sairam as their new Chairman and Managing Director effective Monday (December 15, 2025).

- Prior to his latest appointment at the Maharatna, Mr. Sairam previously served as the Chairman and Managing Director of Northern Coalfield Limited.
- He has also served as the Director (Technical) at Coal India's subsidiary Central Coalfield Limited.

Agriculture

Marine exports

• **Growth rate** -

- Marine exports have seen a 20% growth in the past few months despite the imposition of anti-dumping duty by various countries
- In the last 12 months, 102 marine fish export establishments have been registered in the European Union, a bloc of 27 nations.
- Similarly, 25 such establishments have been registered and approved in Russia.

Environment

India's Green Maritime Odyssey - Agenda for a Sustainable Ocean Economy

• **Key highlights**

- Indian ports are going green, adding renewable capacity, LNG bunkering, green cover expansion to reduce emissions and improve environmental performance.
- New Mangalore Port has achieved 100% solar power integration, serving as a benchmark for renewable adoption
- India's major ports handled 855 million tonnes of cargo in FY 2024-25 - up from 581 million tonnes in FY 2014- 15, reflecting a decadal growth of 47.16 %.

Security

8th Edition of Exercise Ekatha

- **Annual bilateral maritime exercise between** - Indian Navy and the Maldives National Defence Force (MNDF).
- **Established in** - 2017.
- **Activities** - Technical and combat diving, boarding operations, firing drills, demolition and explosive handling, asymmetric warfare tactics, and special heli-borne operation drills.
- **Aim** - To addresses regional maritime security challenges, enhancing training engagements, strengthening cooperation against drug trafficking, and reviewing the progress of ongoing defence projects.
- **Significance** - India's vision of 'Mutual and Holistic Advancement for Security and Growth for all in the Region (*MAHASAGAR*), and the *Neighbourhood First* policy.

AH-64E Apache

The Indian Army received the final batch of three AH-64E Apache attack helicopters, completing its six-unit fleet at the 451 Army Aviation Squadron based in Jodhpur, Rajasthan.

- It is regarded as the world's most advanced multi-role combat helicopter, equipped with cutting-edge avionics, sensors and weapon systems, and capable of operating in all weather and terrain conditions.
- **Significance** - Its induction is expected to provide a major boost to the Indian Army's offensive and deterrence capabilities along the western border.

EKUVERIN

- **Bilateral military exercise between** -Indian Army and the Maldives National Defence Forces (MNDF).
- **Concluded with** - A joint validation exercise at Thiruvananthapuram, marking the culmination of two weeks of intensive training.
- **Focus on** - A counter-insurgency and counter-terrorist operations in contemporary operational environments, with the aim of enhancing interoperability, operational synergy and tactical coordination between the two forces in sub-conventional conflict scenarios.
- **Key training activities** - Cordon and search operations, room intervention drills, small team tactics, reflex firing and close-quarter battle techniques aimed at improving precision, speed and effectiveness during counter-terror operations.
- **Special emphasis on** - Amphibious drills, intelligence-led operations, real-time decision-making and joint mission planning under dynamic operational conditions.
- Both contingents also rehearsed handling of explosives, demolition techniques and advanced field craft, strengthening their capability to neutralise threats and secure sensitive areas.
- **Significance** - It reaffirmed the shared commitment of India and Maldives to strengthening professional military cooperation and contributing to peace and security in the Indian Ocean Region.

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"Rethinking Homestays: Navigating Policy Pathways"

- **Report by** - NITI Aayog.
- **Aim** - To advance framework that states can adopt to harmonise regulations and establish an inclusive homestay ecosystem, thus promoting sustainable tourism growth.
- **Roadmap** - The best practices are available from this report for States/UTs to adopt.

