

## UPSC Daily Current Affairs| One Liners 18-06-2025

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**Polity & Governance**

### **Dharti Aaba Janbhagidari Abhiyan**

*Recently, the Ministry of Tribal Affairs launched the Dharti Aaba Janbhagidari Abhiyan.*

- **About** - It's a welfare campaign aimed at tribal empowerment and grassroots participation.
- **Part of Janjatiya Gaurav Varsh & PM-JANMAN** - This campaign is a flagship effort under Janjatiya Gaurav Varsh and linked to [PM-JANMAN](#).
- Janjatiya Gaurav Varsh is a commemoration of the 150th Birth Anniversary of Bhagwan Birsa Munda and the extraordinary heritage of tribal heroes.
- **Largest tribal benefit campaign** - The Dharti Aaba Janbhagidari Abhiyan is India's biggest benefit saturation drive in tribal regions.
- It spans 549 tribal districts and 207 PVTG districts, from June 15 to 30, 2025.
- **Over one lakh villages covered** - It ensures that tribal households receive services directly at their doorsteps.
- **Last-mile delivery model** - Through benefit camps, eligible individuals receive services like Aadhaar, Ayushman Bharat, PM-Kisan, pensions, and skill training.
- The goal is full coverage of key schemes under a "last-mile delivery" model.
- **Community-Led and Multi-Ministerial** - It involves synchronized action across ministries and local governance.

### **Mukhya Mantrir Jiban Anuprerana**

*Recently, Assam CM launched the Mukhya Mantrir Jiban Anuprerana Scheme to provide one-time aid to research scholars.*

- **About** - Assam launched the *Jiban Anuprerana Scheme* to support full-time research scholars.
- **Financial Aid for Research Scholars** - It offers ₹25,000 to regular scholars and ₹40,000 to Divyang (disabled) scholars.
- **Target Beneficiaries** - The scheme is open to permanent residents of Assam enrolled in public institutions.
- **Focus on Divyang Inclusion** - Special higher financial assistance is reserved for Physically disabled scholars.

### **NAKSHA**

*Recently the second batch of NAKSHA Phase 2 training begins on June 16, focusing on capacity building in urban land surveys.*

- **NAKSHA** - National geospatial Knowledge-based land Survey of urban HAbitations
- **Objectives** - To create and update land records in urban areas to ensure accurate and reliable documentation of land ownership.
- To ensure accurate, digital land records and improve urban planning and governance.
- **Nodal ministry** - Department of Land Resources (DoLR) under the Ministry of Rural Development.
- **Training focus on modern survey tools** - Officers will be trained in GNSS, ETS-based surveys, Web-GIS, land parcel mapping, and related legal frameworks to modernize urban land records using geospatial technology.
- **Four National Centres of Excellence** - Training will be conducted at YASHADA (Pune), ATI (Mysuru), MGSIPA (Chandigarh), and NER CoE (Guwahati).
- The programme builds capacity in **urban land governance** and **technical surveying skills**.

### **WPI inflation**

*Recently Wholesale Price Index (WPI) inflation dropped to 0.39% in May 2025, driven by deflation in food, fuel, and some manufactured goods.*

- **Wholesale price index** - It comprises as far as possible all transactions at first point of bulk sale in the domestic market.
- Provisional monthly WPI for All Commodities is released on 14th of every month
- **Inflation Falls to 0.39% in May** - India's WPI-based inflation eased to 0.39% in May 2025 from 0.85% in April.

This marks a continued cooling of wholesale prices over recent months.

- **Food articles show deflation** - Food articles saw a deflation of 1.56% in May, steeper than April's 0.86%.
- Vegetable prices dropped sharply, with a deflation of 21.62% compared to 18.26% in April.
- **Fuel and power see price decline** - Fuel and power registered deflation of 2.27% in May, reversing April's 2.18% inflation.
- **Manufactured products** - It is 2.04% inflation in May, slightly down from April's 2.62%.
- **Significance** - This led to a 0.50% cut in the benchmark interest rate to 5.50% earlier this month RBI.

### **Environment**

## AviList

Recently AviList went live which offers the first unified taxonomy of global bird species.

- **First Unified Global Checklist** - AviList is the first-ever unified global bird species checklist that consolidates years of taxonomic work into one freely accessible global standard.
- **Comprehensive Scope** - It includes 11,131 species, 19,879 subspecies, 2,376 genera, 252 families, and 46 orders.
- This makes it the most detailed and complete avian taxonomic list ever compiled.
- **Created by** - Working Group on Avian Checklists, with bodies like BirdLife and Cornell Lab.
- **Boost to Conservation Efforts** - AviList aids scientists and conservationists in aligning species data and priorities globally.
- **Free and Open Access** - It eliminates confusion caused by multiple differing checklists used earlier.

## Indian Rat Snake

Recently, The Kerala Wildlife Board is considering a proposal to declare the Indian Rat Snake as the State Reptile.

- This move recognizes the species' ecological role and conservation need, especially amid declining populations.
  - **Indian Rat Snake** - The Indian Rat Snake (*Ptyas mucosa*).
  - It is commonly called Manja Chera or Karinchera.
  - Snake conservationists stress that only 25% of snakes are venomous, urging awareness and protection.
  - **Farmers' Ally and Pest Controller** - It preys on hatchlings of venomous snakes, making it ecologically important.
  - It also controls rodent populations in farmlands.
  - **Conservation status**
    - WPA - Schedule I
    - IUCN - Least Concern
  - **Population Decline** - It is facing declines due to overexploitation.
- The snake is hunted for meat, skins, traditional medicine, and snake wine, particularly in Southeast Asia.
- **Habitat** - Rat snakes inhabit villages, farmlands, scrublands, plantations, and forests across India.
  - It lays up to 18 eggs per clutch, feeding on rodents, frogs, lizards, and birds.

## Security

### Operation True Promise

Operation true promise was resumed as a part of recent conflict between Israel and Iran.

- **Operation true promise** - It is Iran's air attack on Israel in April 2025 to retaliate Israel's attack.
- **Operation True Promise 3** - It is Iran's latest retaliatory military campaign targeting Israeli cities and infrastructure in response to Israel's [operation rising lion](#).
- **Drone Barrage** - Iran launched salvos of ballistic missiles and drones towards Israeli territory.
- **Targeting Israeli Cities and Military Centers** - These retaliatory attacks caused significant damage in Israeli cities such as Tel Aviv and Jerusalem.
- The IRGC claimed responsibility, stating they targeted "military centres and airbases that served as the source of the criminal aggression against our country."

## Science

## Synthetic Aperture Radar

Recently NASA announced that the NASA-ISRO SAR (NISAR) satellite had reached ISRO's launch site in Sriharikota which is equipped with Synthetic Aperture Radar.

- **NASA-ISRO SAR (NISAR) Mission** - NISAR will scan most of Earth's land and ice surfaces twice every 12 days after launch.
- It aims to deliver extensive environmental and geological data to scientists worldwide.
- **Synthetic Aperture Radar (SAR)** - SAR is a technology that uses microwave pulses instead of visible light to create high-resolution images.
- It works regardless of lighting or weather conditions like darkness, clouds, or smoke.
- A SAR system uses a small antenna on a moving platform like a satellite to record echoes from the ground.
- By combining these signals with precise timing and phase data, it mimics a very large antenna.
- **All-Weather, Day-Night Capability** - Microwaves can penetrate clouds, rain, and smoke, enabling SAR to operate 24/7.

It can detect surface features and changes invisible to optical cameras.

- **Applications and Uses** - SAR helps in tracking soil moisture, ice movement, land deformation, and vegetation cover.

It can detect environmental changes, disaster impacts, and urban development.

## Jumping spider species

Recently new jumping spider species and rare genera have been recorded for the first time in India.

- The discovery expands India's known Spartaeeinae spider diversity to 15 species across 10 genera.
- **Discovered in Karnataka** - A new jumping spider species, *Spartaeus karigiri*, was found in Devarayanadurga, Karnataka.
- It was named after the local hill, Karigiri (Elephant Hill), where it was first observed.
- **First Indian Record of Rare Genera** - This is possibly the first time the genera *Spartaeus* and *Sonoita* have been reported from India.
- Previously, they were known only from Southeast Asia and Africa.
- **Distinct Behaviour and Habitat** - The spiders show intelligent hunting and mimicry tactics, typical of the Spartaeeinae subfamily.
- **Characteristics** - Males were found in rocky crevices; females were seen guarding egg clutches.
- **Taxonomic Clarification Achieved** - Researchers confirmed *Marpissa gangasagarensis* (2005) is the same as *Phaeacius fimbriatus* (1900).
- This resolved a two-decade-old naming confusion using museum specimens.

## **Miscellaneous**

### **ICAR-NIHSAD**

Recently, ICAR-NIHSAD Bhopal was awarded Category A Rinderpest Holding Facility status by World Organisation for Animal Health (WOAH) and Food and agriculture organization (FAO).

- **ICAR-NIHSAD** - It is Indian Council of Agricultural Research - National Institute of High Security Animal Diseases.
- It is a premier research institute under the Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) focusing on exotic and emerging animal diseases and zoonotic diseases.
- **Rinderpest Holding Facility (RHF)** - It is now one of only six global labs authorized to securely store rinderpest virus material.
- India's ICAR-NIHSAD, Bhopal has been designated as a Category A Rinderpest Holding Facility by WOAH and FAO.
- It is authorized to retain live Rinderpest virus or infectious material for:
  - Research
  - Diagnostic development
  - Emergency vaccine production
- **Rinderpest** - It also called cattle plague, was a highly contagious viral disease affecting cattle and other cloven-hoofed animals.
- It is caused by the Rinderpest virus, a member of the Morbillivirus genus (same family as measles).
- To prevent resurgence, virus containment is restricted to highly secure labs with rigorous biosafety standards.
- It was eradicated globally in 2011, led by the FAO and WOAH, with support from nations worldwide.