UPSC Daily Current Affairs| One Liners 19-01-2026

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Social Issues

National Youth Festival 2026

• **Conducted by –** Ministry of Education.
•
Objective – To serve as a vibrant platform to showcase key education and skill-development initiatives which is aligned with National Education Policy 2020.
• **Significance –** It reinforces India's commitment to inclusive, technology-driven, and future-ready education for its youth and helping to realize the goals of NEP-2020.

Highlight of NYF 2026

• **Rashtriya e-Pustakalaya -** It provides youth with access to a rich digital repository of books and learning resources.
• **DIKSHA, along with Virtual Labs and Augmented Reality (AR) solutions –** It demonstrates immersive, technology-enabled learning experiences that enhance conceptual understanding and practical skills.
• **PM eVidya initiative –** It showcases as an integrated digital education platform that ensures equitable access to quality learning through online/on-air, digital, and broadcast modes.
• **My Career Advisor app** – Career readiness and skill development are being promoted through these digital initiatives, which guides youth towards informed career choices and employability.

Vidyanjali

• It is the online school volunteer initiative.
• **Launched by –** Department of School Education & Literacy, Ministry of Education.
• **Objectives –** To showcase as a key platform for youth, school alumni, professionals, institutions, and the community to actively participate as volunteers and contribute to enhancing learning in government schools.
• To enables volunteers to connect to government schools and share their skills, knowledge, and resources in strengthening school education through community participation, CSR involvement, and mentorship.

Agriculture

2025 as the International Year of Cooperatives" (IYC)

• **Recognised by –** United Nations.
• **Announced in –** 2024.
• **Theme –** "Cooperatives Build a Better World".
• **Significance –** It addresses contemporary global challenges and advancing the *UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) by 2030.*

Security

INS SAGARDHWANI

INS Sagardhwani, India's oceanographic research, was flagged off for the 5th edition of the Sagar Maitri (SM-5) initiative.

• INS Sagardhwani is a specialised marine acoustic research vessel.
• **Designed by –** NPOL and built by Garden Reach Shipbuilders and Engineers (GRSE).
• **Commissioned in –** July 1994.
• **Aim –** To serve as a key platform for ocean observations and marine research for more than 3 decades, contributing significantly to India's maritime scientific capabilities.

Sagar Maitri V

• Sagar Maitri is a flagship collaborative initiative of the Indian Navy and DRDO.
• Under this programme, INS Sagardhwani will retrace the historic routes of INS Kistna, which participated in the International Indian Ocean Expedition during 1962–65.
• **Aim –** To promote closer cooperation in socio-economic aspects and greater scientific interaction, especially in ocean research, among IOR countries.
• **Significance –** It aligned with the Indian government's vision of 'Mutual and Holistic Advancement for Security and Growth Across Regions (MAHASAGAR)'.

Naval Physical & Oceanographic Laboratory (NPOL)

• **Situated in –** Kochi, is a laboratory of Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO).
• **Objective –** To engage in the development of Sound Navigation And Ranging (SONAR) and allied technologies.
• **Areas of R&D –** Signal processing, electronics, engineering systems, transducers, materials, and oceanography.

Science

National Workshop on Standardization in Ayurveda

• **Organized by –** Bureau of Indian Standards (BIS), under the Ministry of Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution.
• **Collaboration with –** Manipal Academy of Higher Education (MAHE) through its Division of Ayurveda, Centre for Integrative Medicine and Research.
• **Theme –** Inspired by BIS's guiding motto "Manakah Patha Pradarshaka".
• **Significance –** It highlighted the critical role of standards in harmonizing classical Ayurvedic wisdom with modern scientific and regulatory frameworks.

Miscellaneous

Clean Toilet Picture Challenge

NHAI Extends 'Clean Toilet Picture Challenge' till June 2026.

• **Launched by –** NHAI, Ministry of Road Transport & Highways.
• **Open to –** All National Highway commuters.
• **Participate by –** Uploading clear, geo-tagged, and time-stamped photographs of unclean toilets through the latest version of the *Rajmargyatra mobile application.*
• **Reward –** Rs.1,000 (Rupees One Thousand only) in the form of a FASTag recharge credited to the linked *vehicle registration number (VRN).*
• **Objective –** To encourage National Highway users to actively report unclean toilet facilities at the toll plazas along National Highways.

National Youth Day

• **Observed annually on –** January 12.
• **Commemoration to –** The birth anniversary of Swami Vivekananda.
• **Aim –** To encourages young people to realize their potential, aligning personal goals with societal responsibility for a developed India, creating a platform for self-reflection and active participation.



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