

## UPSC Daily Current Affairs| One Liners 20-06-2026

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#### Polity & Governance

##### Indian Pharmacopoeia Commission (IPC)

The delegation from IPC recently participated in in the 16th International Meeting of World Pharmacopoeias (IMWP).

• It is a national coordination centre for monitoring and collecting adverse drug reaction (ADR) data across the country.

• **Headquartered in** - Ghaziabad, Uttar Pradesh.

• **Nodal ministry** - Ministry of Health and Family Welfare.

• **Vision** - To promote the highest standards of drugs for use in human and animals.

##### **Role** -

- To ensure the safety, efficacy, and quality of medicines to safeguard public health.

- To update the National Formulary of India (NFI) i.e, guidance document for healthcare professionals.

##### Project Super 50

Recently, Tripura Governor invokes Ambedkar's vision at NCSC's "Project Super 50" launch ceremony.

• **Organized by** - National Commission for Scheduled Castes.

• **Theme** - "Guide • Mentor • Empower".

##### **Objectives** -

- To empower and support Scheduled Caste (SC) communities to crack the UPSC Civil Services Examination.

- To adopt Dr. B.R. Ambedkar's mantra "Educate, Organise, Agitate" among the youth.

### **The SHe-Box Portal (Sexual Harassment electronic Box)**

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**Launched by** - Ministry of Women and Child Development.

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**Offers** - A secure, multilingual (*23 languages*) space for women across all sectors to register and track complaints.

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**Integrated with** - *Mission Shakti mobile app*.

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**To Register a Complaint -**

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Click "Register Your Complaint" on the site.

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Select the employment category.

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Fill in the detailed complaint form and submit to receive a tracking.

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**Objective** - To ensure the effective implementation of the *PoSH Act (Sexual Harassment of Women at Workplace Prevention, Prohibition, and Redressal Act, 2013)*.

**Economy**

## Qadian-Beas Railway Line Project

The historic Qadian-Beas railway line project revived after nearly 100 years recently.

• **Location** - Punjab.

• **Specifications**

**Route** - Connects Qadian (Gurdaspur district) to Beas (Amritsar district).

**Executed by** - Northern Railway.

• **Safety** -

Integration with kavach (India's indigenous automatic train collision avoidance system).

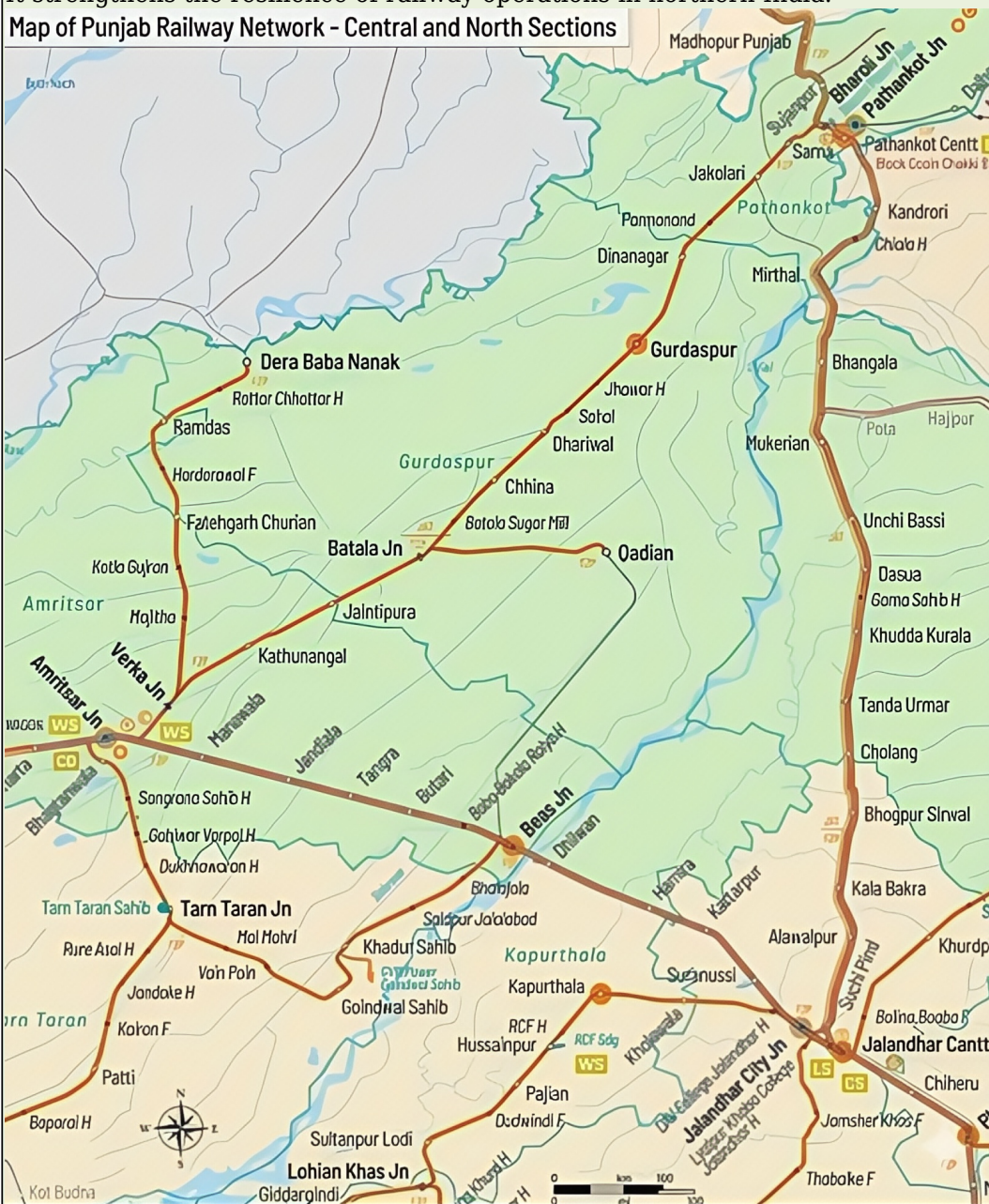
Modern digital signalling and telecommunication networks will be fitted.

• **Significance** -

It is a strategic alternative rail corridor to the Amritsar-Pathankot section.

It strengthens the resilience of railway operations in northern India.

Map of Punjab Railway Network - Central and North Sections



## Agriculture

### Kashmiri saffron

Recently a sharp decline in saffron output from Iran has resulted in the demand for Kashmiri saffron.

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It is also known as "*Red Gold*" or *bahukam*.

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**Grown in** - Pampore region (Jammu and Kashmir's Pulwama district)

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**Soil profile - *Karewas*** (elevated alluvial lake-bed terraces rich in minerals and loamy organic material).

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**Altitude** - 1,500-2,000m.

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**Temperature** - not exceeding 35°C to 40°C.

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**GI Tag** - 2020

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**Colour** - Deep crimson-maroon-purple hue, making it the darkest natural saffron coloring globally.

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**Significance** - Represents a vital part of Jammu and Kashmir's agricultural heritage.



## Environment

## **Fly ash**

A recent ministerial meeting held planning on a green initiative to transport fly ash by railways.

• It is a fine, powdery byproduct generated from burning pulverized coal in thermal power plants.

• **Chemically reacts with** - Water and calcium hydroxide to form strong compounds.

• **Captured from** - Exhaust gases by electrostatic precipitators before reaching power plant chimneys.

• **Composition** - Silica, Alumina, and Iron oxide.

• **Applications** -

- Substitute for Portland cement in concrete making.

- Raw material for manufacturing sustainable fly ash bricks.

- Road construction, soil stabilization, and mine backfilling.

• **Environmental importance** -

- It promotes a circular economy and reduces the need for landfill disposal.

- Unmanaged fly ash contains arsenic, lead, and cadmium and silica dust, that cause respiratory issues.

## **Health**

### **Operation DRISHTI (Armed Forces Healthcare Initiative)**

*Jharkhand's largest-ever mega eye surgical camp concluded recently under Operation DRISHTI.*

• **Launched in** - 2024

• **Jointly conducted by** - Indian Army and Indian Air Force.

• **Objective** - To eliminate avoidable blindness by providing free advanced eye surgeries to underprivileged.

• **Beneficiaries** -

- Ex-servicemen,

- Serving dependents,

- War widows (Veer Naris), and

- Underprivileged local civilians

• **Treatments provided** -

- High-end procedures like Phacoemulsification for cataracts.

- Minimally Invasive Glaucoma Surgery (MIGS).

- Anti-VEGF injections.

• **Impact** -

- Completed 9 national editions.

- Screening over 75,000 patients.

- Restoring sight to more than 3,000 individuals.

## Sports

### Asian Senior Fencing Championships 2026

- It is recognized as the "Asia Cup" of fencing.
- **Held at** - Bharat Mandapam, in New Delhi.
- **Participation** - Over 400 athletes from 34 countries.
- **Three fencing categories** — Foil, epee, and sabre (both individual and team events).
- **Direct qualifier for** -  
- 2026 Asian Games in Japan.  
- Offered ranking points toward qualification for the LA 2028 Olympic cycle.
- **Significance** - *First time India hosted it.*

## Miscellaneous

### Malaria

- Malaria is **mosquito-borne** disease caused by parasites.
- **Caused by** - The ***Plasmodium parasite*** (mainly *P. falciparum*, *P. vivax*, *P. ovale*, *P. malariae*, and *P. knowlesi*).
- **Transmission** - Through bites of infected female Anopheles mosquitoes,  
- Blood transfusions or contaminated needles, etc. (No direct human-to-human transmission).
- **Symptoms** - Fever, fatigue, and headaches.  
- Severe cases can lead to jaundice, seizures, coma, or death.
- **Higher risk** - Infants, children under 5 years, pregnant women and girls, travellers and people with HIV or AIDS.
- **Note** - "***GanLum***" a antimalarial combination therapy designed to combat drug-resistant parasites (not licensed yet).

## **Guinness World Records (GWR) ICON for 2026**

*Jonathan (tortoise), has been officially named a Guinness World Records (GWR) ICON for 2026 recently.*

### **About Jonathan (tortoise) -**

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Seychelles giant tortoise.

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**Lives on** - Island of St Helena, South Atlantic Ocean,

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Believed to have been born around 1832 (194 years old).

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It holds two Guinness World Records titles:

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Oldest living terrestrial animal.

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Oldest known chelonian (a group that includes turtles and tortoises).

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**Research** - Jonathan's DNA and cellular makeup help to better understand his survival tactics for nearly two centuries.

