

## UPSC Daily Current Affairs| One Liners 21-01-2025

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#### History, Art and Culture

##### Excavations of a Buddhist complex in Ratnagiri, Odisha

- **Focus on** - Uncovering relics and evidence of ties to Southeast Asian cultures.
- **Recent Discoveries** - *Colossal Buddha head, 5 foot palm*, and inscribed relics from the 8th and 9th centuries.
- **Previous Excavations** - 1958 to 1961 excavations by *Debala Mitra* revealed a brick stupa, monastic complexes, and votive stupas.

##### History of Ratnagiri in Odisha

- **Time period** - 5th to 13th centuries.
- **Politically associated with** - Mauryan Emperor Ashoka.
- **Culturally significant for** - Buddhist learning, especially between the 7th and 10th centuries.

##### Maritime Trade of Odisha (Kalinga)

- **Trade ties with** - Southeast Asia, exchanging spices, silk, and metals.
- **Baliyatra festival** - It celebrates historical links to Bali and Sri Lanka.
- **Spread of Buddhism** - Merchant brothers Tapassu and Bhallika of Kalinga were recognized as Buddha's early disciples.

#### Social Issues

##### 8th edition of Pariksha Pe Charcha

- It is a nationwide movement to *transform exam-related stress into a festival of learning* and celebration.
- **Organized annually by** - Department of School Education & Literacy under the Ministry of Education.
- **Role** - It reinforces its message of resilience, positivity, and joy in learning, ensuring that education is celebrated as a journey rather than a pressure-driven task.
- **2025 Edition** - It concluded with a record-breaking over 3.5 crore participation from students, teachers and parents.

#### Economy

##### Centre for Development of Telematics (C-DOT)

- It is the premier Telecom R&D centre of the Department of Telecommunications (DoT).
- **Role in 6G development** - It has signed an agreement with the IIT Delhi for the development of "Building Blocks for THz Communication Front Ends" for 6G.
- It is signed under the *Telecom Technology Development Fund (TTDF)*.
- **Aim** - To develop basic devices and components for THz systems envisaged for 6G communications, as well as other THz systems such as military communications and material characterization.

#### Agriculture

### **India's Coffee Production Boom**

India ranks 7<sup>th</sup> largest globally in coffee production, exports reaching \$1.29 billion in FY24.

- **Top buyers** - Italy, Belgium, and Russia.
- **Production** - *Arabica and Robusta* beans make up three-fourths of India's coffee production.
- Karnataka leads in production, contributing 248,020 MT in 2022-23.
- **Consumption trends** - Domestic consumption increased to 91,000 tonnes in 2023 from 84,000 tonnes in 2012.
- **Integrated Coffee Development Project (ICDP)** - It focuses on improving yields, expanding cultivation, and ensuring sustainability.

### **Environment**

#### **Goby Fish Species**

- **Discovered by** - *Zoological Survey of India (ZSI)*, about 2 unrecorded goby fish species.
- **Discovered at** - Coringa Wildlife Sanctuary, hosts 53 of the 95 goby species recorded in India.
- **2 species** - *Hemigobius hoevenii* and *Mugilogobius tigrinus*.

#### **Coringa Wildlife Sanctuary**

- **Located in** - *Andhra Pradesh*
- Its mangroves, coastal trees, provide habitats for marine life and protect shorelines from erosion.
- It is *India's 3<sup>rd</sup> largest mangrove forest*.