

## UPSC Daily Current Affairs| One Liners 22-04-2025

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#### History, Art and Culture

##### Karnataka Village-Level Antiquities Survey

*Recently, Karnataka has become the 1<sup>st</sup> Indian state to complete a comprehensive village-level antiquities survey.*

- **First-of-its-Kind Documentation** – The state's Department of Archaeology is surveying 119 taluks for detailed antiquities documentation.
- **Geo-tagging for Heritage Tracking** – The survey includes geo-tagging inscriptions, sculptures, and monuments for precise location-based records.
- **Expanding Protected Monuments List** – A proposal to add 110 monuments to the protected list is underway, with a future goal of protecting 1,000 more.
- **Addressing Conservation Challenges** – Karnataka faces resource and coordination hurdles in protecting its over 25,000 monuments.
- **CSR Initiatives for Monument Upkeep** – The 'Adopt a Monument' initiative seeks corporate social responsibility (CSR) funding for heritage conservation.

#### Geography

##### Davis Strait Proto-Microcontinent

*Davis Strait proto-microcontinent, a hidden landmass has been found beneath the icy waters of the Davis Strait recently.*

- It is a newly identified submerged microcontinent located in the Davis Strait, lies between Canada's Baffin Island and Greenland.
- **Thickness** – Ranging from 19 to 24 km.
- **Bordered by** – 2 narrow bands of thinner continental crust measuring 15 to 17 km.
- These bands serve as a separation from the mainland of Greenland and Baffin Island.
- **Geological formation** – Its formation linked to the tectonic evolution of the strait.
- Millions of years ago, the tectonic plates beneath the 2 islands shifted, leading to a reconfiguration of the Earth's crust.
- This process resulted in the development of a substantial continental crust beneath the ocean, which is now recognized as a newly discovered primitive microcontinent.

### **South Eastern Coalfield Limited (SECL)**

*Recently, SECL is set to be the 1<sup>st</sup> coal PSU in India to adopt innovative paste fill technology for underground mining.*

- **Agreement for Singhali Mine** - SECL has signed a ₹7040 crore agreement with TMC Mineral Resources Private Limited to implement this technology in the Singhali underground coal mine in Korba.
- **Paste Fill Technology Explained** - This eco-friendly method involves filling mined-out voids with a paste made from fly ash, crushed overburden, cement, water, and binding chemicals, eliminating the need for surface land acquisition.
- **Environmental and Safety Benefits** - Paste filling prevents land subsidence, ensures mine stability, and promotes waste recycling by utilizing industrial byproducts. This is crucial for the densely populated area above the Singhali mine.
- **Revitalizing the Singhali Mine** - Approved in 1989, the Singhali mine with 8.45 million tonnes of reserves can now proceed with large-scale production (8.4 million tonnes over 25 years) without surface disruption.
- **A Landmark for Sustainable Mining** - This initiative marks a significant step towards green mining in India, enhancing coal production while minimizing environmental impact and potentially paving the way for similar applications in other constrained underground mines.

### **Social Issues**

#### **Harare Declaration**

*Recently, Climate and Health Africa Conference (CHAC) 2024 in Zimbabwe concluded with the adoption of the Harare Declaration.*

- It is a collective African commitment to tackle the health impacts of climate change.
- **Aim** - To recognize climate change as a health emergency and strengthen Africa's role in climate and health responses.
- **Fostering Collaboration** - It promotes collaboration among governments, researchers, civil society, and communities.
- **Features** - Upgrading infrastructure, training health workers, and improving healthcare delivery.
- It emphasizes investing in research, surveillance, and the inclusion of local and traditional knowledge.

### **International Relations and Issues**

#### **US Airstrikes Near Hodeidah Port**

*Recently, UN Special Envoy for Yemen, Hans Grundberg, has voiced serious concern regarding US airstrikes in the vicinity of the Houthis-controlled Ras Isa fuel port near Hodeidah.*

- **Ras Isa** - It is a Key Oil Export Hub, primarily known for its facilities dedicated to oil exports.
- **Located in** - Yemen's Red Sea coast.
- **Role** - It plays a significant role in Yemen's maritime trade and crucial for the country's energy export sector.
- **Hodeidah** - A key port city situated on Yemen's western coast.
- **Features** - It serves as a critical hub for importing essential goods and humanitarian aid into Yemen.
- Its strategic importance lies in controlling access to the Red Sea, making it a major focus in the ongoing conflict.

### **Environment**

### Gandhi Sagar Wildlife Sanctuary (GSWS)

GSWS in Madhya Pradesh will be the 2<sup>nd</sup> relocation site for African cheetahs after Kuno National Park (KNP).

- **Cheetah Relocation** - 2 male cheetahs, Prabhas and Pavak, will be moved from KNP to GSWS as part of India's cheetah reintroduction project.
- **GSWS** - Declared in 1974 and expanded to 362 sq km, the Chambal River bisects it. It's also recognized as an IBA.
- **Located in** - Northwestern Madhya Pradesh along the Rajasthan border, falls within the Khathiar-Gir dry deciduous forests.
- **Features** - Northern tropical dry deciduous, dry mixed deciduous, and dry deciduous scrub forests with species like Khair and Tendu.
- **Fauna** - Chinkara, Leopard, Mugger Crocodile, and diverse birdlife.
- **Chambal River's Role** - It flows through GSWS, supporting aquatic biodiversity and shaping the sanctuary's landscape.

### Security

#### Exercise Desert Flag-10

Recently, Indian Air Force (IAF) has deployed a contingent to Al Dhafra Air Base in the UAE for Exercise Desert Flag-10.

- It is a prestigious multinational air combat exercise, hosted by UAE Air Force.
- **Aim** - To facilitate the exchange of operational knowledge and best practices among participating air forces.
- **Participation** - It includes contingents from eleven other nations, fostering a rich training environment.
- **IAF Aircraft Deployment** - It includes combat-proven MiG-29 fighter jets and Jaguar strike aircraft, showcasing diverse capabilities.
- **Enhancing Global Military Cooperation** - India's participation underscores its commitment to strengthening military ties and operational readiness through international collaboration.
- **Exercise Desert Flag-10** - It emphasizes complex and diverse fighter engagements simulating realistic combat scenarios.

### Science

#### Enzymes & Co-enzymes

- **Enzymes** - They are proteins that catalyse reactions in a cell, making metabolism efficient.
- For efficient functioning, many enzymes require some molecules as cofactors.
- These helper molecules are called coenzymes.
- **Coenzymes** - They are naturally occurring organic molecules that bind to and support the activity of enzymes.

### Miscellaneous

### **World Creativity and Innovation Day (WCID)**

*Recently, WCID observed annually on April 21<sup>st</sup>, designated by the UN, highlights the vital role of creativity and innovation in human development.*

- **UN Recognition** - On April 27, 2017, the UN officially recognized April 21<sup>st</sup> as WCID, linking it to the 2030 Sustainable Development Agenda.
- **Importance for SDGs** - It underscores how creative and innovative approaches are crucial for achieving the ambitious Sustainable Development Goals.
- **Founded by** - Marci Segal in 2001.
- **Aim** - To encourage positive community impact through creative thinking.
- **Features** - The day encompasses creative problem-solving, driving economic, social, and sustainable development transformations.
- **Driving Global Progress** - It emphasizes human creativity as a key asset for developing sustainable solutions to complex global challenges.

### **World Liver Day, 2025**

*Recently, World Liver Day observed annually on April 19<sup>th</sup>, emphasizes the importance of liver health and disease prevention.*

- **Theme** - Food is Medicine.
- It underscores the powerful impact of nutrition on liver health and healing.
- The day serves as a global reminder that informed food choices are powerful tools in preventing liver diseases.
- **Liver's Role** - As the largest internal organ, the liver performs over 500 crucial functions essential for life.
- **Functions** - These include detoxification, aiding digestion, regulating blood sugar, and producing vital proteins.
- A balanced diet and conscious lifestyle choices are key to enhancing liver function and resilience.