UPSC Daily Current Affairs| One Liners 23-05-2026

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Polity & Governance

JEEVAN App & SHATAYU Dashboard

- **Launched by –** Ministry of Social Justice & Empowerment.
- **Objectives –** To empower senior citizens and strengthen caregiving support systems nationwide.

JEEVAN App (Joint Elderly Empowerment & Virtual Assistance Network)

- It is a dedicated mobile application for senior citizens.
- **Focus on –** Safety, welfare, healthcare access, and social inclusion.
- **Features**
  - Information on government schemes & welfare programmes.
  - Emergency assistance and support services.
  - Details of senior citizen homes supported by the Ministry.
  - Designed with user-friendly interface, simplified navigation, and accessibility features for elderly users.

SHATAYU Dashboard (Senior Holistic Care Assistance and Training for Your Utility)

- It is a digital dashboard to support caregiving services for senior citizens.
- **Objective –** To provides information on availability of geriatric caregivers at district and state levels.

Government Policies & Intervention

Ayushman Bharat Digital Mission's Milestone

Over 100 crore health records successfully linked with Ayushman Bharat Health Accounts (ABHA).

- **Ecosystem Growth –** 450+ public and private health tech solutions integrated with ABDM.
- **Government Platforms Driving Growth**
  - CoWIN, Non-Communicable Disease Programme, PM-JAY, RCH programme.
  - **State platforms –** eKavach (UP), TeCHO (Gujarat), iHMS (Rajasthan), Andhra Pradesh health programmes.
  - **National platforms –** eHospital (NIC), eSushrut (C-DAC).
- **Digital Building Blocks of ABDM**
  - ABHA (Health ID)
  - Healthcare Professionals Registry (HPR)
  - Health Facility Registry (HFR)
  - Health Information Exchange & Consent Manager (HIE-CM)
  - Unified Health Interface (UHI)
  - National Health Claims Exchange (NHCX)
- **Significance**
  - ABDM now among the *world's largest digital health ecosystems*.
  - *Longitudinal digital health records* for citizens.
  - Supports a connected, paperless, efficient, and patient-centric healthcare system.

Environment

International Day for Biological Diversity 2026

- **Celebrated annually on –** 22nd May.
- **Held at –** IIFM, Bhopal.
- **Organized by –** MoEFCC, Govt. of Madhya Pradesh, NBA, and IBCA.
- **Objective –** To mark adoption of the Convention on Biological Diversity (1992).
- **Theme –** "Acting Locally for Global Impact".
  - It emphasizes that global biodiversity goals depend on local, concrete action.
- **Aligned with –** Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework (GBF), aiming to halt and reverse biodiversity loss by 2030.

Science

Thermal Storage Innovation

- **Research by –** International Advanced Research Centre for Powder Metallurgy and New Materials (ARCI), under the Department of Science & Technology (DST).
- **Innovation of –** Cost-effective, scalable process for producing *spinel nanocomposite Phase Change Material (PCM).*
- **Material designed for –** *Thermal energy storage (TES)* in concentrated solar power (CSP) plants and industrial waste heat recovery systems.
- **Technical Highlights**
- **Method –** Simple co-precipitation process to produce *spinel-type metal oxide nanoparticles* with controlled particle size.
- Nanoparticles show excellent thermal stability and uniform dispersion, ideal for PCM integration.
- **Addition of –** Just *1% spinel oxide nanoparticles* to PCM resulted in:
  - 45% increase in specific heat capacity (energy storage ability).
  - Enhanced efficiency and performance of TES systems.
- **Advantages**
  - Supports clean energy storage solutions.
  - Improves utilization of solar power & industrial waste heat.
  - Cost-effective, high-performance thermal batteries for sustainable energy applications.

Pregabalin

- **Brought under –** *Schedule H1 of Drugs Rules, 1945* by Ministry of Health & Family Welfare.
- **Reason for Action**
  - Reports of misuse and abuse of Pregabalin, especially among youth.
  - Misused for sedative, euphoric, and dissociative effects.
  - Illegal stocking and unauthorized sales reported in some states.
- **Medical Use –** Prescribed for chronic pain, neuropathies, fibromyalgia, and neurological conditions.

Schedule H1 Provisions

- Sale only against *valid prescription from a Registered Medical Practitioner (RMP).*
- Retailers must maintain a *separate register* of prescriptions and sales.
- Manufacturers must display *"Schedule H1 Drug Warning" label* prominently.
- Violations attract penal action under *Drugs & Cosmetics Act, 1940.*
- **Objectives**
  - To curb easy access and unauthorized sales.
  - To enhance prescription monitoring.
  - To strengthen supply chain accountability.
  - To safeguard public health from drug misuse and abuse.
- **Stakeholder Advisory –** Manufacturers, distributors, wholesalers, retailers, and pharmacists must ensure strict compliance with the notification.

Areca Nuts Seizure

Approximately 60,000 kg of smuggled foreign-origin areca nuts were seized.

- **Conducted in –** Mizoram and Assam.
- **Seized by –** Directorate of Revenue Intelligence (DRI), Guwahati Zonal Unit.
- **Routes –** Smuggled into India from Myanmar via the *Myanmar–Mizoram border.*
- **Impact**
  - Illegal influx causing severe economic damage to domestic areca nut growers.
  - Undermines economic security in border regions.

Areca Nuts

- Areca nut is the seed of the fruit of the *oriental palm Areca catechu.*
- **Found in –** Tropical regions of the *Pacific, South Asia, and Eastern Africa.*
- **Usage**
  - Primarily used as a *recreational stimulant.*
  - Typically chewed wrapped in betel leaves (Piper betle), mixed with slaked lime (calcium hydroxide), and flavored with mint, clove, or tobacco.
  - Medicinal properties – Cathartic purposes & Treatment of intestinal parasites.



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