

UPSC Daily Current Affairs| One Liners 23-10-2025

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Geography

Transient Lunar Phenomena (TLPs)

- **TLPs** - These are *strange lights on the Moon, which are enigmatic flashes and glows.*
 - These vary from bright, short flashes to weak glows and transitory colour changes.
- **Possibly caused by** - Meteoroid impacts or gas releases from the lunar interior, offer crucial insights into the Moon's geology and dynamic processes.
- **Aim of ongoing research** - To unravel their mysteries and enhance our understanding of Earth's closest celestial neighbour.

Baratang's mud volcano

The samples (lithoclasts) collected from India's only active mud volcano belong to the Oligocene age.

- A total of 4 clusters of mud volcanoes consisting of several small vents, spread over an area of about 500 sqm with a height of about 2 metres at the centre.
- Earlier record of 100 sqm and a height of 1 metre.
- **Located in** - Baratang, in Andaman and Nicobar Islands.
- **Composed of** - Sandstone and shale of the Mithakari Group, belonging to Oligocene geological period.
- **Temperature ranged from** - 29.3°C to 30.07°C.
- **pH between** - 8.0 and 8.3, indicating the *weakly alkaline nature* of the mud fluid.

Economy

State Tourism Ministers Meet

- It is a platform that brings together Tourism Ministers and senior officials from all States and Union Territories.
- **Aim** - To develop at least 1 globally benchmarked tourist destination in every State and UT, aligning with India's broader Viksit Bharat roadmap.
- **Key outcomes** -
 - **Development of 50 Destinations** - Focusing on private sector-led tourism hub development.
 - **Providing Performance Linked Incentives (PLI)** - Introducing a novel PLI-based Destination Maturity Model to incentivize and reward high standards of destination management.
- **Significance** - It serves as a platform to advance the vision of "One State: One Global Destination" announced in the Union Budget 2025-26.

FASTag Annual Pass

FASTag Annual pass crosses 25 lakh users mark in 2 months after launch.

- **Aim** - To provide safe, smooth and seamless travel experience on National Highways across the country.
- **One-time fee payment** - Rs. 3,000 for 1 year validity or 200 toll plaza crossings.
- **Valid for** - All non-commercial vehicles with a valid FASTag.
- **Applicable on** - About 1,150 toll plazas on National Highways and National Expressways.
- On Expressways and State Highways managed by State Governments or local bodies, FASTag will use your existing wallet balance to pay tolls and parking fees.

16th International Railway Equipment Exhibition-2025

- It is an Asia's largest and the world's 2nd largest railway exhibition.
- **Conducted by** - Ministry of Railways
- **Theme** - 'Future-Ready Railways'.
- **Coincides with** - International Rail Conference 2025, serves as a key forum for transformative discussions and collaboration in the industry.
- **Announcement** -
 - To develop dedicated passenger corridors, engineered for maximum speeds of up to 350 kmph with an operating speed of 320 kmph.
 - These corridors will be equipped with indigenously developed signalling systems and modern Operations Control Centres (OCCs).
- **Significance** - It outlines Vision for Vande Bharat 4.0, Amrit Bharat 4.0, and Next-Generation Railway Manufacturing Standards at IREE 2025.

Security

Joint Defence Cooperation Meeting

Joint Defence Cooperation Meeting in New Delhi, Marking a New Chapter in Bilateral Defence Partnership.

- **Held between** - India and Ethiopia.
- **Aim** - To underscore the growing strategic partnership and reaffirms their shared resolve to enhance cooperation in areas of mutual interest.

Military Combat Parachute System (MCPS)

MCPS, has successfully undergone a combat freefall jump from an altitude of 32,000 feet.

- **Indigenously developed by** - DRDO.
- **Achievement** - MCPS the only parachute system currently in operational use by the Indian Armed Forces capable of deployment above 25,000 feet.
- **Significance** - It reduces dependency on other nations for its serviceability during times of conflict and war.

'Samudra Shakti - 2025'

- It is the *5th edition of the Indo-Indonesian Joint Bilateral Maritime Exercise.*
- **Held in** - Visakhapatnam, hosted by *Indian Navy.*
- **Participating units** - INS Kavaratti, an Anti-Submarine Warfare Corvette of Eastern Fleet under the aegis of Eastern Naval Command (ENC) and the Indonesian Navy Ship KRI John Lie, a Corvette (with an integral helicopter).
- **2 phases**
 - **Harbour phase** - To build camaraderie and professional rapport that include Cross Deck Visits, Joint Yoga sessions, Friendly Sports fixtures, Professional Subject Matter Expert Exchanges (SMEE).
 - **Sea Phase** - To increase tactical coordination, including Helicopter Operations, Air Defence Exercises, Weapon Firing Drills, Visit, Board, Search and Seizure (VBSS) exercises.
- **Aim** - To enhance interoperability, strengthening mutual understanding, and sharing best practices between the two navies.
- **Significance** - It highlights shared commitment of both nations towards maintaining stability and peace in the Indo-Pacific region.

Miscellaneous

Vartalap

- It is a regional media workshop, held at Konark.
- **Organised by** - Press Information Bureau (PIB), Bhubaneswar.
- **Aim** - To strengthen collaboration between the government and the media in effective public communication.

World Food Day 2025

- **Observed annually on** - 16th October.
- **Aim** - To raising awareness about *food security, nutrition, and sustainable agricultural practices.*
- **Theme 2025** - "Hand in Hand for Better Foods and a Better Future".