

## UPSC Daily Current Affairs| One Liners 24-04-2026

### One Liners 24-4-2026

#### History, Art and Culture

##### Adi Shankaracharya

Adi Shankaracharya (788-820 CE) was a legendary philosopher-saint from Kerala. In just 32 years, he traveled across India to revive Vedic teachings and reform Hinduism.

- **Early Life** - A child prodigy, he mastered the Vedas by age twelve. He walked 2,000 kilometers to find his Guru, Govindapada, on the banks of the Narmada River.
- **Core Philosophy** - He championed Advaita Vedanta (Non-Dualism), teaching that the individual soul and the Universal Consciousness (Brahman) are one. He described the physical world as *Maya* (illusion).
- **Unifying Worship** - To end sectarian conflicts, he established the **Shanmata system**, organizing the worship of six primary deities into a single, harmonious framework.
- **Literary Legacy** - Shankaracharya wrote profound commentaries on the Bhagavad Gita and Upanishads, along with famous devotional hymns like the *Nirvana Shatakam*.
- **Four Maths** - He founded four major monasteries (Maths) in Badrinath, Sringeri, Puri, and Dwaraka. This "spiritual grid" unified India's cultural and geographical boundaries.

#### Polity & Governance

##### Samridhh Gram: Digital Rural Growth

Samridhh Gram is an Indian project using high-speed internet to bring essential services to villages through community hubs called Samridhhi Kendras.

- **Health and Learning** - These centers offer doctor consultations via video and use smart classrooms with VR tech to teach students new skills.
- **Smart Farming** - Farmers get help from drones and soil sensors to improve crops, making agriculture more modern and efficient.
- **Village Services** - The hubs provide easy access to government schemes, online shopping, and security cameras to keep neighborhoods safe.
- **WSIS Prize 2026** - This initiative is nominated for a global WSIS award, which honors projects using technology to improve lives.
- **Global Recognition** - The award, organized by the ITU, celebrates digital tools that help reach United Nations goals for a better world.

#### International Relations and Issues

## United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (UN ESCAP)

UN ESCAP is a major UN group representing 53 countries. It helps nearly two-thirds of the world's people work together on economic and social issues.

- **History** - Founded in 1947 and based in Bangkok, it originally helped countries rebuild after World War II. Today, it focuses on modern challenges like climate change.
- **Aims to** - Reduce poverty, promote equality, and help nations achieve the 17 Sustainable Development Goals.
- **Key Actions** - It conducts research on food and energy costs while building massive trade routes, like the Trans-Asian Railway, to connect nations.
- **Current Focus** - ESCAP is currently helping countries move toward clean energy to protect them from rising fuel prices caused by global conflicts.

### UN Resolution 47: The Kashmir Dispute

Adopted in 1948, Resolution 47 was a UN plan to stop the fighting in Jammu and Kashmir. It suggested a three-step peace process, though these were recommendations, not laws.

- **The Background** - After tribal invaders entered J&K in 1947, India sought UN help. India wanted the UN to stop Pakistan from supporting the invaders.

The 3 Steps UN proposed:

1. Pakistan withdraws its fighters.
  2. India reduces its troops.
  3. A public vote (**plebiscite**) decides the region's future.
- **Political Tension** India felt betrayed when the UN treated the conflict as a general dispute between two equal nations rather than addressing the invasion directly.
  - **Legacy** - The vote never happened because forces did not withdraw. Today, India prefers the **Simla Agreement**, which favors solving the issue privately without the UN

## Economy

### Moody's Lowers India's Growth Outlook

Moody's has cut India's FY27 growth estimate to 6%, down from 6.8%. This change follows slower factory output and weaker spending by consumers.

- **Energy Risks** - Rising oil and gas prices caused by West Asia conflicts are a major concern. High energy costs make manufacturing and transport more expensive.
- **Inflationary Pressure** - Expensive imports and potential fertilizer shortages could drive up food and fuel prices. This puts extra pressure on the government's budget and subsidies.
- **Sector Impact** - Aviation and chemical industries face lower profits as costs rise. However, government-backed infrastructure projects remain a steady source of economic activity.
- **Remittance Concerns** - Tensions in the Gulf may reduce money sent home by Indian workers. Since this region provides one-third of India's remittances, the rupee could face pressure.
- **Economic Resilience** - Despite these risks, India remains stable. Strong foreign exchange reserves and high service exports help the country handle global financial shocks effectively.

## **New DRDO Tech for Land and Sea**

The Big Reveal India has introduced two new home-grown tools: the **Prajna** imaging system for land security and the **Air Droppable Container - 150 (ADC)** containers for naval supplies.

- **AI Security** - Prajna uses artificial intelligence to scan satellite images. It helps the government monitor sensitive areas and fight terrorism with real-time data.
- **Emergency Supplies** - The ADC-150 is a container that can be dropped from planes. It carries 150 kg of food or medicine to ships far out at sea.
- **Successful Trials** - The Indian Navy recently tested the ADC-150 near Goa. It worked perfectly even under tough flight conditions, proving it is ready for use.
- **Team Effort** - Several DRDO labs across India worked together to build these systems, creating everything from the container's body to its parachute.
- **Self-Reliance** - These inventions support the "Aatmanirbhar Bharat" goal. By making our own tech, India becomes stronger and less dependent on other countries.

## **Environment**

### **Earth Day 2026**

Celebrated every April 22 since 1970, Earth Day is a global event involving 190 countries.

- **Promotes** - nature protection, climate action, and green living.
- **The Goal** The 2026 theme, "**Our Power, Our Planet,**" encourages everyone to take responsibility for our environment. It aims to stop pollution and deforestation through teamwork.
- **Main Events** This year features science quizzes and a special lecture on Antarctica. Communities worldwide also host tree plantings and exhibitions to inspire sustainable change.
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## **Security**

### **New Mine-Clearing Tools for India**

The Defence Ministry signed a ₹975 crore deal to help Indian tanks cross minefields safely. This focuses on providing new tools for T-72 and T-90 tanks.

- **TRAWL** - Assembly is a device attached to the front of a tank. Developed by DRDO, it clears safe paths by neutralizing anti-tank mines, including those with magnetic sensors.
- **Local Makers** - The equipment is designed by DRDO and built by Indian companies like BEML. This keeps production within the country.
- **Tank Facts** - The T-72 and T-90 are India's primary battle tanks. Equipping them with TRAWLs allows the Army to move quickly during both offensive and defensive missions.
- **Jobs and Industry** - The project creates new jobs and helps small businesses. Many parts will be made by smaller Indian factories, boosting the economy.

## **Science**

## Smart Washbasins

A smart washbasin is a touchless sink that uses sensors to control water flow. These devices are common in busy places like airports and malls.

- **The Invisible Light** - They use **Infrared (IR) waves**. These are light waves invisible to humans that bounce off objects to trigger a reaction.
- **How it Works** - An LED sends out a beam of light. When your hand moves under the tap, it reflects that light back to a sensor.
- **Starting the Flow** - Once the sensor catches the reflected light, it sends an electrical signal to open a water valve automatically.
- **Features** - These sinks are touch-free to stop the spread of germs. They also turn off instantly when you move your hand away.
- **Why it Matters** - Smart basins save water by preventing taps from being left on. They also keep public bathrooms cleaner and safer for everyone.

