UPSC Daily Current Affairs| One Liners 25-02-2026

One Liners 25-02-2026

Social Issues

Manipur Housing Relief

The Union government has sanctioned the construction of 5,000 houses for internally displaced persons (IDPs) in Manipur.

- **Implemented in accordance with –** Pradhan Mantri Awaas Yojana-Gramin (PMAY-G) guidelines.
- **Background –** Ethnic violence between the Meitei and Kuki-Zo communities since May 2023 has resulted in the displacement of approximately 62,000 individuals.
- **Identification –** The Awaas+ 2024 survey will identify eligible households that were not included in the 2011 Socio-Economic and Caste Census (SECC).
- **Registration of beneficiaries by –** State government.
- **Resettlement progress –** The Manipur government initially planned to resettle 10,000 families by March 31, 2026.
- To date, 16,500 internally displaced persons (IDPs) have been resettled.

Pradhan Mantri Awaas Yojana-Gramin (PMAY-G)

- **Launched in –** 2016
- **Program under –** Ministry of Rural Development (MoRD).
- **Implemented by –** Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs.
- **House Specifications –** Minimum size is 25 sq.m, including a dedicated cooking area.
- **Transfer of funds –** Directly to the Aadhaar-Linked Bank Account / Post-Office Account of the beneficiary.
- **Objective –** To Provide pucca houses with basic amenities to houseless families and those living in kutcha or dilapidated houses in rural India, contributing to the goal of “Housing for All.”

Road Safety Financing Project in India

The United Nations launched a project in partnership with four States for a road safety financing framework.

- **Launched by –** United Nations
- **Partnership with –** Rajasthan, Kerala, Tamil Nadu, and Assam.
- **Objectives –** To build national and state-level capacity to implement road safety action plans.
  - To reduce fatalities and serious injuries.
- **Supported by –** UN Road Safety Fund.
- **India's Challenge –**
  - Around 600 daily deaths from road crashes (≈25 per hour).
  - Many survivors face lifelong disabilities.
  - The World Bank estimates losses at 7% of India's GDP.
- **Global Context –** UN warned the world is not on track to meet the pledge of cutting road deaths and injuries by 50% by 2030 under the *Decade of Action for Road Safety 2021–2030.*

Polity & Governance

Supreme Court on EV Charging Infrastructure

Supreme Court agreed to examine a plea regarding installation of electric vehicle (EV) charging infrastructure in group housing societies.

- **Request –** Direction to implement the *EV Charging Infrastructure Guidelines 2024,* enabling residents to install chargers at their own cost.
- **Concerns –** No legislative action despite guidelines issued over a year ago.
- Petitioner unable to charge EV in housing society despite adopting eco-friendly transport.
- **Constitutional Basis –** Petition cites rights under *Articles 14, 15, 16, and 21 (equality, non-discrimination, and right to life).*

Economy

MSP Hike for Raw Jute

The Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs (CCEA) raised the Minimum Support Price (MSP) of raw jute for 2026–27.

- **Beneficiaries –** Jute farmers in West Bengal, Assam, and other states will benefit.
- **Returns –** It ensures a *61.8% return* over the all-India weighted average cost of production.
- **Policy Principle –** It follows at *least 1.5 times the cost of production*, as per the 2018–19 Union Budget.
- **Trend –** MSP increased from Rs. 2,400 in 2014–15 to Rs. 5,925 in 2026–27, representing *a 2.5-fold rise*.
- **Support Operations –** The Jute Corporation of India (JCI) remains the nodal agency, with losses reimbursed by the Centre.

India's $20 Billion IPO Plan for State-Run Firms

- **Target –** India aims to raise Rs. 1.79 trillion ($20 billion) by 2029/30 through IPOs of state-run firms.
- **Sectors –** Railways, power, petroleum & natural gas, aviation, and coal.
- **Significance –** Shift from outright privatisation to asset monetisation after 2024 elections.
- First monetisation plan (2019–25) raised ₹5.3 trillion, nearly 90% of target.
- Funds go directly to firms for reinvestment, reducing burden on government finances.

Rail Multitracking Projects

The Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs approved 3 railway multitracking projects worth ₹9,072 crore, to be completed by 2030–31.

- **Projects –**
  - Gondia–Jabalpur Doubling
  - Punarakh–Kiul 3rd & 4th line
  - Gamharia–Chandil 3rd & 4th line
- **Coverage –** Spanning 8 districts across Maharashtra, Madhya Pradesh, Bihar, and Jharkhand, adding 307 km to the rail network.
- **Impact –**
  - Connectivity to 5,407 villages (population ~98 lakh).
  - Boosts operational efficiency, service reliability, and freight capacity (additional 52 MTPA).
  - Supports transport of coal, steel, cement, fertilizers, foodgrains, and more.
  - Tourism – Improved access to destinations like *Kanha National Park, Dhuandhar Waterfall, Bargi Dam, Dalma Wildlife Sanctuary*, among others.
- **Environmental Benefits -**
  - Saves 6 crore litres of oil imports.
  - Cuts 30 crore kg CO_2 emissions (equivalent to planting 1 crore trees).
- **Significance –** It aligns with PM Gati Shakti National Master Plan, focusing on multi-modal connectivity, logistics efficiency, and regional development.

Security

Garuda Atlas Bird Survey in Tirupati

The 5th edition of Garuda Atlas, a bird-mapping exercise in Tirupati, concluded successfully.

- **Findings –** Over 55,000 birds recorded, covering 274 species.
- **Highlights –**
  - First-ever sighting of the *Indian Yellow Tit* in the region.
  - Notable species – Shaheen Falcon, Yellow-throated Bulbul, Red-necked Falcon, Slaty-breasted Rail, and Black Eagle.

Indian Yellow Tit

- **Scientific name –** Machlolophus aplonotus
- **Appearance –**
  - Only crested tit in most of its range.
  - Black front, yellow cheek and eyebrow.
  - Yellowish-green upperparts, white-spotted wings.
  - Underparts yellow-and-black.
  - **Females/juveniles –** Duller, shorter crest, thinner/incomplete stripe, yellowish parts fade to dull white.
- **Behaviour –**
  - Seen in pairs or family groups.
  - Joins mixed-species foraging flocks in non-breeding season.
  - Forages in the canopy.
- **Vocalizations –** Loud whistles and harsh chatters.
- **Habitat & Range -**
  - Found in hilly regions, most abundant between *500–1800 m elevation.*
  - Rarely descends to lower altitudes.



Garuda Atlas

- **Originated in –** 2022 as Tirupati Bird Atlas, later renamed Garuda Atlas.
- **Organized by –** IISER Tirupati, in collaboration with Tirupati Nature Society (TNS) and the Andhra Pradesh Forest Department.
- **Objective –** To reflect cultural identity and boost public participation.
- **Significance –** Presence of rare species underscores the ecological richness and health of the Tirupati landscape.

SHANKAR IAS PARLIAMENT
Information is Empowering