

UPSC Daily Current Affairs| One Liners 25-06-2026

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Polity & Governance

Andaman and Nicobar Islands Institute of Medical Sciences (ANIIMS)

Recently, the public accounts committee held meeting to deliberate the CAG's report on the ANIIMS.

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Located in - Andaman and Nicobar Islands.

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Established under - Andaman & Nicobar Medical Education and Research Society.

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Affiliated with - Pondicherry University.

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Recognized by - National Medical Commission.

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CAG report findings -

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Deficiencies in equipment and patient care.

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Over 40% shortfall in medical equipment.

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Non-availability of essential diagnostic tools,

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Only five functioning operation theatres, leading to delay.

Public Accounts Committee (PAC)

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PAC is India's *oldest parliamentary financial committee*, established in 1921.

Composition

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Total members - 22 (15 elected from LS, 7 from RS).

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Term- 1 year.

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Key Restriction - *No minister can be a member of the committee.*

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Chairperson - *Appointed by the Speaker of the Lok Sabha*

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Since 1967, chosen from opposition party traditionally.

Objectives -

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To audit the revenue and expenditure of the Government of India

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To ensure public funds are spent legally and efficiently based on reports by the Comptroller and Auditor General (CAG).

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Limitation - Its recommendations are *advisory, not legally binding.*

ADR Analysis on Rajya Sabha MPs

As per recent Association for Democratic Reforms (ADR) findings 31% of Rajya Sabha MPs have declared criminal cases.

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Coverage - 226 of the 233 Rajya Sabha MPs.

Key findings -

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Of the 226, *69 (31%) have declared criminal cases against themselves.*

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36 (16%) have serious criminal cases.

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1 sitting Rajya Sabha MP has cases *related to murder.*

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4 have cases related to *attempt to murder.*

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4 have declared cases related *to crimes against women.*

Association for Democratic Reforms

- It is an *apolitical, non-partisan, non-governmental organisation* in India.
- **Founded in** - August 1999 by group of professors from the IIM Ahmedabad.
- **Headquarters** - New Delhi.
- **Focus On** - Electoral and political reforms.
- **Funding** - It adheres strict independence by *only accepting donations from unaffiliated individuals*.
- **Initiatives** -
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- **National Election Watch (NEW)**-citizen-led organizations to monitor elections.
- **Objectives** - To strengthen democracy, political accountability and voter empowerment.

PRAGATI

PM recently chaired 52nd meeting of PRAGATI.

- **PRAGATI** - Multi-modal ICT-based governance platform.
- **Cooperative federalism** - It brings on one stage the Secretaries of Government of India and the Chief Secretaries of the States.
- **Focus on** - To avoid the cost escalations and citizen inconveniences.
- **Objectives** -
 - Grievance redressal,
 - Programme implementation,
 - Project monitoring.
- **52nd Meeting highlights** -
 - Reviewed projects across Road, Power, Industrial Corridor, and Metro Rail sectors.
 - Mandated PM GatiShakti National Master Plan to eliminate delays.
 - Progress of campaign to eradicate tuberculosis assessed.

NHAI Action Against Encroachments

Recently, NHAI Intensifies action against encroachments to enhance road safety.

- **Aim** - To strengthen road safety and ensure obstruction-free movement on National Highways.

- **Act under** - Control of National Highways (Land and Traffic) Act, 2002.

- **Challenges** -

- Unauthorized parking of vehicles,

- Roadside encroachments

- Unregulated activities.

- **Plan of action** -

- Establishment of District Highway Safety Task Forces.

- Nomination of officers to facilitate inter-agency coordination.

- Continuous monitoring of safety-related issues.

- Immediate audits of all Advanced Traffic Management System (ATMS).

- **Significance** - Initiative foster commitment towards more efficient National Highway infrastructure.

International Relations and Issues

AIR SUVIDHA 2.0 Portal

The AIR SUVIDHA 2.0 portal is launched recently.

- **Launched by** - Ministry of Civil Aviation and DIAL.

- **Objective** - To streamline contactless health screenings for international travellers.

- **Features** -

- Mandatory for passengers arriving from or transiting through identified Ebola-affected countries.

- Travelers must submit a digital Self-Declaration Form (SDF) online within 24 hours of arrival.

- Passengers must report their 21-day travel history, exposure details.

- The portal integrates data with health and immigration authorities (APHO, IDSP).

Agriculture

Banganapalle mangoes

APEDA recently facilitated first commercial sea shipment of premium Banganapalle mangoes from India to Singapore.

- It also known as *Benishan or Safeda.*

- These are widely celebrated as the "King of Mangoes" in South India.

- **Origin** - *Nandyal district of Andhra Pradesh.*

Features -

- Massive size.

- Sweet flavour.

- *Completely fiberless pulp.*

- **Geographical Indication (GI) tag** - 2017.

- **Seasonal availability** - April to June.



Democracy During Emergency

Prime Minister pays tribute to those who defended democracy during the Emergency

Emergency period

- **Imposition** - PM *Indira Gandhi* imposed *National Emergency* on *June 25, 1975 - 1977*.

- **Ground of imposition** - "**Internal disturbance**" (broad and vaguely defined, susceptible to political misuse).

Changes during emergency

- **42nd Amendment Act, 1976 (Indira Gandhi Govt.)**

- Limited the power of HC and SC to judicially review constitutional amendments.

- Removed time limits on the President's power to declare Emergency.

- **Changes after emergency**

- **44th Amendment, 1978 (Moraji Desai Govt)**

- *Replaced "internal disturbance" with "armed rebellion"*.

- Downgraded the Right to Property from a Fundamental Right to a legal right under Article 300A.

Miscellaneous

VIP Culture in India (Book)

Vice-President Released the book "VIP Culture in India" recently.

- **Book title** - VIP Culture in India: Power, Privilege and the Distance from Democracy.

- **Authored by** - Former MP Nabam Rebia

- **Co-authored by** - Sandeep Kumar.

- **Highlights of the book** -

- Thoroughly examines the historical evolution and continuous persistence of VIP entitlements.

- *Analyses privileges and power hierarchies weaken democratic structures and public trust.*

- *Stressing that public offices must be handled as public responsibilities rather than elite privileges.*

- Mandated for *Egalitarian Governance.*