UPSC Daily Current Affairs| One Liners 26-02-2026

One Liners 26-02-2026

Social Issues

Tribal Women's Inheritance Rights

The Supreme Court reaffirmed that the Hindu Succession Act, 1956, does not apply to Scheduled Tribes.

• **Highlight –** Need for a distinct legislative framework to promote gender parity in tribal inheritance while maintaining tribal identity.
• **Issue –** Tribal women's inheritance rights are denied by customary laws and are excluded from the protections of the Hindu Succession Act, 1956.
• **Preceding inconsistency –** Courts occasionally granted inheritance rights to 'Hinduised' tribal women, resulting in legal uncertainty.
• **Supreme Court Verdict in Nawang v. Bahadur (October 2025)**
- The Hindu Succession Act, 1956, cannot be applied to Scheduled Tribes under any circumstances.
- The Supreme Court overturned the High Court order that permitted 'Hinduised' tribal daughters to inherit under the Hindu Succession Act.
- Only Parliament possesses the authority to extend the Hindu Succession Act to tribal communities.
- The Supreme Court affirmed the constitutional validity of Section 2(2) of the Hindu Succession Act, which excludes Scheduled Tribes.

Economy

Primary Agricultural Cooperative Societies (PACS)

• **Target –** Establishment of 32,752 PACS during 2024–25 and 2025–26.
• **Achievement –** 8,710 PACS have been formed, representing 27% of the overall target.
• **Top States –** Odisha (1,543), Rajasthan (1,387), Uttar Pradesh (1,099), Madhya Pradesh (621), Uttarakhand (621), Gujarat (525), Assam & Chhattisgarh (469 each).
• **Diversified Functions as per Model Bye-laws**
- **Agriculture –** Provision of short-term credit, agricultural inputs, and distribution of fertilisers and pesticides through PMKSK.
- **Seeds –** Production and distribution facilitated by Bharat Beej (BBSSL).
- **Farm support –** Operation of Custom Hiring Centres for agricultural machinery.
- **Allied sectors –** Engagement in dairy and fisheries activities.
• **Digital & Public Services**
• Over 51,000 PACS function as Common Service Centres (CSCs), providing access to more than 300 electronic services, including banking and insurance.
• Authorised to run PM Bhartiya Janaushadhi Kendras (PMBJKs), manage piped water supply schemes, and operate fuel outlets & LPG distributorships.

Bharat Taxi – Cooperative Ride-Hailing Platform

• **Model –** Cooperative-led, inspired by the Amul model.
• **Profit Sharing**
  - 80% of profits to drivers (based on kilometres driven).
  - 20% retained as cooperative capital.
• **Driver Benefits**
  - Guaranteed minimum base rate per kilometre.
  - Option to become co-owners (₹500 share).
  - Driver representatives on the Board of Directors.
• **Features**
  - **'Saarathi Didi' option –** Women passengers can prioritise female drivers.
  - **Diversification –** Drivers empowered with ownership and profit-sharing.
  - **Timeline –** Profits redirected to drivers after ~3 years.

National Arogya Fair 2026

• **Held at –** Shegaon, Buldhana district, Maharashtra.
• **Organized by –** Ministry of Ayush & All India Ayurvedic Congress.
• **Objectives**
  - Promote Ayush systems of medicine among the public.
  - Provide free health services (check-ups, consultations, medicines).
  - Create livelihood opportunities for farmers via medicinal plant cultivation and agroforestry.
  - Showcase Ayush research, practices, and products.

National SC-ST Hub-Mega Awareness Programme

• **Held at –** Itanagar, Arunachal Pradesh.
• **Organized by –** Ministry of Micro, Small & Medium Enterprises (MSME).
• **Objectives**
  - To disseminate information on the National SC-ST Hub Scheme and other MSME initiatives.
  - To promote entrepreneurship and strengthen the MSME ecosystem in Arunachal Pradesh.

Environment

Ethanol Blending

The government has mandated the sale of petrol with up to 20% ethanol and a minimum Research Octane Number (RON) of 95.

• **Mandated across –** All States and Union Territories.
• **Effective from –** April 1, 2026.
• **Notification by** – Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas.
• **Directive** – Oil companies must sell petrol blended with up to 20% ethanol and having minimum RON 95, as per BIS specifications.
• **Vehicle impact –**
  - Most vehicles made from 2023–25 onward are *E20-compatible.*
  - Older vehicles may face *3–7% mileage drop* and wear on rubber/plastic parts.
  - Ethanol has high octane (~108 RON), *improving knock resistance*.
  - The insistence on minimum RON 95 is to *prevent engine damage*.
• **Benefits –**
  - Reduces oil imports and emissions.
  - Supports farmers by boosting demand for sugarcane, maize, and surplus grains.
  - Saves foreign exchange (₹1.40 lakh crore since 2014–15).

Ethanol

• Ethanol (ethyl alcohol, grain alcohol) is a clear, colourless liquid produced naturally by plant fermentation or via ethylene hydration.
• **Properties –** Easily dissolves in water and organic compounds, making it highly versatile.
• **Uses –**
  - **Beverages –** Ingredient in beer, wine, brandy.
  - **Personal Care –** Acts as an astringent and preservative.
  - **Industrial –** Solvent in paints, varnishes; blended with gasoline to improve vehicle performance.
  - **Food Industry –** Distributes food colouring, enhances flavour in extracts.

Birdwatching Workshop in Wayanad

• **Title –** Basics of Birdwatching
• **Venue –** Thennal Jungle Camp, Kattikulam, Wayanad from February 28 to March 1, 2026.
• **Audience –** Open to beginners and experienced birders
• **Activities**
  - Guided bird walks in natural habitats.
  - Classroom sessions on bird identification and conservation.
  - Interactive discussions on local bird species and ecosystems.
  - Emphasis on bird behaviour, habitat awareness, and responsible nature observation.

Health

Acute Renal Failure (ARF) / Acute Kidney Injury (AKI)

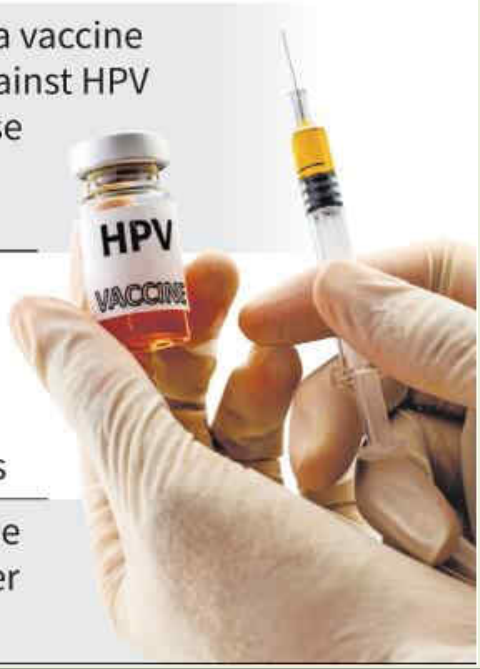
• It is characterized by a rapid decline in kidney function, typically occurring within 48 hours.
• **Impact –** The condition results in the kidneys failing to filter waste, regulate fluid levels, and maintain electrolyte balance.
• Reversibility is possible if the damage is not severe; otherwise, the condition may progress to permanent loss of kidney function.
• **Causes**
  - Trauma or accidents injuring the kidneys.
  - Severe blood loss reduces kidney perfusion.
  - Drugs or toxins/poisons damaging kidney tissue.
  - Underlying medical conditions (e.g., infections, obstruction).

Nation-wide Human Papillomavirus (HPV) vaccination programme

Safety shot

The Centre's nation-wide HPV vaccination programme targeting girls aged 14 will begin soon

- A single-shot of Gardasil, a vaccine that provides protection against HPV types 16 and 18, which cause cervical cancer, and types 6 and 11 will be used
- The vaccination will be voluntary and free of cost. It will be administered exclusively at designated government health facilities
- Cervical cancer remains the second most common cancer among women in India



SHANKAR IAS PARLIAMENT
Information is Empowering