

UPSC Daily Current Affairs| One Liners 26-03-2025

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History, Art and Culture

Dekho Anna Desh Initiative

Recently Union Ministry of Tourism has issues list of states/ UTs Wise Domestic Tourist visitors.

- **Dekho Apna Desh Initiative** - Launched in January 2020, this Ministry of Tourism program promotes domestic tourism via webinars, quizzes, and social media.
- **People's Choice Poll** - Citizens engage to identify preferred tourist attractions, enhancing destination popularity.
- **Digital Platform Enhancement** - Revamped www.incredibleindia.gov.in provides tour and package information, collaborating with stakeholders.
- **Economic Impact** - Increased domestic tourism aims to boost local economies, create jobs, and support hospitality, fostering sustainable growth. State-wise domestic tourist visit data is available.

Shaheed Diwas

The PM paid tributes to Bhagat Singh, Rajguru & Sukhdev on Shaheed Diwas.

- March 23 marked the execution of Bhagat Singh, Rajguru & Sukhdev in 1931.
- **HSRA Affiliation** - Members of the Hindustan Socialist Republican Association, advocating for freedom.
- **Lahore Conspiracy Case** - Accused of killing John Saunders in 1928, avenging Lala Lajpat Rai's death.
- **Arrest and Sentencing** - The British government-imposed death sentences following their arrest.
- **Execution** - Hanged in Lahore Central Jail on March 23, 1931, despite protests.
- **Legacy** - Their fearless sacrifice immortalized them as symbols of Indian resistance.

Dr. Ram Manohar Lohia: A Legacy of Social Justice

- **Born in** - Akbarpur, UP on 23 March 1910
- **Role in Freedom Struggle** - Active in the Quit India Movement (1942), and protested against Portuguese rule in Goa, facing multiple imprisonments.
- **Social Vision** - Advocated for economic democracy to eradicate caste, class, and gender inequalities.
- **Political Philosophy** - Proposed a "6-Point Plan" for new Socialism, emphasizing maximum equality and a global standard of living.
- **Literary Contributions & Values** - Author of influential works like "The Caste System" and "Wheel of History," embodying values of justice, equality, and non-violence.

Polity & Governance

Kerala's Pioneering Senior Citizens Commission

Kerala has established the nation's first Senior Citizens Commission via the Kerala State Senior Citizens Commission Bill, 2025.

- **Statutory Nature and Purpose** - This commission is a statutory body, created to protect the rights and welfare of elderly citizens.
- **Advisory Role** - It serves as an advisory body, influencing state policies related to senior citizens.
- **Core Objectives** - The commission aims to safeguard rights, ensure rehabilitation, and promote the active participation of seniors in society.
- **Focus on Inclusivity and Dignity** - A key goal is to foster inclusivity and uphold the dignity of senior citizens across Kerala. This initiative demonstrates Kerala's commitment to elderly care.

Form 17C

*SC of India is considering a petition by **Association for Democratic Reforms (ADR)**, demanding the Election Commission publish booth-wise voting data (Form 17C) on its website within **48** hours of polling.*

- **Form 17C Definition** - Is a crucial election document detailing booth-wise voter turnout and election results.
- **Form 17C Structure** - It comprises 2 parts: Part 1, the 'Account of Votes Recorded,' and Part 2, the 'Result of Counting.'
- **Legal Framework** - Governed by the Conduct of Election Rules, 1961, under the Representation of the People Act, 1951.
- **Procedural Implementation** - Part 1 is completed post-polling by the Presiding Officer and secured. Part 2 is filled during counting by the Returning Officer.
- **Functions and Powers** - Form 17C ensures transparency, facilitates cross-verification of votes, and strengthens electoral trust. It's legally binding, requiring official signatures.

National Cooperative Development Corporation (NCDC's) Women Cooperative Schemes

- NCDC supports women's empowerment via two dedicated schemes.
- **Swayamshakti Sahakar Yojna** - To provide affordable financial services, enabling women's Self-Help Groups (SHGs) to access bank credit for collective socio-economic activities and sustainable livelihoods.
- **Nandini Sahakar** - Offers a comprehensive framework for women cooperatives, encompassing financial aid, project formulation, capacity development, and hand-holding, excluding urban housing projects.
- **Impact** - Empowering women, bolstering their economic participation & contributing to sustainable development.

International Relations and Issues

Sea Dragon 2025, Naval Drill

A multilateral anti-submarine warfare exercise, Sea Dragon 2025, began on March 4th off the coast of Guam, hosted by the US 7th Fleet.

- **Historical Growth** - Initially a US-Australia drill in 2019, it expanded to include Japan, South Korea & New Zealand by 2020, and India in 2021.
- **Current Participant** - 2025 exercise features the US, India, Japan, Australia, and South Korea, deploying advanced Maritime Patrol and Reconnaissance Aircraft (MPRA).
- **Indo-Pacific Focus** - Sea Dragon 2025 aims to enhance maritime security coordination in the Indo-Pacific region.
- **Joint Training** - Nations engage in joint training to improve anti-submarine warfare capabilities.

Parole Termination

Trump administration recently has announced the end of temporary legal status for over 530,000 migrants from Cuba, Haiti, Nicaragua & Venezuela (CHNV). This decision terminates parole programs initiated by the Biden administration.

- **CHNV Parole Programs** - These programs offered temporary legal entry to migrants facing humanitarian crises in their home countries. They allowed a 2-year stay in the U.S.
- **Eligibility and Requirements** - Applicants underwent online applications and background checks. A financial sponsor in the U.S. was mandatory.
- **Work Authorization** - Participants received work authorization, enabling them to support themselves during their stay.
- **Program Termination Details** - A Federal Register document specifies the programs will end on April 24, 2025.

Security

Hawala

The use of hawala networks has surged in recent years, particularly for illegal activities such as poaching and money laundering.

- Hawala is an informal - trust-based money transfer system, distinct from traditional banking. It allows funds to move without physical cash.
- **The Role of Hawaladars** - Central to hawala are "hawaladars," brokers who facilitate transactions. Their network operates on trust, bypassing formal financial channels.
- **Operational Process** - A sender gives money to a hawaladar, receiving a unique code or token. This token is shared with the recipient. The recipient then collects the equivalent amount from a local hawaladar.
- **Convenience vs. Regulation** - Hawala's convenience fuels its widespread use. However, its informal nature means it lacks formal regulation, making it vulnerable to abuse.
- **Illicit Applications** - Investigations reveal hawala's exploitation in illegal activities, such as poaching and money laundering, enabling criminal networks to move funds discreetly.

Science

Altermagnetism

Researchers in Sweden have identified a novel type of magnetism known as altermagnetism.

- This finding holds the promise of improving the performance of electronic devices significantly.
- **Boost Operational Speed** - Of memory devices by as much as a thousand-fold.
 - This advancement may pave the way for quicker, more efficient technologies.
 - Altermagnetism is characterized by magnetic units that are arranged in an antiparallel manner.
 - Nonetheless, these units display a slightly rotated crystal lattice.
 - This distinctive configuration sets altermagnetism apart from conventional forms of magnetism, merging attributes of both ferromagnets and antiferromagnets into a single material.