

UPSC Daily Current Affairs | One Liners 26-08-2026

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International Relations and Issues

UNCERD - Grave Concern on Rights in India

- **Findings** - UN Committee on Elimination of Racial Discrimination (UNCERD) expresses grave concern over violations against SCs, STs, Dalits, Bengali-speaking Muslims, non-citizens, and Rohingya refugees.
- **Allegations** - Reports cite racially motivated violence, excessive force, extrajudicial killings, arbitrary detention, torture, and sexual violence.
- **Trigger** - Rise in police check posts, racial profiling, targeted operations after 2017 Home Affairs order and April 2025 Pahalgam attack.
- **Recommendations** - India urged to investigate promptly, address hate speech/crimes, refrain from collective expulsions, uphold non-refoulement.
- **Response** - Indian delegation led by Solicitor General rejected findings as sweeping generalisations, citing constitutional safeguards and legal framework.



Operation Economic Outcast - US Sanctions on Indian Firms

US sanctions four India-based companies under 'Operation Economic Outcast' for importing/facilitating Iranian petroleum & petrochemical products.

- **Reason** - Engaged in significant transactions of Iranian petroleum products; imports worth USD 119 million.

- **US Statement** - Treasury Secretary calls it unprecedented push to choke Tehran's finances; warns trade partners of penalties.



9th National Security Strategies Conference

- **Directive** - Agencies to intensify measures against infiltration; AI-based analysis on Multi-Agency Centre (MAC) platforms to create SOPs.
- **Objective** - Annual hybrid format since 2021; collaborative solutions to national security challenges.
- **Focus** - Counter-terrorism, PRAHAAR scheme training, trial in absentia for fugitives, integrated UAPA investigations.
- **Discussions** - Narcotics control, illegal migrants, cybercrime, proxy warfare by Pakistan.
- Threats from sub-aerial systems, securing blue economy, information warfare, biosecurity framework.
- **Participation** - 850+ attendees including Union Home Secretary, DGsP, CAPFs, domain experts.

9th National Security Strategies Conference commences, addresses key security issues



Agriculture

Periyar Cow - National Recognition

ICAR-NBAGR declares Periyar Kullan as Kerala's second indigenous cattle breed after Vechur cow.

- **Local Names** - Known as Kuttampuzha cattle and Andukanni.
- **Regions** - Found mainly in Koovappady, Angamaly, Kothamangalam, Chalakudy (Ernakulam & Thrissur).
- **Population** - Around 1,000 cattle across central Kerala farms.
- **Traits** - Small to medium size, dark brown, 150-200 kg; unique horns hanging near ears.
- **Habitat** - Thrives in semi-feral, silvopastoral grazing near plantations and forest fringes.
- **Milk Yield** - 2.5-4 litres/day; A2 Beta-casein milk with 4.5% fat & 9.1% SNF.
- **Breeding** - First breeding at 26 months; calving at 35 months; gestation 279 days.



Big win!
**'Periyar Kullan' gets
national recognition
as Kerala's second
indigenous cattle breed**

Assam Elephant Habitat Recovery

Assam Forest Department and Aaranyak manage invasive alien plants in Khalingduar Reserve Forest, Udalguri.

- **Species** - Lantana camara, Chromolaena odorata, Mikania micrantha manually uprooted to aid native vegetation.
- **Method** - Cleared biomass converted into biochar; seed-ball regeneration used to restore grasses, herbs, shrubs.
- **Biochar** - A fine-grained, porous, charcoal-like substance made by heating organic waste in a controlled environment with little to no oxygen.
- This thermal process transforms the biomass into a stable, solid form of carbon that resists decay and can remain in the ground for thousands of years.
- Its porous structure can influence soil water retention, nutrient retention, aggregation, and microbial habitat
- **Impact** - Recovers elephant forage base, supports herbivores, boosts habitat quality.



Construction within 100 m of Jojari river

Supreme Court bans construction within 100 m of Jojari River and Prohibits hazardous industries within 500 m of flood line/flow path.

- **Jojari River** - It passes through Jodhpur, the Bandi River flows through Pali, and the Luni River runs through Balotra.
- The Bandi and Jojari rivers merge with the Luni River near Balotra city.
- **Context** - Seasonal river contamination impacting 2 million people; linked with Bandi and Luni rivers.
- **Directive** - Rajasthan Government to prepare 20-point resolution plan and an Integrated Coordination Group formed.
- **Reason** - Interim safeguard to protect riverine ecosystem until scientific demarcation of flood line and buffer zone.
- **Impact** - Industrial relocation may be required; aims to curb pollution and restore ecosystem health.

Supreme Court Bans Construction Within 100 Metres of Jojari River Pending Scientific Flood Line Determination



ICGS Ajit

Goa Shipyard Limited (GSL) formally handed over ICGS Ajit (Yard 1277), a Fast Patrol Vessel, to Indian Coast Guard.

- **Indigenous Content** - Built with over 65% indigenous material, reflecting Atmanirbhar Bharat in defence shipbuilding.
- **Specifications** - 51.43 m long, 8 m wide, 330-ton displacement, powered by twin marine diesel engines with controllable pitch propellers.
- **Performance** - Top speed 27+ knots, endurance 1,500 nautical miles, advanced integrated machinery control system.
- **Crew** - Operated by 6 officers and 35 sailors.
- **Role** - Fisheries protection, Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ) surveillance, coastal patrolling, anti-smuggling, anti-piracy, search and rescue.

India Strengthens Coastal Security! 🇮🇳



The Indian Coast Guard launched **ICGS Ajit** and **ICGS Aparajit**, 2 advanced **indigenously-built** Fast Patrol Vessels. 🇮🇳
At **52 meters long** and **320 tonnes**, these ships will strengthen maritime security and **safeguard India's coastline** and Exclusive Economic Zone. 🇮🇳

First All-Women Commando Course - CISF

CISF starts first all-women commando unit to boost gender parity.

- **Training** - 30 women personnel undergo 8-week advanced course at Barwaha, Madhya Pradesh.
- **Modules** - Physical fitness, weapons training, live-fire drills, rappelling, survival exercises.
- **Deployment** - Commandos to serve in Quick Reaction Teams and Special Task Forces at high-security sites.
- **Scale Up** - 100 women from Aviation Security Groups & sensitive units in first phase; 2,400 recruits expected next year.
- **Goal** - Regular training to raise women representation from 8% to 10% in CISF.

1ST MAHILA COMMANDO CONVERSION COURSE

“SHE WHO DARES, LEADS.”

A MILESTONE IN INDIA'S #NARI SHAKTI ENDEAVOUR

In a first-of-its-kind initiative in the country, the NSG Training Academy, Manesar is conducting the **Mahila Commando Conversion Course (MCCC)** for women personnel of State Police Forces and Central Armed Police Forces (CAPFs).

The 12-week rigorous course is crafted to transform women personnel into highly trained, confident and operationally ready commandos. The course focuses on physical conditioning, weapon handling, marksmanship, intervention skills, hostage rescue operations and other aspects of counter-terrorism training.

The initiative marks a significant step towards women empowerment and creation of a capable women cadre of commandos prepared to meet the evolving challenges of internal security spectrum.

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NSG TRAINING ACADEMY, MANESAR

NSG BLACK CATS

Miscellaneous

Judicial Service Practice Requirement

Supreme Court reduces mandatory 3-year legal practice to 1 year for entry-level judicial service exams.

- **Eligibility** - Candidates for exams between May 25, 2025 and Mar 31, 2027 eligible regardless of prior experience.
- **Training** - Selected candidates to serve as trainee judicial officers; 1 year academy training + 1 year structured clerkship.
- **Background** - May 2025 ruling had barred fresh graduates, fixing 3-year practice criterion.
- **Impact** - Modification eases entry, balances training with practical exposure.

SCC | TIMES



From 3 years to 1, plus training and law clerkship:
SC modifies path to becoming a Civil Judge
(Junior Division) in a 2:1 verdict



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