

## UPSC Daily Current Affairs| One Liners 30-04-2025

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#### Polity & Governance

##### Central Consumer Protection Authority (CCPA)

18. *CCPA has suo moto taken action against five Delhi restaurants for failing to refund mandatory service charges, defying a Delhi High Court ruling.*

- **Protecting Consumer Rights** - This move underscores the CCPA's commitment to safeguarding consumer rights and preventing the forced payment of additional service charges.
- **Legality of Service Charges** - According to the law, hotels and restaurants cannot compel consumers to pay service charges, nor can these charges be levied under any other guise.
- **About the CCPA** - Established under the Consumer Protection Act, 2019, the CCPA, operational since July 20, 2020, replaced the 1986 Act. It operates under the Ministry of Consumer Affairs, Food & Public Distribution.
- **Key Functions and Powers** - The CCPA protects consumer rights as a class, prevents unfair trade practices and misleading ads, initiates class-action suits (including recalls and refunds), conducts investigations, and imposes penalties.
- **CCPA Structure** - The CCPA is headed by a Chief Commissioner and includes two other commissioners, one overseeing goods-related issues and the other handling service-related complaints.

#### Environment

##### Mahuadanr Sanctuary

*Mahuadanr wolf sanctuary in Jharkhand recently garnered attention due to a distinctive practice observed by local tribal communities adhering to the 'Sarna faith'.*

- **Winter Forest Avoidance** - These communities traditionally avoid entering the Sal forests during the winter months, a unique cultural observance.
- **Crucial Wolf Breeding Season** - Interestingly, this period of avoidance by the Sarna community perfectly coincides with the critical breeding and denning season of the Indian grey wolf within the sanctuary.
- **India's First Wolf Sanctuary** - Mahuadanr Wolf Sanctuary, situated in Jharkhand's Latehar district, holds the distinction of being India's first and only sanctuary dedicated to the Indian grey wolf (*Canis lupus pallipes*).
- **Established for Wolf Protection** - Declared in 1976, this sanctuary was specifically created to safeguard the vulnerable Indian wolf population.
- **Sanctuary Area** - The protected area spans approximately 63 square kilometers, providing a crucial habitat for the wolves.
- **Part of Palamau Tiger Reserve** - Mahuadanr Wolf Sanctuary forms an integral part of the larger Palamau Tiger Reserve.
- **Key Wildlife Species** - Besides the Indian wolf, the sanctuary is home to other wildlife including spotted deer, wild boar, hyena, and bear.
- **Conservation Significance** - This unique sanctuary plays a vital role in the conservation efforts for the Indian grey wolf within its natural habitat.

#### Science

## **Indian National Space Promotion and Authorisation Centre (IN-SPACe) Launches Satellite Bus as a Service (SBaaS)**

*Recently, IN-SPACe has launched the SBaaS initiative.*

- **Empowering Private Space Sector** - SBaaS encourages private Indian companies to design and develop satellite-bus platforms, fostering indigenous capabilities.
- **Reducing Import Dependence** - This initiative aims to decrease India's reliance on imported satellite technology, promoting self-sufficiency in the space sector.
- **What is a Satellite Bus?** - A satellite bus is the central, modular structure of a satellite, housing essential operational systems to which the mission-specific payload is attached.
- **SBaaS Initiative Objectives** - Includes promoting innovation among Indian Non-Governmental Entities (NGEs) and facilitating the development of small satellite-bus platforms for various applications.
- **Global Service Provider Goal** - Ultimately, SBaaS seeks to position India as a global hub for small satellite-bus and hosted-payload services.

## **Agentic AI Demand Surge**

*Recently, India faces a critical shortage of agentic AI professionals as demand skyrockets due to the increasing adoption of sophisticated AI agents.*

- **Talent Supply Gap** - The current pool of under 100,000 experts struggles to meet the projected need of 200,000 by 2026, creating a significant talent gap.
- **Intense Hiring Competition** - This shortage fuels intense competition among Global Capability Centers (GCCs), IT firms, and startups, leading to rapidly increasing salaries.
- **Defining Agentic AI** - Agentic AI refers to intelligent systems with the capacity for autonomous decision-making, independent action-taking, and continuous learning in complex environments.
- **'Service as Software' Shift** - This technology enables a shift towards a 'service as software' model, allowing tech companies to deliver enhanced value compared to traditional 'software as a service'.
- **Agentic AI Problem-Solving** - Agentic AI systems solve problems by ingesting diverse data, independently analyzing challenges, developing strategic solutions, and autonomously executing tasks.

## **AI Kiran: Empowering Women in AI**

*Recently, the AI Kiran, a national movement co-led by the Principal Scientific Adviser (PSA), Verix, and INK Women, aims to boost women's leadership in India's rapidly growing AI sector.*

- **Addressing Gender Disparity** - Despite rising STEM enrollment, women hold only 33% of junior and 19% of senior GenAI roles, highlighting the urgent need for diverse leadership to combat algorithmic bias.
- **Goals** - The initiative seeks to empower women innovators, create an inclusive AI ecosystem, develop funding, and provide mentorship, learning, and leadership opportunities.
- **Recognizing Women Leaders** - AI Kiran spotlights over 250 prominent women in AI across sectors like education and healthcare, amplifying their voices and inspiring future generations.
- **Collaborative Multi-Stakeholder Approach** - AI Kiran fosters partnerships between government, corporations, and civil society to create pathways and support for women in AI, hosted on the Manthan Platform

### **3D Microscope for Glaucoma Surgery**

*Army Hospital (Research and Referral), New Delhi, has pioneered the use of a 3D microscope in India for minimally invasive glaucoma surgery.*

- **Understanding Microscopes** - A microscope magnifies small objects, revealing details invisible to the naked eye, utilizing light or electron manipulation through refraction, diffraction, or digital imaging.
- **Science Behind Magnification**- Microscopes employ lenses or sensors to focus light or electron beams, generating enlarged images of minute structures for detailed observation.
- **Types of Microscopes** - Various types exist, including optical microscopes using light, electron microscopes using electron beams (TEM, SEM), digital microscopes capturing digital images, and 3D microscopes offering spatial visualization.
- **About 3D Microscopes** - 3D digital microscopes capture multiple focal planes to construct high-resolution, three-dimensional images of specimens. They use 3D polarization glasses and a 4K display.
- **Advantages of 3D Microscopy** - Benefits include enhanced surgical precision, lower complication rates, improved surgeon comfort, and eco-friendly operation with reduced light exposure and power usage.

### **Pregnancy Anaemia and Heart Defects**

*A recent UK study suggests that anaemia in pregnant women may be linked to a 47 percent increased risk of congenital heart conditions in their newborns.*

- **Understanding Anaemia** - Anaemia is characterized by insufficient healthy red blood cells or haemoglobin, hindering oxygen transport to the body's tissues, leading to fatigue and weakness.
- **Haemoglobin's Crucial Role**- Haemoglobin, a protein in red blood cells, is vital for carrying oxygen from the lungs to all organs throughout the body.
- **Global Anaemia Prevalence** - The WHO estimates significant anaemia rates globally: 40% in young children, 37% in pregnant women, and 30% in women of reproductive age.
- **Types and Severity of Anaemia**- Anaemia has various forms, both inherited and acquired, and can range from mild to severe, with severe cases potentially being life-threatening or indicating serious illnesses.
- **Management and Prevention** - Treatment involves supplements or medical procedures. Iron-deficiency anaemia, a common type, is often due to insufficient iron intake or absorption, or blood loss. A healthy diet can help prevent some forms.

### **Disaster Management**

### **Sachet App: Real-Time Disaster Alerts**

*National Disaster Management Authority (NDMA) Sachet app enhances disaster preparedness by delivering real-time, geo-tagged alerts for various disasters like floods and cyclones via the Common Alerting Protocol (CAP).*

- **Localized and Comprehensive Coverage** - Users can subscribe to alerts for specific states or districts, receiving localized awareness and covering a wide range of disasters.
- **Key Features** - App provides daily weather updates from IMD, critical information from government sources, Dos and Don'ts for disasters, and helpline numbers. Satellite connectivity ensures communication during network failures.
- **Multi-Language Accessibility** - Supporting 12 Indian languages with translation and read-out options, the app promotes inclusivity and is available on Android and iOS.
- **Operation Brahma: India's Humanitarian Aid** - PM Modi highlighted India's aid to Myanmar post-earthquake through Operation Brahma, showcasing commitment to international disaster response.
- **Empowering Individual Alertness** - The Sachet app empowers citizens with timely information, encouraging proactive measures and safeguarding lives during emergencies.
- The Common Alerting Protocol (CAP) is a standardized message format designed for all media, all hazards, and all communication channels.
- That is, a universal format for emergency alerts, ensuring critical information reaches everyone.

### **Miscellaneous**

#### **Shahid Rajaei Port Explosion**

*An explosion recently occurred at Iran's Shahid Rajaei port, the country's largest and most advanced terminal, within the Bandar Abbas Port Complex.*

- **Rocket Fuel Shipment Involved** - The explosion reportedly involved a shipment of "sodium perchlorate rocket fuel," a substance used in missile production.
- **Strategic Location of Bandar Abbas** - Bandar Abbas Port is strategically situated on the Strait of Hormuz in southern Iran, west of the Chabahar port.
- **Global Oil Trade Hub** - Notably, approximately 20 percent of the world's oil trade transits through the Strait of Hormuz, highlighting the port's global significance.
- **Key Persian Gulf Gateway** - The port serves as a crucial maritime link between the Persian Gulf and the Gulf of Oman.
- **Implications of the Incident** - The explosion at this key Iranian port, involving missile fuel, raises concerns about potential disruptions and security in a vital global trade route.

#### **Ramanujan's Life in New Book**

*Recently, National Archives of India and Vani Prakashan will launch "Ramanujan: Journey of a Great Mathematician" tomorrow, April 30, 2025.*

- **Significance of the Launch** - The event celebrates Srinivasa Ramanujan, a globally influential Indian mathematician, highlighting his enduring impact and India's archival wealth.
- **Book's Central Theme** - Authored by Arun Singhal and Devendra Kumar Sharma, the book explores Ramanujan's extraordinary life, genius, and significant mathematical contributions despite limited formal education.
- **Key Research Insights** - Based on rare original documents and personal letters, the book offers a deeper understanding of Ramanujan's thinking and achievements.
- **Focus on Struggles and Context** - It also sheds light on his personal challenges and the historical and cultural backdrop that influenced his groundbreaking work.
- **Collaborative Effort** - The National Archives of India, preserving national heritage, and Vani Prakashan, a noted publisher, have collaborated to bring Ramanujan's inspiring story to a wider audience.



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