UPSC Daily Current Affairs | One Liners 30-12-2024

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International Relations and Issues

Louisiana Purchase

• **Treaty between** – The United States and France in 1803.
• **Effect** – It added 828,000 square miles of land to the United States, nearly doubling its size

Agriculture

Piped Water Supply in Punjab

• Punjab has recently reached a significant milestone by ensuring *100% piped water supply to every rural* household.
• **As part of** – The central government's 'Har Ghar Jal' initiative.

Har Ghar Jal

• **Launched by** – Ministry of Jal Shakthi, in *2019*
• **Aim** - To provide *55 litres of tap water* to every rural household per capita per day regularly on long term basis *by 2024*.

Environment

Common murres (Uria aalge)

• These are sleek, powerful seabirds in the Alcidae family.
• **Distribution** – In colder circumpolar waters of the North Pacific and North Atlantic Oceans.
• **Morphology** – It have a streamlined black-and-white body built for swimming, and during the breeding season, their heads are entirely black.
• **Threats** – Marine heatwave decimates nearly 4 million of Alaska's common murre seabirds over a three-year period.

Security

Surya Kiran Exercise 2024

Indian Army contingent has left for Nepal to take part in the 18th Battalion Level Joint Military Exercise.
• It is *annual event* that alternates between India and Nepal.
• **Location** – In *Nepal* from December 2024, to January 2025.
• **Purpose** – To improve cooperation in several key areas, including jungle warfare, counter-terrorism operations in mountainous regions, and disaster relief efforts in line with the United Nations Charter.
• It will also prioritize enhancing readiness and medical training.

Science

Kaveri engine

• It is India's Indigenous Fighter Jet Engine.
• **Developed by** – Gas Turbine Research Establishment (GTRE).
• **Initiative of** – Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO).
• It is now ready for real-world performance evaluations aboard a specialized flying test bed (FTB).

Foldscopes

• National Institute of Biotic Stress Management recently said that it has distributed 'foldscopes', *portable microscopes* to farmers in nearly 20 districts of Chhattisgarh.
• **Uses** – It aids in *pest and disease detection*, *soil quality assessment and water analysis*.
• It helps in in-situ diagnosis and digital cataloguing of plant-pathogenic fungi through foldscope microscopy.
• **Usage in Chhattisgarh** – Used to identify diseases such as powdery mildew, leaf blight, leaf spot and post-harvest diseases.

Miscellaneous

Pradhan Mantri Rashtriya Bal Puraskar

• **Instituted by** – Ministry of women and child development.
• **Categories** – It has 2 categories
• **Eligibility** - Awardees must be Indian citizens residing in India.
• **Bal Shakti Puraskar** - Awarded to children of 5 -18 age group for outstanding achievement in innovation, scholastic achievements, social service, arts and culture, bravery, or sports.
• **Bal Kalyan Puraskar** - To individuals or organisations that have made outstanding contributions in child development, child protection, or child welfare.

H-1B visa Programme

• **Role** – It allows US employers to hire immigrant workers in specialty occupations that require "a high level of skill" and "at least a bachelor's degree.
• **Duration** – It can be issued for a maximum of 6 years at a stretch.
• **Users** – Indians accounted for 72.3% (2.79 lakh of a total of 3.86 lakh) H-1B visa holders.

Demise of Jimmy Carter

The 39th president of the United States, Jimmy Carter, has died at the age of 100.
• **Nobel Peace Prize** – In 2002, for his contributions to global peace.
• **Camp David Accords** – It resolved longstanding conflicts between Israel and Egypt.

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