UPSC Daily Current Affairs| One Liners 31-01-2025

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History, Art and Culture

Excavation of Iron knife

• **Found in** – Marungur archaeological site, Cuddalore district of Tamil Nadu.
• **Found by** – Tamil Nadu State Department of Archaeology (TNSDA).
• **Iron knife** – It is a *broken knife made of iron* weighing 23 grams.
• **Measurement** – 13 cm long and 2.88 mm thickness.
• **Usage** – It dates back to at least *5,300 years ago*.
• It is the oldest date available for the Iron Age in India.

Discovery of 30 Inscriptions

• **Found in** – Abbana Bettu Basadi, Karnataka.
• It is *450-years old*, and provided insights into *Jain heritage*.
• **Spanning -** Several centuries of *Kalasa-Karkala Jain* dynasty.
• The earliest inscription on 16th century dates back to the reign of Saluva Bhairarasa (Bhairarasa II).
• It records that Lakshmamanadevi, the wife of Saluva Bhairarasa, commissioned a list of 24 Tirthankaras and donated it to the basadi.
• Another 16th-century inscription reveals that it was commissioned by a patron named Devarasa.
• The inscriptions on the silver arches are the most recent among the discoveries, dating back to the 19th century.
• **30 inscriptions**
  - **29 inscriptions** – Kannada script.
  - **1 inscriptions** – Nagari, bearing only the name of a Tirthankara.



Geography

Coronal Mass Ejections (CMEs)

• **CMEs** – They are *magnetized plasma bubbles ejected from the Sun* and evolve in the interplanetary medium.
• **Appearance** – It looks like huge, twisted rope, called as *Flux Rope.*
• **Speed Range -** Slower than 250 kilometers per second (km/s) to as fast as near 3000 km/s.
• They are the major drivers of perturbations in the Earth's magnetic field, known as geomagnetic storms.
• Such storms can cause severe impacts on ground and space-based technological systems, such as communication disruptions, deorbiting satellites, and power grid failures.

Polity & Governance

Assistance to Drought Prone Areas

High-Level Committee (HLC) has approved project for catalytic assistance.
• **Objective** - To 12 most drought prone states.
• **12 states** – Andhra Pradesh, Bihar, Gujarat, Jharkhand, Karnataka, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Odisha, Rajasthan, Tamil Nadu, Telangana and Uttar Pradesh.
• **Funded by** – National Disaster Mitigation Fund (NDMF).

Mitigation Scheme for Forest Fire Risk Management

Union Minister has approved the Mitigation Scheme for Forest Fire Risk Management.
• **Objective** – To *transforming the forest fire management* approach in the country.
• **Implemented in** – 144 high-priority districts in *19 states*.
• **19 states** – Andhra Pradesh, Arunachal Pradesh, Assam, Chhattisgarh, Gujarat, Himachal Pradesh, Jharkhand, Karnataka, Kerala, Manipur, Maharashtra, Mizoram, Madhya Pradesh, Meghalaya, Nagaland, Odisha, Tamil Nadu, Telangana and Uttarakhand
• **Funded by** – National Disaster Mitigation Fund (NDMF) & National Disaster Response Fund (NDRF).

Environment

Coal

• **Coal** – It is a sedimentary deposit composed *predominantly of carbon* that is readily combustible.
• **Color** – Black or brownish-black.
• **Composition –** Inherent moisture consists of ***more than 50%*** by weight and more than *70% by volume of carbonaceous material*.
• **Formation** – From plant remains that have been compacted, hardened, chemically altered and metamorphosed by heat and pressure over geologic time.

Security

Anti-Submarine Warfare Shallow Water Craft (ASW SWC)

• **Objective** – To undertake anti-submarine operations in coastal waters, Low Intensity Maritime Operations (LIMO) and Mine Laying Operations.
• **Maximum speed** - 25 knots.
• **Endurance** - 1800 NM.
• **Capabilities**
  - Interdiction/ destruction of sub surface targets in coastal waters.
  - Carrying out Search and Rescue by day and night.
  - To prosecute intruding craft as part of LIMO.

Indian Naval Sailing Vessel (INSV) Tarini

INSV Tarini, successfully passed through Point Nemo, Oceanic Pole in South Pacific.

• **INSV Tarini** – It is a *56-foot sailing vessel* built by Aquarius Shipyard Ltd.
• It was inducted in the *Indian Navy* on February 18, 2017.
• **Under** – Navika Sagar Parikrama-II.
• 2 women Navy officers, Dilna K. and Roopa A recently crossed Point Nemo ongoing global circumnavigation journey.
• **Expedition** – It is the most extended leg of the expedition, with a distance of approximately 5,600 nm (approximately 10,400 km).
• **Point Nemo** - Located in the South Pacific, which is the Oceanic Pole of inaccessibility, the most remote location on Earth.

Miscellaneous

International Zebra Day

• It is observed every year on *31 January*.
• It is established to highlight the challenges zebras face in the wild.
• **Highlights** – The challenges zebras face in the wild.
• **Zebra species** – They are *native to Africa*, roam across countries like Kenya, Namibia, and South Africa.
• **Threats** – Habitat loss due to climate change and poaching.
• **3 species & Conservation status**
  - Grevy's zebra – Endangered.
  - Mountain zebra – Vulnerable.
  - Plains zebra – Near-threatened.

World Neglected Tropical Diseases (NTDs) Day 2025

• It is observed annually on *30 January*.
• It is an act to eliminate NTDs by making bold, sustainable investments to free the estimated 1.5 billion people.
• **Theme** – Unite, Act and Eliminate.
• **NTDs** – They are a diverse group of conditions *caused by a variety of pathogens* including viruses, bacteria, parasites, fungi and toxins.

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