

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.