

UPSC Daily Current Affairs| One Liners 05-03-2025

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Bilateral Relations

India-Japan S&T Collaboration

- Indo-Japan S&T cooperation was formalized through Inter-Governmental Agreement signed in 1985.
- **Indo-Japan Joint S&T Committee** - Is the apex body which provides vision and direction to the cooperative S&T activities.
- The committee is Co-chaired by Department of Science & Technology (DST) India and Ministry of Foreign Affairs (MoFA), Japan.
- **Celebrated on** - India's National Science Day (28 Feb, 2025) at Indian Embassy, Tokyo in Japan.
- **Collaboration in** - Artificial Intelligence (AI), Machine Learning, Quantum Technology, and Space.

Economy

India's Research and Development (R&D) Spending

- **R&D funding** - Led to India's Gross Expenditure on Research and Development (GERD) more than doubling in the last decade (i.e Rs 60,196 cr-Rs 1,27,381 cr).
- It is shaping the future economy in artificial intelligence, biotechnology, and quantum computing.
- **Atmanirbhar Bharat** - It is not only investing in research but also ensuring that these innovations are seamlessly transitioned from labs to industries, strengthening the foundation of Atmanirbhar Bharat.

Navratna Status

- **Navratnas** - It is a 2nd category of the central government-owned 'Ratna' companies, placed between the Maharatnas and the Miniratnas based on criteria.
- **Navratna status in Indian Railways (IR):**
- Indian Railway Catering and Tourism Corporation (IRCTC) - 25th
- Indian Railway Finance Corporation (IRFC) - 26th
- **IR CPSEs** - Totally 12, out of which 7 are listed Central Public Sector Enterprises (CPSEs) have Navratna status.

Agriculture

Central Plantation Crops Research Institute (CPCRI)

- **Established in** - 1970, under the Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR).
- **Headquarters** - Kasaragod district, Kerala.
- It is one of the agricultural research institutes in the National Agricultural Research System (NARS).
- It is mandatory for the Institute to conduct research on coconut, arecanut, Palmyrah and cocoa.

Environment

Vantara

- **About** - It is a *large-scale animal (wildlife) rescue center*, that operates through caves, conservation, and rehabilitation measures.
- **Located in** - Jamnagar, *Gujarat*.
- **Established by** - Reliance Industries and Reliance Foundation.
- **Area** - 3,000 acres.
- **Fauna** - It is home to over 2,000 animals across 43 species.

Carbon Intensity (CI)

Recently, China lowered its carbon intensity by 3.4% in 2024, by missing its target of 3.9%.

- **About** - It is a useful way to *measure how much carbon a particular sector is emitting* and how it has increased or decreased over time.
- **Measurement** - An entire country's carbon intensity can be calculated by *dividing the growth in GDP per capita by the amount of carbon dioxide emitted*.

Science

Agentic AI

- **About** - It is meant to *automate tasks for users* so that they do not have to prompt the systems to take actions for them.
- It has the potential to be the next multi-billion business.
- **Amazon Web Services (AWS)** - It forms a new group to focus on agentic Artificial Intelligence (AI).

Small Modular Reactors (SMRs)

- **SMR** - It is an advanced nuclear reactors that have a power capacity of up to *300 MW (e) per unit*.
- **Deployed in** - Industrial zones, remote areas, and hard-to-abate sectors like cement and steel manufacturing.
- **India's aim** - To develop at least 5 indigenously SMRs by 2033.

Miscellaneous

Penshurst Estate

- **Established in** - *1875*.
- **Located in** - Peerumade hills of Idukki, Kerala.
- It is *Kerala's 1st commercial tea plantation* industry that has reached a historic milestone of 150 years.
- **FY2023-24** - It was ranked *1st in South India for tea productivity* per hectare, yielding 4,735 kg per hectare.

Mobile World Congress (MWC) 2025

- **About** - It is the *world's biggest mobile industry trade show*.
- **Location** - Barcelona, Spain.
- **Agenda** - It's the place where leaders of business, nations, and startups come together to *set the agenda for the year ahead*.
- Tech and telecom companies gearing up to launch new smartphones, AI hardware, and concept devices.

