

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 Alcididae 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.