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UPSC DAILY BRIEF

Current Affairs · 11 November 2026

12 min	5	0	5 + 1	GS1 · 1 GS2 · 2 GS3 · 2
READING TIME	KEY STORIES	IN BRIEF	MCQS + MAINS	PAPER MIX

01 — TODAY IN 2 MINUTES

The 5 stories you can't skip

1 **Supreme Court orders WhatsApp to submit proposals to curb digital arrest scams**
Why it matters: Intermediary liability and cyber governance: a key GS3 Internal Security and Ethics case study.
GS3 · INTERNAL SECURITY P M

2 **State government to provide 42 days leave for organ donors**
Why it matters: Healthcare accessibility and social justice: a GS2 case study on organ donation policy.
GS2 · SOCIAL JUSTICE P

3 **Keralam's lower infant mortality than U.S. driven by democracy and human freedoms**
Why it matters: Democracy and human freedoms as drivers for health indicators: a GS2 Social Justice and Development case study.
GS2 · SOCIAL JUSTICE M

4 **CPCB caps National Air Quality Index at 500 to align with international standards**
Why it matters: Environmental monitoring and data integrity: a GS3 and Science & Tech case study.
GS3 · ENVIRONMENT & ECOLOGY P

5 **India sent 1.5 million men to WWI with 74,000 casualties**
Why it matters: Colonial history and military contribution: a GS1 perspective on India's role in World Wars.
GS1 · HISTORY & CULTURE M

NUMBER OF THE DAY

1.5 million

Number of men sent from undivided British India to fight in World War I

P.2 KEY STORIES » IN BRIEF + PLACES » TEST YOURSELF

P = PRELIMS · M = MAINS

02 — KEY STORIES

What to know, in 60 seconds each

5 of 5 notes · picked for exam value

GS3 · INTERNAL SECURITY | P | M

Supreme Court orders WhatsApp to submit proposals to curb digital arrest scams

Why in news: The Supreme Court directed WhatsApp and other intermediaries to submit proposals to the Indian Cyber Crime Coordination Centre (I4C) to curb 'digital arrest' scams.

REMEMBER

- Surya Kant — Chief Justice of India
- Digital Arrest — a type of cyber-enabled financial fraud
- I4C — Indian Cyber Crime Coordination Centre

MAINS ANGLE *Discuss the legal and technological challenges in holding private intermediaries and financial institutions accountable for cyber-enabled financial frauds in India.*

USE: Digital Arrest | Cyber Fraud | Due Diligence | Intermediary Liability

Full note → satyadheesh.in/upsc/note/150797

GS2 · SOCIAL JUSTICE | P

State government to provide 42 days leave for organ donors

Why in news: Health Minister K.G. Arunraj announced that the State government will likely provide 42 days of leave to employees who donate organs to facilitate recovery.

REMEMBER

- Organ donor leave — 42 days of leave to be provided to employees who donate organs to facilitate recovery.
- Liver transplant cost — ₹22 lakh procedure made accessible via a government insurance scheme.
- Live liver transplants — Government plans to perform these procedures in government hospitals.

MAINS ANGLE *Discuss the importance of institutionalizing organ donation policies and insurance schemes in improving healthcare accessibility for critical surgeries in India.*

USE: Organ Donation | Healthcare Accessibility | Public Policy | Insurance Schemes

Full note → satyadheesh.in/upsc/note/150810

GS2 · SOCIAL JUSTICE | M

Keralam's lower infant mortality than U.S. driven by democracy and human freedoms

Why in news: A report highlights that Keralam's lower infant mortality than the U.S. is driven by robust democracy and human freedoms rather than just economic growth.

REMEMBER

- Human Development Index (HDI) — Keralam would rank 75 if it were a nation, while India ranks 130.
- Infant Mortality — Keralam's rate is lower than that of the U.S. due to democratic governance.
- State Transformation — Keralam moved from one of the poorest states in 1956 to one of the richest today.

MAINS ANGLE *Discuss how expanding human freedoms and democratic governance can serve as primary drivers for improving health indicators in developing economies.*

USE: Human Development Index | Infant Mortality | Human Freedoms | Democratic Governance

Full note → satyadheesh.in/upsc/note/150799

GS3 · ENVIRONMENT & ECOLOGY | P

CPCB caps National Air Quality Index at 500 to align with international standards

Why in news: The Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB) clarified that the National Air Quality Index (NAQI) caps at 500 to align with international standards and prioritize cumulative exposure.

REMEMBER

- CPCB: Central Pollution Control Board is the statutory body for pollution control in India
- NAQI: The National Air Quality Index caps at a value of 500
- Data Discrepancy: Differences between official data and private apps arise from varying sensor technologies and methodologies

MAINS ANGLE *Discuss the importance of standardized air quality monitoring frameworks in India and the challenges in reconciling official data with private-sector reporting.*

USE: Standardization | Cumulative exposure | Data integrity | Environmental monitoring

Full note → satyadheesh.in/upsc/note/150794

GS1 · HISTORY & CULTURE M

India sent 1.5 million men to WWI with 74,000 casualties

Why in news: The article highlights India's significant but often overlooked military contributions to World War I and World War II, noting the high casualty rates and the shift from overseas deployment to domestic defense.

REMEMBER

- 1.5 million — Number of men sent from undivided British India to fight in World War I
- 74,000 — Number of Indian soldiers who did not return from World War I
- 2.5 million — Size of the volunteer army produced by India for World War II

MAINS ANGLE *Discuss the significance of India's military contributions to the World Wars in the context of the country's journey toward independence and modern identity.*

USE: Colonial history | Military contribution | World War I | World War II

Full note → satyadheesh.in/upsc/note/150783

04 — TEST YOURSELF

5 questions, 5 minutes

Answers at the bottom, upside down

1 Which body was directed by the Supreme Court to list authorized financial institutions to hold banks accountable for fraud?

(a) SEBI
(b) NABARD
(c) RBI
(d) IRDAI

2 With reference to the state government's organ donation and transplant policy, consider the following statements:

1. An insurance scheme makes liver transplant procedures costing ₹22 lakh accessible.
2. The government intends to perform live liver transplants in private hospitals only.
3. The state government plans to provide 42 days of leave to employees who donate organs.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

(a) 1 only
(b) 2 only
(c) 1 and 3 only
(d) 2 and 3 only

3 What is the current Human Development Index (HDI) rank of India as mentioned in the report?

(a) 100
(b) 130
(c) 115
(d) 125

4 With reference to the National Air Quality Index (NAQI) in India, consider the following statements:

1. The NAQI framework caps at a value of 500 to align with international standards.
2. Discrepancies with private apps are caused by different sensor technologies and methodologies.
3. The CPCB is a non-statutory body responsible for air quality monitoring.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

(a) 1 and 2 only
(b) 1 and 3 only
(c) 2 and 3 only
(d) 1, 2 and 3

5 How many Indians approximately defended Indian territory during World War II?

(a) 10,00,000
(b) 7,00,000
(c) 2,00,000
(d) 5,00,000

MAINS PRACTICE

Write one answer today

GS3 · INTERNAL SECURITY

Discuss the legal and technological challenges in holding private intermediaries and financial institutions accountable for cyber-enabled financial frauds in India.

USE: Digital Arrest | Cyber Fraud | Due Diligence | Intermediary Liability | Cyber Governance

ANSWERS · 1 (c) · 2 (c) · 3 (b) · 4 (a) · 5 (b)

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