SATYADHEESH
सत्याधीश

UPSC DAILY BRIEF

Current Affairs · 12 November 2026

10 min	8	1	1	GS1 · 1 GS2 · 1 GS3 · 7
READING TIME	KEY STORIES	IN BRIEF	MAINS QUESTION	PAPER MIX

01 — TODAY IN 2 MINUTES

The 5 stories you can't skip

1 Madras High Court reserves order on NGT ban on constructions near Pallikaranai marshland

Why it matters: The Madras High Court reserved its order on a challenge by CREDAI-Chennai against a National Green Tribunal (NGT) ban on new constructions within one kilometre of the Pallikaranai marshland.

GS3 · ENVIRONMENT & ECOLOGY P M

2 CSL and SFO Technologies unveil India's first indigenously designed hybrid laser arc welding technology

Why it matters: Cochin Shipyard Limited (CSL) and SFO Technologies Private Limited unveiled India's first indigenously designed hybrid laser arc welding technology to enhance shipbuilding and defense manufacturing.

GS3 · SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY P

3 Tamil Nadu departments publish five volumes documenting 70-year Great Trigonometrical Survey stations

Why it matters: The Department of Survey and Settlement and Tamil Nadu State Department of Archaeology published five volumes documenting 70-year Great Trigonometrical Survey stations.

GS1 · HISTORY & CULTURE P

4 Kerala High Court orders government to provide medicines and vehicles in mental health centres

Why it matters: The Kerala High Court directed the state government to ensure the provision of medicines and vehicles in mental health centres by November 24, 2026.

GS2 · SOCIAL JUSTICE P

5 APSCHE launches 'Vidya Vahini' digital portal with free AI and quantum technology courses

Why it matters: The Andhra Pradesh State Council of Higher Education (APSCHE) launched 'Vidya Vahini', a digital portal offering free self-paced courses in AI and quantum technology to students and faculty.

GS3 · SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY P

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

P = PRELIMS · M = MAINS

What to know, in 60 seconds each

8 of 9 notes · picked for exam value

GS3 · ENVIRONMENT & ECOLOGY P M

Madras High Court reserves order on NGT ban on constructions near Pallikaranai marshland

Why in news: The Madras High Court reserved its order on a challenge by CREDAI-Chennai against a National Green Tribunal (NGT) ban on new constructions within one kilometre of the Pallikaranai marshland.

REMEMBER

- Pallikaranai marshland is located in South Chennai, Tamil Nadu
- National Green Tribunal (NGT) is the body that imposed the construction ban
- Tamil Nadu State Wetlands Authority is the body that proposed the interim Zone of Influence

MAINS ANGLE *Discuss the conflict between urban infrastructure expansion and the preservation of urban wetlands in India, using the Pallikaranai marshland case as a reference.*

USE: Urban Wetlands | Environmental Jurisprudence | Biodiversity Conservation | Sustainable Urbanization

Full note → satyadheesh.in/upsc/note/151452

GS3 · SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY P

CSL and SFO Technologies unveil India's first indigenously designed hybrid laser arc welding technology

Why in news: Cochin Shipyard Limited (CSL) and SFO Technologies Private Limited unveiled India's first indigenously designed hybrid laser arc welding technology to enhance shipbuilding and defense manufacturing.

REMEMBER

- Hybrid laser arc welding: Integrates laser welding, conventional arc welding, robotics, and advanced automation.
- CSL and SFO Technologies: Developers of India's first indigenous hybrid laser arc welding technology.
- Cochin Shipyard Limited (CSL): Public Sector Undertaking involved in shipbuilding and defense manufacturing.

MAINS ANGLE *Discuss how indigenous advancements in welding and automation technologies can bolster India's 'Atmanirbhar Bharat' goals in the defense and shipbuilding sectors.*

USE: indigenous technology | strategic manufacturing | automation | defense manufacturing

Full note → satyadheesh.in/upsc/note/151446

GS1 · HISTORY & CULTURE P

Tamil Nadu departments publish five volumes documenting 70-year Great Trigonometrical Survey stations

Why in news: The Department of Survey and Settlement and Tamil Nadu State Department of Archaeology published five volumes documenting 70-year Great Trigonometrical Survey stations.

REMEMBER

- Colonel William Lambton launched the Great Trigonometrical Survey in 1802
- The Great Trigonometrical Survey in Tamil Nadu lasted 70 years, ending in 1871
- The Department of Survey and Settlement and Tamil Nadu State Department of Archaeology published the documentation

MAINS ANGLE *Discuss the importance of documenting historical surveying data in preserving cultural heritage while facilitating modern infrastructure development.*

USE: Geo-spatial data | Cultural heritage | Historical documentation | Surveying

Full note → satyadheesh.in/upsc/note/151439

GS3 · SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY P

APSCHE launches 'Vidya Vahini' digital portal with free AI and quantum technology courses

Why in news: The Andhra Pradesh State Council of Higher Education (APSCHE) launched 'Vidya Vahini', a digital portal offering free self-paced courses in AI and quantum technology to students and faculty.

REMEMBER

- APSCHE: Andhra Pradesh State Council of Higher Education
- Vidya Vahini offers three four-credit courses on AI and quantum technology
- Registration for both learners and content creators on the portal is free

MAINS ANGLE *Discuss how digital learning portals like 'Vidya Vahini' can democratize access to emerging technologies like AI and quantum computing in higher education.*

USE: Digital Literacy | Democratization of Education | Emerging Technologies | Skill Development

Full note → satyadheesh.in/upsc/note/151422

GS2 · SOCIAL JUSTICE P

Kerala High Court orders government to provide medicines and vehicles in mental health centres

Why in news: The Kerala High Court directed the state government to ensure the provision of medicines and vehicles in mental health centres by November 24, 2026.

REMEMBER

- Deadline for providing medicines and vehicles: November 24, 2026
- Judges presiding over the order: Justice Devan Ramachandran and Justice Basant Balaji

MAINS ANGLE *Examine the role of judicial activism in ensuring the implementation of healthcare infrastructure and the provision of essential services in public health institutions.*

USE: Judicial Activism | Public Health Infrastructure | Right to Health | Administrative Accountability

Full note → satyadheesh.in/upsc/note/151435

GS3 · AGRICULTURE P

Guntur wins 'Super Swachh League' award after finishing third in Swachh Survekshan 2025-26 rankings

Why in news: Guntur won the 'Super Swachh League' award after ranking third in the Swachh Survekshan 2025-26 rankings for cities with a population of 3 lakh to 10 lakh.

REMEMBER

- Guntur ranked third among cities with a population of three lakh to 10 lakh in Swachh Survekshan 2025-26
- Swachh Survekshan: Annual survey to monitor performance of cities and towns in waste management
- Vigyan Bhavan: Venue for the award presentation in New Delhi

MAINS ANGLE *Discuss the role of decentralized waste management and waste-to-energy initiatives in achieving the goals of the Swachh Bharat Mission.*

USE: waste-to-energy | scientific waste management | urban sanitation | decentralized waste management

Full note → satyadheesh.in/upsc/note/151413

GS3 · ENVIRONMENT & ECOLOGY P

Dr Mrutyunjay Mohapatra says rain is unlikely to wash away severe pollution

Why in news: IMD Chief Dr. Mrutyunjay Mohapatra stated that a Western Disturbance is unlikely to provide the widespread rainfall needed to clear severe pollution in the Indo-Gangetic plains

REMEMBER

- Western Disturbance: A moisture-laden weather pattern emerging from the Mediterranean Sea affecting the Indian subcontinent.
- IMD Chief: Dr. Mrutyunjay Mohapatra.
- Indo-Gangetic Plain: Region experiencing hazardous Air Quality Index (AQI) levels due to calm winds and cooler temperatures.

MAINS ANGLE *Discuss the limitations of meteorological interventions like cloud seeding in mitigating severe air pollution in the Indo-Gangetic plains.*

USE: Western Disturbance | Cloud Seeding | Indo-Gangetic Plain | Air Quality Index

Full note → satyadheesh.in/upsc/note/151403

GS3 · ENVIRONMENT & ECOLOGY P M

Delhi air quality worse before Diwali than in 2025, CSE report finds

Why in news: A Centre for Science and Environment (CSE) report revealed that Delhi's pre-Diwali air quality in 2026 was significantly worse than in 2025, despite relatively better visibility due to specific wind patterns.

REMEMBER

- Delhi's pre-Diwali average PM2.5 concentration in 2026 was 236 ug/m3.
- Stubble burning contributed 14.29% to Delhi's PM2.5 levels according to CSE analysis.
- Vehicles were the largest local source of pollution, accounting for 52% of local contributions.

MAINS ANGLE *Analyze the multi-sectoral sources of air pollution in the National Capital Region and evaluate the role of meteorological factors in pollutant dispersion.*

USE: Air Quality Index (AQI) | PM2.5 concentration | Stubble burning | Pollutant dispersion

Full note → satyadheesh.in/upsc/note/151391

03 — IN BRIEF

Everything else, one line each

1 more notes · full versions online

GS3 · ECONOMY · S&T · ENVIRONMENT · SECURITY

DFI warns Indian drone industry faces strategic risks from heavy dependence on imported components

MAINS PRACTICE

Write one answer today

GS3 · ENVIRONMENT & ECOLOGY

Discuss the conflict between urban infrastructure expansion and the preservation of urban wetlands in India, using the Pallikaranai marshland case as a reference.

USE: Urban Wetlands | Environmental Jurisprudence | Biodiversity Conservation | Sustainable Urbanization | Ecological Buffer Zones

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