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10 SEPTEMBER 2025

EN-BUZZER

Daily News Analysis

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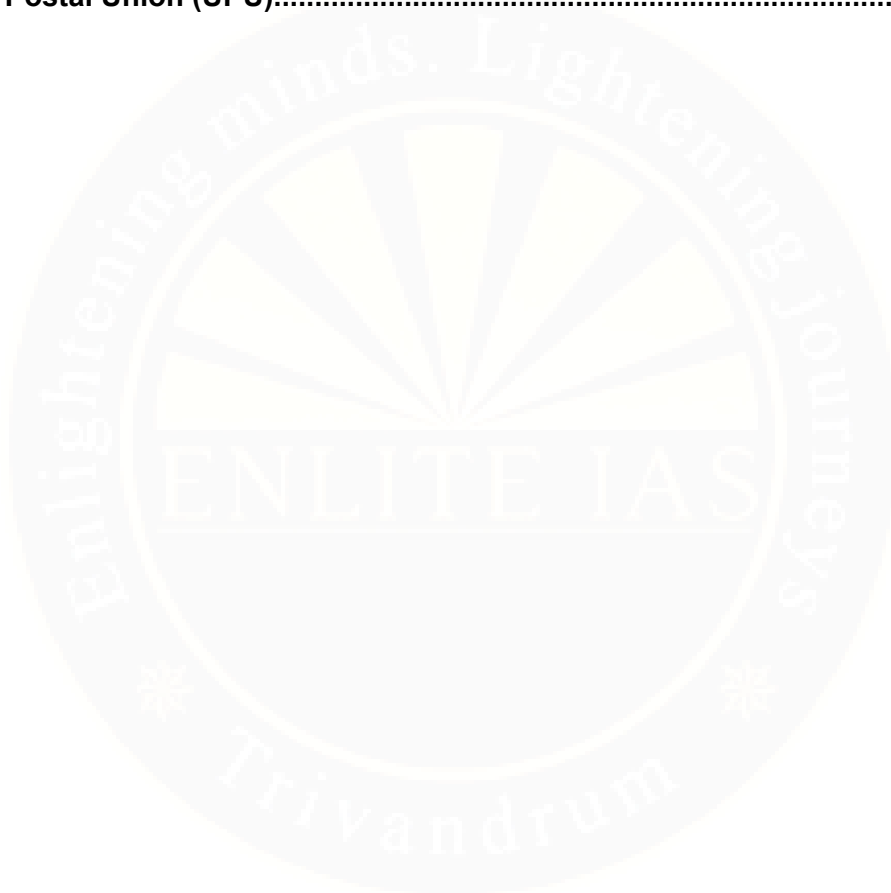
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WEDNESDAY, 10th SEPTEMBER 2025

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1. Lebanon

- **Prelims** - Location of Lebanon
- **Mains** - GS 1 - Geography

Lebanon



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Why in the news?

- Lebanon's Army is set to fully disarm Hezbollah near the border with Israel within three months.

Lebanon

- **Location:** Lebanon is a country in West Asia.
- **Capital:** Beirut.
- **Border Countries:** Syria, Israel.
- **Bordering Waterbodies:** Mediterranean Sea.
- **Climate:** Mediterranean climate.



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2. Qatar

- **Prelims** - Location of Qatar
- **Mains** - GS 1 - Geography

Qatar



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Why in the news?

- Israel conducted a air strike in Qatar targeting Hamas leaders.

Qatar

- **Location:** It occupies the Qatar Peninsula on the northeastern coast of the Arabian Peninsula in the Middle East.
- **Capital:** Doha
- **Bordering Countries:** Saudi Arabia
- **Bordering Waterbodies:** Persian Gulf, Gulf of Bahrain.
- **International Groupings** - Non - NATO ally, OPEC , Gulf Cooperation Council, Arab League

QATAR



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3. Ethiopia

- Prelims - Location of Ethiopia
- Mains - GS 1 - Geography

Ethiopia



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Why in the news?

- Ethiopia inaugurated Africa's largest hydropower project called Grand Ethiopian Renaissance Dam.

Ethiopia

- **Location:** It is a landlocked country in the Horn of Africa.
- **Capital:** Addis Ababa
- **Borders:** Eritrea, Djibouti, Somalia, Kenya, South Sudan and Sudan.
- **Geographical Feature:**
 - One of the country through which African Rift Valley passes.
 - Hottest place in Africa - Dallol, Ethiopia.
- **Associated International Groupings:** Group of 24, the Non-Aligned Movement, the Group of 77, and the Organisation of African Unity.
- **Headquarters Locating in Ethiopia:** Addis Ababa is the headquarters of the African Union, the United Nations Economic Commission for Africa.



Geographical Location of Ethiopia

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4. Offshore Aquifers

- Prelims - Offshore Aquifers
- Mains - GS 1 - Geography

Why in the news?

- US scientists discovered the presence of offshore aquifers in the Atlantic Ocean from New Jersey to Maine.

Offshore Aquifers

- **Definition:** Offshore aquifers are bodies of porous rock or sediment containing freshwater located beneath the sea floor.
- **Formation:**
 - **Pleistocene Glaciation:** During ice ages, sea levels were lower, and rainwater seeped into coastal sediments. As sea levels rose, the aquifers were submerged.
 - **Hydrological Processes:** Freshwater flows from land through permeable sediments into offshore aquifers, trapped by confining layers.
- **Global Distribution:**
 - Found along continental shelves worldwide (e.g., U.S. Atlantic coast, Australia, South Africa, and parts of India).
 - Estimated to contain ~500,000 km³ of freshwater, mostly brackish but usable after treatment.
- **Significance:**
 - **Water Security**
 - ★ Critical for coastal regions facing groundwater depletion (India, Middle East, Africa).
 - ★ Alternative source of freshwater for drought-prone and arid regions.
 - **Climate Change Resilience**
 - ★ Provides backup during rising sea-level induced salinisation of coastal aquifers.
 - **Scientific Importance**
 - ★ Offers insights into paleo-climate and hydrological cycles.



- **Challenges:**

- **Extraction Difficulty:** Located hundreds of meters below seabed, requiring advanced drilling & desalination.
- **Environmental Risks:** Over-extraction could cause saline intrusion and ecological imbalance.
- **Legal Issues:** Not clearly governed under UNCLOS (Law of the Sea) – disputes possible.
- **Economic Cost:** High cost of exploration, drilling, and treatment compared to traditional water sources.



5. Vice President Election in India

- Prelims - Vice President Election in India
- Mains - GS 2 - Polity

Why in the news?

- C.P. Radhakrishnan was elected as the new Vice President of India.

Vice President Election in India

- **Constitutional Provision:**
 - Article 63 to 71 of the Indian Constitution deals with various provisions regarding the post of Vice President of India.
 - Article 66 to 68 deals with the election of Vice President, Term of Office and Time of holding such elections.
- **Electoral College:**
 - Elected by members of both Houses of Parliament- Lok Sabha and Rajya Sabha.
 - Both elected and nominated members of Rajya Sabha are part of the electoral college.
 - Members of the state legislative assemblies are not part of the electoral college.
- **System of Voting:**
 - **Proportional Representation** by means of Single Transferable Vote (PR STV).
 - Secret Ballot mode of election.
 - The party whip is not applicable in this election process.
- **Agency:** The election is being conducted by the **Election Commission of India.**
- **Instances of Vice President Election:**
 - Expiry of term of the present Vice President. (**Article 68(1)**)
 - ★ In such instances, election shall be completed before the expiry of the term (5 years) of the current president.
 - Death, Resignation or Removal of the existing Vice President. (**Article 68(2)**)
 - ★ In such instances, elections shall be held as soon as possible after the occurrence of the vacancy.



Vice President of India

- **Constitutional Provisions:**

- Dealt with in Article 63 to 71 of the Indian Constitution.
- Ex-Officio Chairman of the Rajya Sabha

- **Qualifications:**

- Must be a citizen of India.
- Must have attained the **age of 35 years**.
- Must be qualified for election as a member of Rajya Sabha.
- Must not hold any office of profit.

- **Oath and Affirmation:**

- Oath of Vice President is given in the Article 69 of the Indian Constitution.
- The **President of India** administers the oath.

- **Term and Removal:**

- **Term:** 5 years and is eligible for re-election.
- **Resignation:** By writing to the President.
- **Removal:**
 - ★ By a resolution of the Rajya Sabha passed by an absolute majority and agreed to by the Lok Sabha (**Article 67(b)**).
 - ★ No formal impeachment like the President.

- **Functions & Powers:**

- **As Vice President:**

- ★ Successor to the President in case of vacancy, death, resignation, or removal (Article 65).
- ★ Discharges the President's functions when the President is unable to perform duties.

- **As Chairman of Rajya Sabha:**

- ★ Presides over Rajya Sabha sessions.
- ★ Maintains order, decides on points of order.
- ★ Casts a deciding vote in case of tie.
- ★ Cannot vote in first instance.
- ★ Appoints members to various committees of Rajya Sabha.



6. Universal Postal Union (UPU)

- Prelims - Universal Postal Union (UPU)
- Mains - GS 2 - International Relations

Why in the news?

- Dubai is hosting Universal Postal Union's 28th Universal Postal Congress.

Universal Postal Union (UPU)

- **What is it?:** It is a specialised agency of the United Nations that coordinates global postal policies and provides a framework for a uniform international postal system.
- **Establishment:** Established in 1874, under the Treaty of Bern, with its headquarter at Bern, Switzerland.
- **Membership:** 192 member countries, including India.
- **Objectives:**
 - To ensure **free flow of international mail** across borders.
 - To establish **uniform postal rates and procedures**.
 - To promote **cooperation and modernization** in the global postal sector.
 - To serve as a **forum for postal policy, regulation, and standardisation**.
- **Key Functions:**
 - Sets **international postal rules and standards**.
 - Facilitates **postal payment services and electronic data exchange**.
 - Promotes **financial inclusion** through postal networks.
 - Helps developing countries modernize postal infrastructure.
- **Importance for India:**
 - India is a founding member of the **Asian-Pacific Postal Union (APPU)**, a regional arm of UPU.
 - Indian Postal Service uses UPU framework for **international money transfers and e-commerce logistics**.
 - Important for India's **cross-border trade facilitation** and **diaspora remittances**.
- **Challenges:**
 - Digital communication leading to reduction in letter mail.
 - **Financial sustainability** of national posts.