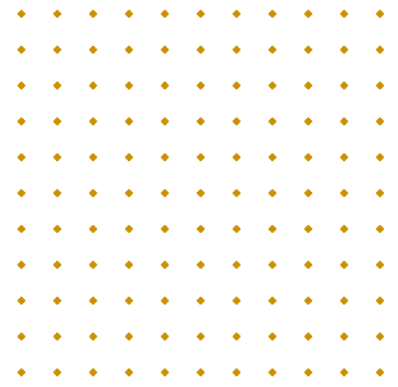




DAILY CURRENT AFFAIRS

GENERAL AWARENESS + BANKING / FINANCIAL AWARENESS

31 AUGUST 2026

ENGLISH EDITION

17

CONNECTED UPDATES

20

FIVE-OPTION MCQs

30 AUG

COVERAGE

PO / CLERK MAINS

PRIMARY-SOURCE CONNECTED REVISION • LATE CONFIRMATIONS INCLUDED

Website | Telegram | Instagram | YouTube | App

Connected Current Affairs Notes

01

BANKING & DIGITAL PAYMENTS

DELAYED CONFIRMATION

NIPL and Uzbekistan's NIPC sign UPI-UZQR merchant-payment agreement

Why in News:

The 30 August agreement was officially announced on 31 August. NPCI International Payments Limited (NIPL), the international arm of the National Payments Corporation of India (NPCI), signed with National Interbank Processing Centre JSC (NIPC), operator of Uzbekistan's HUMO payment system.

Key Exam Facts

- Indian travellers will be able to scan Uzbekistan's interoperable national QR code, UZQR, through familiar Unified Payments Interface (UPI)-enabled apps for instant person-to-merchant payments.
- The arrangement followed approvals from the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) and Central Bank of Uzbekistan; HUMO was designated NIPL's authorised partner for cross-border merchant acceptance.
- The integration is aimed at broad merchant acceptance across retail, hospitality and services.

Connection / Exam Trap:

UPI is operated by NPCI; NIPL takes NPCI payment products to international markets. This item belongs to the 30 August cycle because the commercial agreement was executed on 30 August, although the Government release came the next day.

Primary / authoritative source 

02

INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS

India and Uzbekistan elevate ties to a Comprehensive Strategic Partnership

Why in News:

Prime Minister Narendra Modi's State Visit to Uzbekistan concluded on 30 August with a joint statement and a formal list of outcomes.

Key Exam Facts

- The visit ran from 29-30 August 2026 and talks were held with President Shavkat Mirziyoyev.
- The two sides elevated cooperation to a Comprehensive Strategic Partnership and set a target of US\$5 billion in annual bilateral trade by 2030.
- Signed outcomes included a 2026-30 Cultural Exchange Programme, cooperation on Ayurveda and other traditional systems of medicine, archival cooperation, and conservation/restoration of Fayaz Tepa and KaraTepa Buddhist sites in Termez.

Connection / Exam Trap:

The joint statement also identifies digital transformation, Artificial Intelligence, space, cybersecurity, energy transition and critical minerals as priority areas.

Primary / authoritative source 

Connected Current Affairs Notes - continued

03

AWARDS & INTERNATIONAL

PM Modi receives Uzbekistan's "Oliy Darajali Do'stlik" Order

Why in News:

President Shavkat Mirziyoyev conferred Uzbekistan's highest honour for foreign leaders on Prime Minister Narendra Modi on 30 August.

Key Exam Facts

- The award is the "Oliy Darajali Do'stlik" Order, translated as Order of Highest Friendship.
- It recognised contribution to strengthening friendship between India and Uzbekistan.
- The Prime Minister dedicated the honour to the 1.4 billion people of India.

Connection / Exam Trap:

Do not confuse the honour with the elevation of bilateral ties; these are two separate outcomes of the same visit.

Primary / authoritative source [□](#)

04

TRADE & ECONOMY

India-Chile CEPA negotiations targeted for conclusion by year-end

Why in News:

The Ministry of Commerce and Industry reported on 30 August that Commerce Secretary Rajesh Agrawal met Chilean Vice-Minister Paula Estévez Weinstein in Santiago to advance trade negotiations.

Key Exam Facts

- CEPA stands for Comprehensive Economic Partnership Agreement.
- The meeting itself was held on 26 August 2026 in Santiago, Chile; the official update was released on 30 August.
- Negotiations are targeted for conclusion by the end of 2026.

Connection / Exam Trap:

This is a negotiation-stage development, not a signed trade agreement. Questions may test "negotiations targeted for conclusion" versus "agreement entered into force."

Primary / authoritative source [□](#)

Connected Current Affairs Notes - continued

05

REGULATION & DIGITAL INFRASTRUCTURE

Legal Metrology (Indian Standard Time) Rules, 2026 establish one national time reference

Why in News:

The Department of Consumer Affairs issued a detailed 30 August explainer on rules notified on 27 August under the "One Nation, One Time" initiative.

Key Exam Facts

- Indian Standard Time (IST) becomes the common reference for legal, administrative, commercial and other official purposes.
- The rules come into force 180 days after Gazette publication.
- A White Rabbit Technology-based IST dissemination demonstration network was commissioned at Regional Reference Standard Laboratory (RRSL), Bengaluru in July 2026.
- Secure IST dissemination was demonstrated between RRSL Bengaluru and National Stock Exchange (NSE) Chennai with partners including Council of Scientific and Industrial Research-National Physical Laboratory (CSIR-NPL), Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO), Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI) and Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited (BSNL).

Connection / Exam Trap:

Banking and digital payments need trusted timestamps, so this regulation has direct financial-system relevance.

Primary / authoritative source [□](#)

06

AGRICULTURE & SUBSIDY SYSTEM

Integrated Fertilizer Management System enters data-driven phase

Why in News:

The Department of Fertilizers released a 30 August update on the Integrated Fertilizer Management System (iFMS), India's digital backbone for fertilizer supply and subsidy management.

Key Exam Facts

- iFMS connects more than 14 crore Aadhaar-linked buyers, over 2.5 lakh retailers and around 7 crore metric tonnes of annual fertilizer-sale transactions.
- It is developed and technically supported by the National Informatics Centre (NIC) for the Department of Fertilizers.
- It integrates production, imports, movement, stock, retail sales and subsidy processing; the new phase includes integration with Meri Fasal Mera Byora and work with AgriStack.
- Electronic subsidy processing is integrated with the Public Financial Management System (PFMS)/e-Bill framework.

Connection / Exam Trap:

The exam-worthy connection is digital targeting plus subsidy governance, not simply fertilizer production.

Primary / authoritative source [□](#)

Connected Current Affairs Notes - continued

07

ENVIRONMENT & GOVERNANCE

National Biodiversity Authority disburses Rs 5.68 crore under Access and Benefit-Sharing

Why in News:

A late-evening 30 August release reported a fresh Access and Benefit-Sharing (ABS) disbursement arising from use of biological resources.

Key Exam Facts

- National Biodiversity Authority (NBA) disbursed Rs 5.68 crore to State Biodiversity Boards, Union Territory Biodiversity Councils and a national research institution.
- The largest component was Rs 3.51 crore for okra, covering 139 varieties and 28 hybrids.
- Major crop-linked components also covered watermelon and cucumber; Gujarat received the largest state/UT share at Rs 88.79 lakh.
- Cumulative ABS disbursement has crossed Rs 191 crore.

Connection / Exam Trap:

ABS is the mechanism through which benefits from commercial utilisation of biological resources are shared with eligible custodians/beneficiaries.

Primary / authoritative source 

08

SKILLING & EMPLOYMENT

PM-SETU Industry Conclave sets industry-led ITI cluster model

Why in News:

The Ministry of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship and Government of Uttar Pradesh organised the PM-SETU Industry Conclave in Lucknow on 30 August.

Key Exam Facts

- A cluster comprises one Hub Industrial Training Institute (ITI) plus four Spoke ITIs and can attract investment up to Rs 241 crore.
- Funding pattern: 50% Government of India, 33% State Government and 17% Industry Partners.
- The proposed Special Purpose Vehicle (SPV) gives Anchor Industry Partners 51% ownership; Centre and State hold 24.5% each.
- Approved partnership proposals represented more than Rs 1,500 crore of committed industry-led investment across seven clusters in five states.

Connection / Exam Trap:

At the event, National Skill Development Corporation (NSDC) and Lucknow Cantonment Board also signed an MoU for "Shaurya Academy" to prepare youth for uniformed services.

Primary / authoritative source 

Connected Current Affairs Notes - continued

09

DEFENCE & TECHNOLOGY

4th Tri-Services Future Warfare Course concludes at Manekshaw Centre

Why in News:

The four-week course concluded in New Delhi on 30 August under Headquarters Integrated Defence Staff (HQ IDS), coordinated by the Centre for Joint Warfare Studies (CENJOWS).

Key Exam Facts

- Participants included Army, Navy and Air Force officers plus government, academia, industry and think tanks.
- Curriculum covered Artificial Intelligence, quantum technologies, cyber and cognitive warfare, autonomous systems, grey-zone and multi-domain operations, and land-maritime-air-space domains.
- The fifth edition is scheduled from 16 November to 11 December 2026.

Connection / Exam Trap:

The course is a jointness-and-future-technology initiative; it is not a military exercise.

Primary / authoritative source □

10

DEFENCE & INFRASTRUCTURE

14 projects worth over Rs 100 crore launched at Lucknow Cantonment

Why in News:

Defence Minister Rajnath Singh and Uttar Pradesh Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath performed Bhoomi Pujan for 14 projects on 30 August.

Key Exam Facts

- Combined value is over Rs 100 crore.
- The projects cover water supply, education, healthcare, sports, sanitation, parking and civic amenities.
- Two projects are being taken up in coordination with the Uttar Pradesh Government.

Connection / Exam Trap:

This is a defence-estate/civic-infrastructure item, not a defence-procurement contract.

Primary / authoritative source □

Connected Current Affairs Notes - continued

11

SPORTS POLICY | UPDATE

UPDATE

88th Fit India Sundays on Cycle held across 25,000+ locations with BRICS Run & Ride

Why in News:

The 30 August event was a material follow-up to National Sports Day coverage, so only the fresh outcome is included.

Key Exam Facts

- The 88th edition was led by Youth Affairs and Sports Minister Mansukh Mandaviya at Jawaharlal Nehru Stadium, New Delhi.
- It ran simultaneously at more than 25,000 locations; the flagship venue had a 5,000-strong crowd.
- The special edition was organised with BRICS ahead of India hosting the 18th BRICS Summit at Bharat Mandapam on 12-13 September 2026.

Connection / Exam Trap:

Do not repeat the static fact "National Sports Day = 29 August"; that was already covered. The fresh fact is the 30 August 88th-edition outcome.

Primary / authoritative source □

12

EDUCATION & REPORTS

PIB backgrounder maps a decade of higher-education growth and inclusion

Why in News:

A 30 August backgrounder consolidated the Government's higher-education narrative using All India Survey on Higher Education (AISHE) and National Education Policy 2020 context.

Key Exam Facts

- AISHE stands for All India Survey on Higher Education and is conducted annually by the Ministry of Education.
- The policy connection is National Education Policy (NEP) 2020 and Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) 4 on inclusive and equitable quality education.
- The backgrounder is useful mainly for institution/survey-policy linkages rather than memorising every historic statistic.

Connection / Exam Trap:

Remember: AISHE is the Ministry of Education's annual higher-education survey; SDG 4 is the education goal.

Primary / authoritative source □

Connected Current Affairs Notes - continued

13

NATIONAL | MANN KI BAAT

137th Mann Ki Baat highlights Mission ShaktiSAT and “Nasha Mukht Yuva”

Why in News:

The 137th episode of Mann Ki Baat aired on 30 August 2026.

Key Exam Facts

- Mission ShaktiSAT was highlighted as bringing together girl students from 108 countries to learn about satellite technology and science/innovation.
- The Prime Minister also called for a drug-free India and stronger youth participation under the “Nasha Mukht Yuva” message.
- A history-learning website created by Mumbai resident Krishna Seshadri was also highlighted.

Connection / Exam Trap:

For exam revision, keep the episode number and the 108-country Mission ShaktiSAT fact; avoid treating examples in the speech as new government schemes unless formally notified.

Primary / authoritative source [□](#)

14

SPORTS | HOCKEY

Germany defeat Spain 1-0 to win fourth FIH Men's Hockey World Cup title

Why in News:

The men's final of the International Hockey Federation (FIH) Hockey World Cup 2026 was completed at Wavre, Belgium on 30 August.

Key Exam Facts

- Germany beat Spain 1-0; Michel Struthoff scored the decisive goal late in the third quarter.
- It was Germany's fourth men's World Cup title.
- Germany became the first men's team to win back-to-back World Cup titles on two separate occasions.
- Argentina beat the Netherlands 2-1 for bronze.

Connection / Exam Trap:

Tournament: FIH Hockey World Cup Belgium & Netherlands 2026; the final was played at the Belfius Hockey Arena in Wavre.

Primary / authoritative source [□](#)

Connected Current Affairs Notes - continued

15

SPORTS | CRICKET

India open Women's T20 Asia Cup with 94-run win over Thailand

Why in News:

India played its opening Group A match of the Women's T20 Asia Cup 2026 in Dubai on 30 August.

Key Exam Facts

- India scored 159/9 and bowled Thailand out for 65, winning by 94 runs.
- Shafali Verma scored 64 off 36 balls.
- Deepti Sharma's final wicket in the match took her to the top of the women's T20 International wicket-taking list, a late-night milestone confirmed after the result.

Connection / Exam Trap:

India are the most successful team in Women's Asia Cup history; this question cycle should focus on the fresh 30 August match result and milestone.

Primary / authoritative source [□](#)

16

IMPORTANT DAY | UNITED NATIONS

International Day of the Victims of Enforced Disappearances observed on 30 August

Why in News:

The United Nations observance on 30 August focuses attention on people subjected to enforced disappearance and their families.

Key Exam Facts

- Date: 30 August.
- The 2026 message/slogan is "Victims first. Actions now."
- The year marks 20 years since adoption on 20 December 2006 of the International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance.

Connection / Exam Trap:

Do not confuse this with the 29 August International Day against Nuclear Tests.

Primary / authoritative source [□](#)

Connected Current Affairs Notes - continued

17

GOVERNMENT FINANCE

DELAYED CONFIRMATION

Union Government accounts up to July 2026: receipts Rs 13.07 lakh crore, expenditure Rs 17.62 lakh crore

Why in News:

The Ministry of Finance released the consolidated July 2026 Union Government accounts on 31 August. It is included as a delayed official confirmation relevant to the prior-day cycle.

Key Exam Facts

- Total receipts: Rs 13,06,709 crore, equal to 35.8% of Budget Estimates (BE) 2026-27.
- Net tax revenue to Centre: Rs 8,44,560 crore; non-tax revenue: Rs 4,23,013 crore; non-debt capital receipts: Rs 39,136 crore.
- Total expenditure: Rs 17,61,853 crore (32.9% of BE), including Rs 13,11,218 crore revenue expenditure and Rs 4,50,635 crore capital expenditure.
- Tax devolution to States: Rs 3,72,354 crore.

Connection / Exam Trap:

These are cumulative Union Government accounts through July, not a monthly July-only flow.

Primary / authoritative source □

Practice: 20 Current Affairs MCQs

Q1. Under the NIPL-NIPC agreement signed on 30 August 2026, Indian travellers in Uzbekistan will scan which national interoperable QR code?

- A. UZQR
 - B. SGQR
 - C. BHIM QR
 - D. QRIS
 - E. PromptPay QR
-

Q2. NIPL is the international arm of which organisation?

- A. Reserve Bank of India
 - B. National Payments Corporation of India
 - C. Securities and Exchange Board of India
 - D. National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development
 - E. Small Industries Development Bank of India
-

Q3. India and Uzbekistan targeted annual bilateral trade of how much by 2030?

- A. US\$2 billion
 - B. US\$3 billion
 - C. US\$5 billion
 - D. US\$7 billion
 - E. US\$10 billion
-

Q4. India-Uzbekistan relations were elevated on 30 August 2026 to which level?

- A. Special Strategic Partnership
 - B. Comprehensive Strategic Partnership
 - C. Enhanced Economic Partnership
 - D. Comprehensive Economic Partnership
 - E. Global Strategic Alliance
-

Q5. "Oliy Darajali Do'stlik" Order, conferred on PM Modi, is the highest honour for foreign leaders of which country?

- A. Kazakhstan
 - B. Uzbekistan
 - C. Kyrgyz Republic
 - D. Tajikistan
 - E. Turkmenistan
-

Q6. India-Chile CEPA negotiations are targeted for conclusion by:

- A. September 2026
 - B. October 2026
 - C. End of 2026
 - D. March 2027
 - E. End of 2027
-

Practice: 20 Current Affairs MCQs - continued

Q7. The Legal Metrology (Indian Standard Time) Rules, 2026 come into force after how many days from Gazette publication?

- A. 30 days
 - B. 90 days
 - C. 120 days
 - D. 180 days
 - E. 365 days
-

Q8. The White Rabbit Technology-based IST demonstration network was commissioned at which RRSL?

- A. Ahmedabad
 - B. Bengaluru
 - C. Chennai
 - D. New Delhi
 - E. Mumbai
-

Q9. iFMS connects more than how many Aadhaar-linked fertilizer buyers?

- A. 8 crore
 - B. 10 crore
 - C. 12 crore
 - D. 14 crore
 - E. 18 crore
-

Q10. How much did the National Biodiversity Authority disburse in the fresh Access and Benefit-Sharing release?

- A. Rs 3.51 crore
 - B. Rs 4.68 crore
 - C. Rs 5.68 crore
 - D. Rs 8.79 crore
 - E. Rs 19.10 crore
-

Q11. Under the PM-SETU cluster model discussed in Lucknow, a cluster consists of:

- A. 1 Hub ITI + 2 Spoke ITIs
 - B. 1 Hub ITI + 3 Spoke ITIs
 - C. 1 Hub ITI + 4 Spoke ITIs
 - D. 2 Hub ITIs + 4 Spoke ITIs
 - E. 2 Hub ITIs + 5 Spoke ITIs
-

Q12. What ownership share is proposed for Anchor Industry Partners in the PM-SETU SPV?

- A. 17%
 - B. 24.5%
 - C. 33%
 - D. 49%
 - E. 51%
-

Practice: 20 Current Affairs MCQs - continued

Q13. The 4th Tri-Services Future Warfare Course was coordinated by:

- A. United Service Institution of India
 - B. Centre for Joint Warfare Studies
 - C. Manohar Parrikar Institute for Defence Studies and Analyses
 - D. Defence Research and Development Organisation
 - E. National Defence College
-

Q14. How many development projects worth over Rs 100 crore had Bhoomi Pujan at Lucknow Cantonment?

- A. 10
 - B. 12
 - C. 14
 - D. 16
 - E. 18
-

Q15. The 88th Fit India Sundays on Cycle edition was held simultaneously at more than:

- A. 5,000 locations
 - B. 10,000 locations
 - C. 15,000 locations
 - D. 20,000 locations
 - E. 25,000 locations
-

Q16. Mission ShaktiSAT, highlighted in the 137th Mann Ki Baat, is bringing together girl students from how many countries?

- A. 54
 - B. 75
 - C. 96
 - D. 108
 - E. 125
-

Q17. Germany won the 2026 FIH Men's Hockey World Cup final by defeating:

- A. Argentina
 - B. Belgium
 - C. Netherlands
 - D. Spain
 - E. India
-

Q18. The 2026 title was Germany's how many men's FIH Hockey World Cup crown?

- A. Second
 - B. Third
 - C. Fourth
 - D. Fifth
 - E. Sixth
-

Practice: 20 Current Affairs MCQs - continued

Q19. India defeated Thailand by how many runs in its Women's T20 Asia Cup 2026 opener?

- A. 64 runs
 - B. 74 runs
 - C. 84 runs
 - D. 94 runs
 - E. 104 runs
-

Q20. Up to July 2026, Union Government total expenditure was approximately:

- A. Rs 13.07 lakh crore
 - B. Rs 15.54 lakh crore
 - C. Rs 17.62 lakh crore
 - D. Rs 19.31 lakh crore
 - E. Rs 21.06 lakh crore
-

Answer Key + Explanations

1-A | 2-B | 3-C | 4-B | 5-B | 6-C | 7-D | 8-B | 9-D | 10-C | 11-C | 12-E | 13-B | 14-C | 15-E | 16-D | 17-D | 18-C | 19-D | 20-C

Q1. A - UZQR

UZQR is Uzbekistan's national interoperable QR infrastructure used for the new UPI merchant-acceptance arrangement.

Q2. B - National Payments Corporation of India

NIPL is NPCI International Payments Limited, the international arm of the National Payments Corporation of India.

Q3. C - US\$5 billion

The 30 August visit outcome set a US\$5 billion annual bilateral-trade target by 2030.

Q4. B - Comprehensive Strategic Partnership

The leaders agreed to elevate ties to a Comprehensive Strategic Partnership.

Q5. B - Uzbekistan

Uzbekistan conferred the Oliy Darajali Do'stlik (Order of Highest Friendship).

Q6. C - End of 2026

The Commerce Ministry said negotiations are targeted for conclusion by year-end 2026.

Q7. D - 180 days

The rules provide a 180-day transition period.

Q8. B - Bengaluru

The demonstration network was commissioned at RRSL Bengaluru in July 2026.

Q9. D - 14 crore

The official update says iFMS connects more than 14 crore Aadhaar-linked buyers.

Q10. C - Rs 5.68 crore

The fresh ABS disbursement was Rs 5.68 crore.

Q11. C - 1 Hub ITI + 4 Spoke ITIs

A PM-SETU cluster comprises one Hub ITI and four Spoke ITIs.

Q12. E - 51%

Anchor Industry Partners are proposed to hold 51% in the SPV.

Q13. B - Centre for Joint Warfare Studies

The Centre for Joint Warfare Studies (CENJOWS) coordinated the course under HQ IDS.

Q14. C - 14

The Defence Ministry reported 14 development projects.

Q15. E - 25,000 locations

The 30 August edition ran across more than 25,000 locations.

Q16. D - 108

Mission ShaktiSAT was highlighted as involving girl students from 108 countries.

Q17. D - Spain

Germany defeated Spain 1-0 in the final.

Answer Key + Explanations - continued

Q18. C - Fourth

The 2026 win gave Germany its fourth men's World Cup title.

Q19. D - 94 runs

India made 159/9 and dismissed Thailand for 65, winning by 94 runs.

Q20. C - Rs 17.62 lakh crore

The cumulative total expenditure up to July was Rs 17,61,853 crore, about Rs 17.62 lakh crore.