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MONTHLY CURRENT AFFAIRS + BANKING AWARENESS

COMPLETE AUGUST REVISION

AUGUST 2026

English Edition

318

Connected Updates

200

Mains-Pattern MCQs

1 MONTH

Complete Revision

The complete August 2026 exam-relevant cycle is consolidated category-wise across banking, economy, regulators, schemes, reports, international affairs, defence, science and sports. This is not a simple merge of daily/weekly PDFs.

UNDERSTAND FIRST. REMEMBER THROUGH CONNECTION.

If this PDF reached you through a group, stay connected to Banking Legends

The Monthly Capsule is one layer of the Banking Legends preparation system. Daily updates, weekly consolidation, the Banking Awareness Master, tests and classes work as one sequence.

Connected learning

Facts are organised by institution, rule, number and background.

Exam-first filtering

Low-value filler does not control revision; bank-exam relevance does.

Live Banking Awareness

Changed rules, limits, regulators and current values stay date-stamped.

Practice ecosystem

Questions, tests and classes convert reading into recall.

Official Banking Legends Links



Website



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Share freely, but follow the official channels for the next update/test.

Monthly Banking & Economy Dashboard

Indicator	August Live Value	Exam Connection
Policy Repo Rate	5.25%	RBI August MPC; neutral stance
Standing Deposit Facility	5.00%	Current LAF corridor floor
Marginal Standing Facility	5.50%	Upper standing facility
Bank Rate	5.50%	Linked reference/penal rate
Cash Reserve Ratio	3.00%	Cash reserve with RBI
Statutory Liquidity Ratio	18.00%	Prescribed liquid assets with bank
CPI Inflation - July 2026	4.45%	New CPI base 2024=100
Food Inflation (CFPI) - July	5.52%	All-India provisional
PLFS Unemployment Rate - July	5.1%	Age 15+, Current Weekly Status
PLFS LFPR - July	55.4%	Age 15+
IIP Growth - July	6.7%	Base 2022-23=100
Real GDP Growth - Q1 FY27	7.8%	Released 31 August
Nominal GDP Growth - Q1 FY27	10.3%	Current prices
Real GVA Growth - Q1 FY27	8.2%	Constant prices
PMJDY	59.09 crore accounts	Late-August live value; deposits about Rs 3.16-3.17 lakh crore
RRB Net Profit FY26	Rs 10,176 crore	Record combined RRB profit
RBI Special USD-INR Swap Inflows	US\$72.848 billion	Through 21 August; FCNR(B) largest component

Banking Awareness - What Changed This Month

RBI: repo rate stayed at 5.25%; SDF 5.00%, MSF/Bank Rate 5.50%, CRR 3.00%, SLR 18.00%.

PFRDA: NPS contribution timing changed with same-day investment for Trustee Bank receipts up to 1:30 PM; 28-Aug standardised scheme classification and new PoP charge architecture must be read as the current live layer.

SEBI: August brought PaRRVA timeline change, municipal debt amendment, commodity-derivative stress-testing review, OBPP changes, InvIT cash-flow framework, Mutual Fund registration revision, FPI digital PoA, KRA-IFSCA sharing, FIRE cyber reporting, IT Resilience Index and ETF implementation extension.

IFSCA: AML/CFT/KYC modifications, PSO financial-soundness consultation, certification requirements and later capital-market/fund-management operational updates strengthened the IFSC live layer.

RRB/Financial Inclusion: RRB FY26 net profit reached Rs 10,176 crore; village banking coverage remained 99.92%; PMJDY crossed 59 crore accounts with deposits above Rs 3.16 lakh crore by late August.

Payments: UPI completed 10 years; cross-border acceptance expanded, including the India-Uzbekistan UZQR arrangement; remember NPCI as operator and RBI as statutory payment-system regulator/oversight authority.

Economy: July CPI 4.45%, July PLFS unemployment 5.1%, July IIP 6.7%, and final Q1 FY27 real GDP growth 7.8% are the month-end anchors.

FCNR(B)/NRE: temporary deposit-rate and reserve relaxations linked to the special forex mobilisation window ended on 31 August; do not carry the temporary relaxation beyond its sunset date.

NBFC/UCB: August included updated NBFC Upper-Layer/regulatory developments and RBI movement on Urban Co-operative Bank licensing; use dated rules rather than old static notes.

Bank leadership: HDFC Bank MD & CEO Sashidhar Jagdishan indicated he would not seek reappointment; office-holder facts belong in the live layer, not permanent banking theory.

Current-to-Static Banking Linkers

RBI policy corridor

SDF = floor; Repo = policy anchor; MSF = upper standing facility.

RBI vs NPCI

RBI regulates/oversees payment systems; NPCI operates UPI/RuPay/NACH.

CRR vs SLR

CRR = cash with RBI; SLR = prescribed liquid assets maintained by bank.

NPS architecture

PFRDA regulates; CRA records; PoP services; Pension Fund invests; ASP provides annuity.

FPI vs FDI

FPI = portfolio securities capital; FDI = more lasting ownership/management interest.

RTGS vs NEFT

RTGS = real-time gross, minimum Rs 2 lakh; NEFT = half-hourly batches, no RBI general min/max.

Financial Inclusion

PMJDY -> JAM -> DBT -> insurance/pension -> credit -> digital payments.

IFSCA

Unified regulator for permitted financial services in IFSCs.

SEBI

Securities/capital-market regulator; not bank or insurance regulator.

DICGC

Deposit insurance applies to eligible bank deposits; NBFC deposits are not DICGC-insured.

Connected Monthly Current Affairs Notes

Related developments are consolidated into one monthly memory layer. On first use, important abbreviations are expanded in the story or connection.

Banking, RBI, RRB & Financial Sector 33 updates

1. Bank of America to acquire up to 49.9% of Jio Credit

12-15 Aug | Banking, RBI, RRB & Financial Sector

Why in news: Bank of America agreed to invest in Jio Credit, the non-banking financial company lending arm of Jio Financial Services. - Investment: about Rs 18,268 crore (US\$1.92 billion). - Bank of America will initially receive 26.5% equity and can rise to 49.9% after exercising warrants. - Jio Credit is a Non-Banking Financial Company (NBFC).

Connection: This is relevant to banking and business awareness because it combines foreign strategic investment with India's NBFC sector. **Remember / possible trap:** 49.9% is the potential maximum stake; the initial equity interest is 26.5%.

[Primary / authoritative source](#) ➤

2. NABL launches first accreditation scheme for mobile food-testing laboratories

12-15 Aug | Banking, RBI, RRB & Financial Sector

Why in news: The National Accreditation Board for Testing and Calibration Laboratories (NABL) launched India's first accreditation scheme for mobile food-testing laboratories. - NABL is a constituent board of the Quality Council of India (QCI). - The scheme operates under an Integrated Assessment Programme. - The aim is quality-assured, internationally benchmarked testing closer to communities and stronger food-safety surveillance. **Connection:** Accreditation assesses competence of laboratories and related bodies; it is different from ordinary product certification. **Remember / possible trap:** NABL is part of the QCI ecosystem; it is not the Food Safety and Standards Authority of India (FSSAI) itself.

[Primary / authoritative source](#) ➤

3. RBI advances the FCNR(B) concessional swap cut-off to 31 August

12-15 Aug | Banking, RBI, RRB & Financial Sector

Why in News: The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) decided to stop accepting fresh Foreign Currency Non-Resident (Bank), or FCNR(B), deposits under its concessional foreign-exchange swap window after 31 August 2026, one month earlier than the earlier 30 September cut-off, following very strong inflows. **Key Exam Facts** - Banks had mobilised about US\$52.30 billion through FCNR(B) deposits by 13 August under the special window. - Other foreign-currency inflows reported under the June package included about US\$1.7 billion through External Commercial Borrowing (ECB) swaps and US\$2.8 billion through overseas foreign-currency borrowings by authorised lenders. - The ECB and authorised-lender overseas-borrowing windows were not brought forward with the FCNR(B) cut-off. **Connection / Background:** FCNR(B) deposits are foreign-currency term deposits of non-resident Indians. A swap facility lets a bank exchange the foreign currency with RBI and reverse the transaction later, reducing hedging uncertainty/cost. **Exam Trap / What Changed:** The change is the cut-off for deposits eligible for this concessional swap facility; it is not a closure of ordinary FCNR(B) deposit accounts.

[Primary / authoritative source](#) ➤

4. India's foreign-exchange reserves rise above US\$700 billion

12-15 Aug | Banking, RBI, RRB & Financial Sector

Why in News: RBI data released on 14 August showed India's foreign-exchange reserves at US\$707.002 billion for the week ended 7 August 2026, a rise of about US\$14.1 billion in one week. **Key Exam Facts** - Foreign Currency Assets stood at US\$574.625 billion. - Gold reserves were US\$108.738 billion. - Special Drawing Rights (SDRs) were US\$18.745 billion and India's Reserve Tranche Position in the International Monetary Fund (IMF) was US\$4.894 billion. **Connection / Background:** Forex reserves are not only US dollars. RBI's reserve stock includes foreign-currency assets, gold, SDRs and the IMF reserve tranche position. **Exam Trap / What Changed:** A rise in foreign-currency assets can reflect both transactions and valuation changes in non-dollar currencies.

[Primary / authoritative source](#) ➤

5. Logistics Data Bank crosses 10 crore EXIM containers tracked

12-15 Aug | Banking, RBI, RRB & Financial Sector

Why in News: The Logistics Data Bank (LDB) reached the milestone of tracking 10 crore Export-Import (EXIM) containers since its launch in 2016. **Key Exam Facts** - LDB provides visibility for 100% of India's EXIM container movement using Radio Frequency Identification (RFID)-based tracking. - Its coverage includes 19 ports, 32 container terminals, 103 Inland Container Depots and 5,569 railway stations, among other nodes. - LDB 2.0, launched in September 2025, added high-seas tracking of export containers and multimodal shipment visibility. **Connection / Background:** NICDC Logistics Data Services Limited (NLDSL), a joint venture involving the Government of India and NEC Corporation of Japan, operates logistics technology solutions including LDB and the Unified Logistics Interface Platform (ULIP). **Exam Trap / What Changed:** LDB tracks container movement; ULIP is the broader digital logistics data-integration platform.

[Primary / authoritative source](#) ➤

6. Regional Rural Banks (RRBs) report 10.3% credit growth; Priority Sector Lending achievement reaches 91.7%

16-22 Aug | Banking, RBI, RRB & Financial Sector

Why in News: The Department of Financial Services released fresh financial-year 2025-26 performance data for Regional Rural Banks (RRBs). **Key Exam Facts:** - Gross loans outstanding rose 10.3% to Rs 5,78,349 crore, from Rs 5,24,163 crore. - Average Priority Sector Lending (PSL) achievement was 91.7% of Adjusted Net Bank Credit (ANBC), well above the prescribed overall RRB target of 75%. - Credit to weaker sections stood at about Rs 3.49 lakh crore. **Connection / Background:** RRBs were created to combine local rural reach with formal banking. Their exam identity is strongly linked with agriculture, weaker sections, rural credit and PSL. **Exam Trap / What Changed:** 91.7% is the achieved PSL share; 75% is the prescribed overall target for RRBs. Do not interchange the two.

[Primary / authoritative source](#) ➤

7. Connected Current Affairs Notes RBI MPC minutes: repo held at 5.25%; neutral stance retained

16-22 Aug | Banking, RBI, RRB & Financial Sector

Why in News: The Reserve Bank of India published the minutes of the Monetary Policy Committee meeting held from 3-5 August 2026. **Key Exam Facts:** - Policy repo rate remained unchanged at 5.25%. - All six members supported maintaining the rate and the neutral stance. - Governor Sanjay Malhotra stressed the need for greater clarity on the inflation path before any policy-rate recalibration. - The next MPC meeting is scheduled for 5-7 October 2026. **Connection / Background:** Under Section 45ZL of the RBI Act, 1934, the RBI publishes MPC minutes on the 14th day after the meeting. The minutes contain the resolution, each member's vote and individual statements. **Exam Trap / What Changed:** Do not confuse the policy announcement date (5 August) with the minutes-release date (19 August).

[Primary / authoritative source](#) ➤

8. RBI absorbs surplus liquidity through two overnight VRRR auctions

16-22 Aug | Banking, RBI, RRB & Financial Sector

Why in News: The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) conducted two one-day Variable Rate Reverse Repo (VRRR) auctions on 20 August under the Liquidity Adjustment Facility (LAF), signalling active fine-tuning of surplus system liquidity. **Key Exam Facts:** - First auction: notified amount Rs 1,00,000 crore; bids received Rs 1,36,732 crore; accepted Rs 1,00,032 crore. - Second auction: notified amount Rs 50,000 crore; bids received Rs 53,938 crore; accepted Rs 50,013 crore. - The cut-off rate and weighted average rate in both auctions were 5.24%. - A VRRR absorbs liquidity from banks; a Variable Rate Repo injects liquidity. **Connection / Background:** LAF operations help keep overnight money-market rates aligned with the policy rate corridor without changing the policy repo rate itself. **Exam Trap / What Changed:** VRRR is liquidity absorption, not a repo-rate cut. The 5.24% auction rate is not the policy repo rate. RBI - first VRRR result ■ RBI - second VRRR result ■

[Primary / authoritative source ↗](#)

9. RBI special USD-INR swap facility draws US\$72.848 billion through 21 August 2026

16-22 Aug | Banking, RBI, RRB & Financial Sector

Why in News: RBI reported cumulative inflows of US\$72.848 billion through its special USD-INR swap facility up to 21 August 2026. **Key Exam Facts:** : US\$65.397 billion came through FCNR(B) deposits, US\$4.860 billion through OFCB deposits and US\$2.591 billion through ECB. **Connection / Background:** FCNR(B) is a foreign-currency non-resident term deposit; ECB means External Commercial Borrowing. **Exam Trap / What Changed:** remember the total and the three-channel split; this is a liquidity/forex facility, not an FDI figure.

[Primary / authoritative source ↗](#)

10. Razorpay launches direct multi-currency settlements into EEFC accounts

2026-08-24 | Banking, RBI, RRB & Financial Sector

Why in News: Razorpay launched a Multi-Currency Exchange Earners' Foreign Currency (EEFC) settlement facility for exporters and international businesses. **Key Exam Facts** - Supported direct-settlement currencies: USD, EUR, GBP, AED and SGD. - Eligible merchants can receive settlements into their EEFC account without immediate conversion into Indian Rupees. - This can reduce repeated foreign-exchange conversion when exporters also have expenses in foreign currency. - An EEFC account is a non-interest-bearing current account maintained with an Authorised Dealer Category-I bank in India. **Connection / Background:** EEFC accounts allow eligible foreign-exchange earners to retain foreign-currency earnings subject to RBI/FEMA rules. The account helps separate the timing of export receipt from the timing of currency conversion or permitted foreign-currency use. **Exam Trap / What Changed:** EEFC is not an overseas bank account and not a fixed deposit. It is a foreign-currency current account in India with an authorised bank.

[Primary / authoritative source ↗](#)

11. RBI appoints three part-time non-official Directors to its Central Board

2026-08-25 | Banking, RBI, RRB & Financial Sector

Why in News: RBI appoints three part-time non-official Directors to its Central Board. **Key Exam Facts** - The Central Government appointed Janmejaya Kumar Sinha, Syed Akbaruddin and Annie George Mathew to the - RBI Central Board. - Tenure: four years from 24 August 2026 or until further orders, whichever is earlier. - Exam link: RBI Central Board appointments are made by the Central Government under the RBI governance - framework.

[Primary / authoritative source ↗](#)

12. All-India House Price Index rises to 117.5 in Q1 FY27

2026-08-25 | Banking, RBI, RRB & Financial Sector

Why in News: All-India House Price Index rises to 117.5 in Q1 FY27. **Key Exam Facts** - RBI released the quarterly House Price Index (HPI) with base year 2022-23 covering 18 major cities. - Q1 FY27 HPI: 117.5; quarter-on-quarter rise: 1.1%; year-on-year growth: 3.6%. - Cities contributing strongly to annual growth included Chandigarh, Jaipur, Kanpur, Lucknow and - Thiruvananthapuram.

[Primary / authoritative source ↗](#)

13. Govt to re-issue Rs 34,000 crore of 6.94% GS 2036

2026-08-25 | Banking, RBI, RRB & Financial Sector

Why in News: Govt to re-issue Rs 34,000 crore of 6.94% GS 2036. **Key Exam Facts** - Notified amount: Rs 34,000 crore; security: 6.94% GS 2036; maturity: 11 May 2036. - Government may retain additional subscription up to Rs 2,000 crore. Auction: 28 August; settlement: 31 August - 2026. - The re-issue uses the multiple-price method on RBI's e-Kuber system; non-competitive segment can also be - accessed through Retail Direct.

[Primary / authoritative source ↗](#)

14. RBI penalises three Karnataka urban co-operative banks

2026-08-25 | Banking, RBI, RRB & Financial Sector

Why in News: RBI penalises three Karnataka urban co-operative banks. **Key Exam Facts** - Vikas Souharda Co-operative Bank: Rs 1 lakh for failure to classify certain loan accounts as NPAs. - Pragathi Co-operative Bank: Rs 2 lakh for director-related lending and breaches of borrower/inter-bank exposure - limits. - Shri Vijay Mahantesh Co-operative Bank: Rs 2.50 lakh for NPA classification and director-related lending - deficiencies. Penalties concern regulatory compliance, not validity of customer transactions.

[Primary / authoritative source ↗](#)

15. Regional Rural Banks post record Rs 10,176 crore net profit in FY 2025-26

2026-08-26 | Banking, RBI, RRB & Financial Sector

Why in News: Regional Rural Banks post record Rs 10,176 crore net profit in FY 2025-26. **Key Exam Facts** - India now has 28 RRBs with 22,273 branches across 26 States and 3 Union Territories, covering around 700 districts. - Total business crossed Rs 13.5 lakh crore; net profit rose from Rs 6,820 crore in FY25 to Rs 10,176 crore in FY26. - Gross NPA fell to 5.3%, Net NPA to 2.1%, and the Credit-Deposit ratio reached an all-time high of 75.2%. More than - 54.98 lakh new PMJDY accounts were opened. - Connection / **Exam Trap:** RRBs are a core financial-inclusion channel linking rural credit, priority-sector lending and sponsor-

[Primary / authoritative source ↗](#)

16. Upper-Layer IDF-NBFCs brought under NBFC-IFC large-exposure limits

2026-08-27 | Banking, RBI, RRB & Financial Sector

Why in News: Upper-Layer IDF-NBFCs brought under NBFC-IFC large-exposure limits. **Key Exam Facts** - RBI issued the NBFC Concentration Risk Management Fourth Amendment Directions, 2026. - Large exposure limits applicable to NBFC-Infrastructure Finance Companies will also apply to IDF-NBFCs that are - subject to Upper Layer regulations. - The amendment, RBI/2026-27/237, came into force with immediate effect. - Connection / **Exam Trap:** IDF-NBFC means Infrastructure Debt Fund-NBFC. The change extends an existing exposure

[Primary / authoritative source ↗](#)

17. Reserve Bank of India (RBI): Listed private corporate sales grew 19.4% in First Quarter of Financial Year 2026-27 (Q1 FY27) The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) released its quarterly performance data for 3,247 listed non-government non- financial companies for April-June 2026. Key points

2026-08-28 | Banking, RBI, RRB & Financial Sector

Why in News: Reserve Bank of India (RBI): Listed private corporate sales grew 19.4% in First Quarter of Financial Year 2026-27 (Q1 FY27) The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) released its quarterly performance data for 3,247 listed non-government non- financial companies for April-June 2026. Key points. **Key Exam Facts** - Aggregate sales rose 19.4% year-on-year, up from 13.9% in the previous quarter. - Manufacturing sales grew 21.4%; Information Technology (IT) services grew 14.8%; non-IT services - grew 19.7%. - Manufacturing operating profit rose 21.3%; the manufacturing interest coverage ratio was 10.2, while - non-IT services recorded 2.6.

[Primary / authoritative source ↗](#)

18. RBI places Citizens Co-operative Bank, Jammu under directions The RBI imposed directions on The Citizens Co-operative Bank Ltd., Jammu, effective from close of business on 27 August 2026. Key points

2026-08-28 | Banking, RBI, RRB & Financial Sector

Why in News: RBI places Citizens Co-operative Bank, Jammu under directions The RBI imposed directions on The Citizens Co-operative Bank Ltd., Jammu, effective from close of business on 27 August 2026. Key points. **Key Exam Facts** - The directions were issued under Section 35A(1) read with Section 56 of the Banking Regulation Act, - 1949. - The bank cannot, without RBI approval, grant or renew loans, make investments, accept fresh - deposits or incur specified liabilities. - Depositors may withdraw up to Rs 1.25 lakh in aggregate from their accounts, subject to the detailed

[Primary / authoritative source ↗](#)

19. RBI directions on Desaiganj Nagari Cooperative Bank: withdrawals not permitted RBI directions on Desaiganj Nagari Cooperative Bank Maryadit, Desaiganj became effective from close of business on 27 August 2026 for six months, subject to review. Key points

2026-08-28 | Banking, RBI, RRB & Financial Sector

Why in News: RBI directions on Desaiganj Nagari Cooperative Bank: withdrawals not permitted RBI directions on Desaiganj Nagari Cooperative Bank Maryadit, Desaiganj became effective from close of business on 27 August 2026 for six months, subject to review. Key points. **Key Exam Facts** - The directions use Section 35A(1) read with Section 56 of the Banking Regulation Act, 1949. - Without prior RBI approval the bank faces restrictions on fresh deposits, lending, investments and - other specified transactions. - No amount can be withdrawn from savings, current or other deposit accounts except as permitted - under the directions/set-off provisions; eligible DICGC insurance remains subject to the Rs 5 lakh

[Primary / authoritative source ↗](#)

20. RBI fines Jalna District Central Co-operative Bank Rs 50,000 RBI imposed a monetary penalty of Rs 50,000 on Jalna District Central Co-operative Bank Ltd., Maharashtra. Key points

2026-08-28 | Banking, RBI, RRB & Financial Sector

Why in News: RBI fines Jalna District Central Co-operative Bank Rs 50,000 RBI imposed a monetary penalty of Rs 50,000 on Jalna District Central Co-operative Bank Ltd., Maharashtra. Key points. **Key Exam Facts** - The penalty order is dated 25 August 2026 and the release was issued on 27 August. - Non-compliance related to RBI directions on Membership of Credit Information Companies (CICs) by - Co-operative Banks and Know Your Customer (KYC). - The supervisory findings included failure to report borrower credit information to all CICs and - shortcomings in periodic account-risk review.

[Primary / authoritative source ↗](#)

21. Pradhan Mantri Jan Dhan Yojana (PMJDY) completes 12 years with 59.09 crore accounts

The Ministry of Finance released the 12-year milestone update for Pradhan Mantri Jan Dhan Yojana (PMJDY), launched on 28 August 2014. Key points

2026-08-28 | Banking, RBI, RRB & Financial Sector

Why in News: Pradhan Mantri Jan Dhan Yojana (PMJDY) completes 12 years with 59.09 crore accounts. The Ministry of Finance released the 12-year milestone update for Pradhan Mantri Jan Dhan Yojana (PMJDY), launched on 28 August 2014. **Key points. Key Exam Facts** - As of 19 August 2026: 59.09 crore PMJDY accounts with deposits of Rs 3,16,514 crore. - Women account holders: 32.92 crore (55.7%); rural and semi-urban accounts: 45.95 crore (77.8%). - Average deposit per account: Rs 5,356; 41.29 crore RuPay debit cards had been issued. - Static link: PMJDY was launched on 28 August 2014 and is a key part of the Jan-Dhan-Aadhaar-Mobile (JAM) - financial-inclusion architecture.

[Primary / authoritative source](#) ➤

22. PARIVARTAN onboards 42 banks/NBFCs and 15 auto OEMs

2026-08-29 | Banking, RBI, RRB & Financial Sector

Why in News: The Ministry of Road Transport and Highways reported fresh progress under PARIVARTAN on 28 August 2026. PARIVARTAN expands to Programme for Accelerated Renewal and Incentivization of Vehicle Assets for Reducing Transport Air Pollution and Network Emissions. More than 1,300 beneficiaries were registered; 42 banks/Non-Banking Financial Companies (NBFCs) and 15 automobile Original Equipment Manufacturers (OEMs) were onboarded. The Cabinet approved the scheme on 3 June 2026 to replace over 2 lakh BS-IV or older trucks and buses in Delhi-NCR with BS-VI-or-stricter or electric vehicles. **Exam Trap / What Changed:** The scheme is a vehicle-replacement/air-pollution programme; the banking link is through the participating lenders.

[Primary / authoritative source](#) ➤

23. UPDATE: RBI keeps absorbing surplus liquidity through VRRR; 3-day auction takes Rs 1.53 lakh crore

24-28 AUG | Banking, RBI, RRB & Financial Sector

Why in News: The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) used successive Variable Rate Reverse Repo (VRRR) auctions during the week to absorb surplus system liquidity. **Key Exam Facts** - On 24 August, two result auctions together absorbed about Rs 1,41,186 crore. The 27-August 1-day VRRR accepted about Rs 1.43 lakh crore at 5.24%. The 28-August 3-day VRRR accepted Rs 1,52,537 crore at 5.24%. **Connection / Background:** VRRR is a liquidity-absorption instrument; Variable Rate Repo (VRR) injects liquidity. These are not the same as the fixed Standing Deposit Facility (SDF). **Exam Trap / What Changed:** Use the latest 28-August figure for the end-of-week tracker; earlier auction values explain the liquidity sequence.

[Primary / authoritative source](#) ➤

24. UPDATE: FCNR(B)/NRE special relaxations now end on 31 August; swap facility had mobilised about US\$73 billion

24-26 AUG | Banking, RBI, RRB & Financial Sector

Why in News: RBI advanced the sunset of temporary deposit-rate and reserve-ratio relaxations for specified fresh Foreign Currency Non-Resident (Bank) [FCNR(B)] and Non-Resident External (NRE) deposits. **Key Exam Facts** - The special USD-INR swap facility had mobilised about US\$73 billion by 21 August, including about US\$65.40 billion through FCNR(B) deposits. The FCNR(B) window was advanced to close on 31 August 2026. - RBI also shortened the Cash Reserve Ratio (CRR) / Statutory Liquidity Ratio (SLR) exemption window for specified fresh FCNR(B) and NRE deposits to align with the revised end date. **Connection / Background:** FCNR(B) deposits are maintained in permitted foreign currencies; NRE accounts are rupee-denominated. CRR is maintained with RBI, while SLR is maintained in prescribed liquid assets. **Exam Trap / What Changed:** 31 August 2026 is the updated sunset date; do not retain the earlier 30 September date.

[Primary / authoritative source](#) ➤

25. PMFME Conclave tracker: Bazaar showcase followed by awards to States, banks and grassroots functionaries

24-25 AUG | Banking, RBI, RRB & Financial Sector

Why in News: The Pradhan Mantri Formalisation of Micro Food Processing Enterprises (PMFME) Conclave combined a PMFME Bazaar with the concluding awards and programme review. **Key Exam Facts** - The scheme supports formalisation, credit linkage, branding, training and value-chain development for micro food- processing enterprises. **Connection / Background:** PMFME is a centrally sponsored scheme of the Ministry of Food Processing Industries and follows the One District One Product (ODOP) approach. **Exam Trap / What Changed:** The Bazaar was an event component; the conclave conclusion added awards and programme outcomes.

[Primary / authoritative source](#) ➤

26. LATE UPDATE: HDFC Bank MD & CEO Sashidhar Jagdishan will not seek reappointment; term ends 26 October 2026

29 AUG | Banking, RBI, RRB & Financial Sector

Why in News: HDFC Bank informed the exchanges on 29 August that Managing Director & Chief Executive Officer Sashidhar Jagdishan had decided not to seek reappointment. **Key Exam Facts** - His current term ends on 26 October 2026. He first became MD & CEO on 27 October 2020; the bank is accelerating the successor-search process. **Connection / Background:** Appointment/reappointment of a private-sector bank MD & CEO requires Reserve Bank of India approval under the banking regulatory framework. **Exam Trap / What Changed:** This is a future leadership transition; Jagdishan remains MD & CEO until the end of the current term unless changed earlier.

[Primary / authoritative source](#) ➤

27. India plans 100 new ships to reduce a reported US\$75 billion foreign-freight bill

2026-08-26 | Banking, RBI, RRB & Financial Sector

Why in News: India plans 100 new ships to reduce a reported US\$75 billion foreign-freight bill. **Key Exam Facts** - At the National Shipping Board's "Sagar Samvad", the Shipping Ministry highlighted a plan for 100 new ships to - expand Indian-flagged capacity. - The stated policy objective is to reduce dependence on foreign shipping and retain more freight earnings within - India. - Connection / **Exam Trap:** Merchant-shipping capacity affects trade logistics, freight outgo and balance-of-payments services

[Primary / authoritative source](#) ➤

28. S&P affirms India at BBB/A-2 with stable outlook S&P Global Ratings affirmed India's sovereign credit ratings at BBB/A-2 on 27 August 2026 and retained a stable outlook. Key points

2026-08-28 | Banking, RBI, RRB & Financial Sector

Why in News: S&P affirms India at BBB/A-2 with stable outlook S&P Global Ratings affirmed India's sovereign credit ratings at BBB/A-2 on 27 August 2026 and retained a stable outlook. Key points. **Key Exam Facts** - The action was an affirmation, not an upgrade. - S&P cited policy stability and infrastructure investment as growth supports. - Key constraints remain weak fiscal metrics, high government debt and low per-capita income; S&P - projected real Gross Domestic Product (GDP) growth of 6.6% in 2026. - Remember: 27 August action = affirmation at BBB/A-2 with stable outlook, not an upgrade.

[Primary / authoritative source](#) ➤

29. CHESS Praggnanandhaa wins Grand Chess Tour 2026 The Grand Chess Tour Finals concluded in Saint Louis on 27 August; FIDE reported the result on 28 August. Key points

2026-08-28 | Banking, RBI, RRB & Financial Sector

Why in News: CHESS Praggnanandhaa wins Grand Chess Tour 2026 The Grand Chess Tour Finals concluded in Saint Louis on 27 August; FIDE reported the result on 28 August. Key points. **Key Exam Facts** - Rameshbabu Praggnanandhaa overcame a six-point deficit on the final day and defeated Fabiano - Caruana 15-13. - The Finals ran from 22-27 August at the Saint Louis Chess Club. - Total prize fund: USD 450,000; winner's share: USD 200,000. Wesley So beat Vincent Keymer for third - place.

[Primary / authoritative source ↗](#)

30. Women & Child Development Ministry reiterates Child Helpline 1098 for reporting child marriage

2026-08-26 | Banking, RBI, RRB & Financial Sector

Why in News: Women & Child Development Ministry reiterates Child Helpline 1098 for reporting child marriage. **Key Exam Facts** - Citizens were urged to report child-marriage cases through Child Helpline 1098 as part of the Child Marriage Free - Bharat effort. - The exam-relevant static fact is the helpline number: 1098. - Connection / **Exam Trap:** Do not mix Child Helpline 1098 with women's emergency helpline 181 or emergency response 112. - BANKING LEGENDS | 26 AUG 2026

[Primary / authoritative source ↗](#)

31. India reaches 99.92% inhabited-village banking coverage within 5 km

03 Aug | Banking, RBI, RRB & Financial Sector

Why in News: Finance Ministry data showed 6,00,868 of 6,01,328 inhabited villages had a banking outlet within 5 km. **Key Exam Facts:** 99.92% coverage; more than 1.81 lakh bank branches, 17.36 lakh Business Correspondents and 1.65 lakh India Post Payments Bank centres supported the network as of 17 July 2026. PMJDY stood at 58.77 crore accounts with Rs 3,12,414 crore balance in this release. **Connection:** Jan Dhan Darshak is the GIS monitoring app. **Exam Trap:** later August PMJDY values supersede this 3-Aug snapshot; retain 99.92% as the village-coverage figure.

[Primary / authoritative source ↗](#)

32. RBI August MPC keeps policy repo rate at 5.25% with neutral stance

05 Aug | Banking, RBI, RRB & Financial Sector

Why in News: The Reserve Bank of India Monetary Policy Committee met from 3-5 August 2026 and retained the policy repo rate at 5.25%. Key live rates for the monthly dashboard remain Standing Deposit Facility 5.00%, Marginal Standing Facility 5.50% and Bank Rate 5.50%. **Connection:** the repo rate is the policy anchor while SDF and MSF form the standing corridor around it. **Exam Trap:** fixed reverse repo 3.35% remains in the toolkit but is not the current floor; SDF is.

[Primary / authoritative source ↗](#)

33. RBI appoints Monisha Chakraborty as Executive Director

05 Aug | Banking, RBI, RRB & Financial Sector

Why in News: RBI announced Monisha Chakraborty as a new Executive Director during the August policy cycle. **Connection:** RBI office-holder names are live current affairs; the durable statutory structure is Governor plus not more than four Deputy Governors and other Central Board members under the RBI Act framework.

[Primary / authoritative source ↗](#)

Regulators, Markets, Insurance & Pensions 33 updates

34. SEBI reviews historical scenarios in commodity-derivatives stress testing

12-15 Aug | Regulators, Markets, Insurance & Pensions

Why in news: The Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI) issued a circular on historical scenarios used in stress testing for the commodity-derivatives segment. - Date of circular: 12 August 2026. - Subject: Review of Inclusion of Historical Scenarios in Stress Testing for Commodity Derivatives Segment. - Circular number: HO/47/16/14(1)2026-MRD-POD1//18580/2026. **Connection:** Stress testing examines how market infrastructure or portfolios may behave under severe but plausible conditions. Commodity derivatives fall under SEBI's securities-market regulatory framework. **Remember / possible trap:** The regulator here is SEBI, not RBI.

[Primary / authoritative source](#) ➔

35. DFS explains the 14-day insurance grievance route and Bima Bharosa

12-15 Aug | Regulators, Markets, Insurance & Pensions

Why in News: The Department of Financial Services (DFS), Ministry of Finance, highlighted the formal grievance-redressal path for insurance policyholders and the role of the Insurance Regulatory and Development Authority of India (IRDAI) Bima Bharosa portal. **Key Exam Facts** - An insurer must acknowledge a grievance immediately and provide a resolution within 14 days. - The first escalation point is the insurer's Grievance Redressal Officer/complaint cell; an unsatisfied policyholder can then approach IRDAI. - Bima Bharosa integrates insurer complaint-management systems and allows registration and tracking of grievances; IRDAI helplines include 155255 and 1800-4254-732. **Connection / Background:** IRDAI is India's insurance-sector regulator. Bima Bharosa is a grievance-monitoring platform, not an insurance policy or claim-settlement scheme. **Exam Trap / What Changed:** Policyholders are expected to approach the insurer first; Bima Bharosa does not replace the insurer's internal grievance mechanism.

[Primary / authoritative source](#) ➔

36. Foreign portfolio investors turn net buyers in August; Rs 16,621 crore equity inflow reported for first half

16-22 Aug | Regulators, Markets, Insurance & Pensions

Why in News: Overnight market-flow reporting showed foreign portfolio investors had returned to net buying in Indian equities during the first half of August. **Key Exam Facts:** - Reported equity inflow: Rs 16,621 crore in the first half of August 2026. - FPI stands for Foreign Portfolio Investor. - Key drivers cited included relative valuations, corporate earnings and expectations around US interest rates. - This is a market-flow data point, not an RBI policy action. **Connection / Background:** FPI/FDI distinctions and monthly flow direction are common economy questions. **Exam Trap / What Changed:** FPI flows are portfolio investments in market securities; they are not the same as Foreign Direct Investment (FDI).

[Primary / authoritative source](#) ➔

37. PFRDA releases Pension Bulletin for April-June 2026

16-22 Aug | Regulators, Markets, Insurance & Pensions

Why in News: The Pension Fund Regulatory and Development Authority (PFRDA) published its April- June 2026 Pension Bulletin on 17 August, giving a fresh statistical snapshot of the pension ecosystem. **Key Exam Facts:** - As of 31 May 2026, total pension-system subscribers covered in the bulletin were about 9.83 crore. - Atal Pension Yojana (APY) accounted for about 7.62 crore subscribers - roughly 77.5% of the total shown. - Aggregate Assets Under Management (AUM) were about Rs 17.23 lakh crore; government-sector NPS accounted for roughly three-fourths of AUM. - The bulletin covers NPS segments, NPS Vatsalya, NPS Lite and APY, among other pension-system data. **Connection / Background:** PFRDA is the statutory regulator for the National Pension System (NPS) and the pension ecosystem. APY is a Government-backed pension scheme focused on subscribers in the unorganised sector. **Exam Trap / What Changed:** Do not mix subscriber count with AUM. One is number of accounts/ subscribers; the other is the market value of pension assets managed.

[Primary / authoritative source](#) ➔

38. SEBI cautions investors over display of live trading strategies on social-media platforms

16-22 Aug | Regulators, Markets, Insurance & Pensions

Why in News: The Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI) issued Press Release 48/2026 specifically cautioning investors regarding live trading strategies displayed on social-media platforms. **Key Exam Facts:** - Regulator: Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI). - Date: 17 August 2026; Press Release No. 48/2026. - The alert is specifically linked to the display of live trading strategies on social-media platforms. - For exams, connect this with SEBI's investor-protection role and regulation of securities-market intermediaries. **Connection / Background:** Investment advice, research, broking and other securities-market activities are regulated domains. Social-media content does not automatically carry regulatory approval merely because it displays real-time trades. **Exam Trap / What Changed:** Do not interpret the release as a blanket ban on all market education or all social-media discussion; the official caution is specifically about live trading strategies.

[Primary / authoritative source](#) ➤

39. SEBI releases Handbook of Statistics 2025-26

16-22 Aug | Regulators, Markets, Insurance & Pensions

Why in News: SEBI released its Handbook of Statistics 2025-26 on 17 August as an official statistical reference for the Indian securities market. **Key Exam Facts:** - Publication date: 17 August 2026. - SEBI Press Release No. 47/2026 accompanied the release. - The Handbook belongs to SEBI's Reports & Statistics / Publications series. - It should be distinguished from SEBI's Annual Report 2025-26, which is a separate publication. **Connection / Background:** A statistical handbook is a data compendium; an annual report also discusses the regulator's activities, policies, administration and performance during the year. **Exam Trap / What Changed:** Handbook of Statistics 2025-26 and SEBI Annual Report 2025-26 are not the same document.

[Primary / authoritative source](#) ➤

40. SEBI revises application form for mutual fund registration

16-22 Aug | Regulators, Markets, Insurance & Pensions

Why in News: SEBI issued a circular on 17 August revising the application form used for mutual fund registration. **Key Exam Facts:** - Circular date: 17 August 2026. - Circular No.: 18849. - The subject is revision of the Application Form for Mutual Fund Registration. - Mutual funds and their regulatory framework fall under SEBI, not RBI. **Connection / Background:** A mutual fund pools investor money and is managed by an Asset Management Company (AMC) under SEBI's regulatory framework. **Exam Trap / What Changed:** This circular concerns the registration application form. Do not confuse it with investor KYC changes or a change in mutual-fund taxation.

[Primary / authoritative source](#) ➤

41. Competition Commission of India (CCI) clears Tata Steel acquisition of 23% in TM International Logistics

16-22 Aug | Regulators, Markets, Insurance & Pensions

Why in News: The Competition Commission of India (CCI) approved Tata Steel Limited's proposed acquisition in a logistics company. **Key Exam Facts:** - Tata Steel Limited may acquire 23% equity shareholding in TM International Logistics Limited. - The approval is a competition-law combination clearance, not a banking-regulator approval. **Connection / Background:** Large acquisitions may require competition review because the regulator examines their effect on market competition. **Exam Trap / What Changed:** Regulator = Competition Commission of India, not Securities and Exchange Board of India or Reserve Bank of India.

[Primary / authoritative source](#) ➤

42. Competition Commission of India approves Prudential Corporation Holdings investment in Bharti Life Insurance

16-22 Aug | Regulators, Markets, Insurance & Pensions

Why in News The Competition Commission of India approved acquisition of certain equity shareholding in Bharti Life Insurance Company Limited. **Key Exam Facts:** - Acquirer: Prudential Corporation Holdings Limited. - Target: Bharti Life Insurance Company Limited. - The announcement is a Competition Commission of India combination clearance; sectoral insurance regulation remains separate. **Connection / Background:** This is a useful regulator-map question: competition approvals come from CCI, while insurance regulation is handled by the Insurance Regulatory and Development Authority of India. **Exam Trap / What Changed:** Do not infer a specific stake percentage when the official release says only "certain equity shareholding".

[Primary / authoritative source](#) ➤

43. SEBI permits digitally signed Power of Attorney from Foreign Portfolio Investors

16-22 Aug | Regulators, Markets, Insurance & Pensions

Why in News: The Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI) allowed Foreign Portfolio Investors (FPIs) to submit digitally signed Power of Attorney (PoA) documents, easing documentary requirements for overseas investors. **Key Exam Facts:** - The circular is dated 20 August 2026. - A digitally signed PoA can now be accepted without the earlier physical notarisation/apostillisation/ consularisation chain, subject to the specified framework. - The change is aimed at ease of doing investment and faster onboarding of FPIs. **Connection / Background:** FPI onboarding involves registration, Know Your Client checks, custodial arrangements and authorised signatories. Digital document acceptance reduces friction without removing regulatory due diligence. **Exam Trap / What Changed:** The reform does not abolish FPI registration or Know Your Client requirements; it changes how a PoA may be authenticated/submitted. SEBI circular ■ CAPITAL MARKETS | KYC SEBI enables KRA data sharing with IFSCA-regulated entities

[Primary / authoritative source](#) ➤

44. SEBI circular ■ SEBI enables KRA data sharing with IFSCA-regulated entities

16-22 Aug | Regulators, Markets, Insurance & Pensions

Why in News: The Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI) enabled Know Your Client (KYC) Registration Agencies (KRAs) to share KYC information with entities regulated by the International Financial Services Centres Authority (IFSCA). **Key Exam Facts:** - Circular date: 20 August 2026; it took effect immediately. - IFSCA was specified for access under Regulation 16A(1) of the SEBI KRA Regulations. - The objective is interoperability of KYC records and reduced duplication for clients accessing financial services in International Financial Services Centres. **Connection / Background:** KRAs centralise KYC records for the securities market; IFSCA is the unified regulator for financial products, services and institutions in India's International Financial Services Centres. **Exam Trap / What Changed:** KRA is a KYC-record infrastructure entity; it is not a credit-rating agency. SEBI circular ■

[Primary / authoritative source](#) ➤

45. SEBI studies: 87.7% of individual equity-derivatives traders lost money in FY26

16-22 Aug | Regulators, Markets, Insurance & Pensions

Why in News: The Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI) released studies on retail participation, trading behaviour and profitability in the equity derivatives segment for financial year 2025-26. **Key Exam Facts:** - Active individual traders declined by about 20%, from 98.1 lakh in FY25 to 78.6 lakh in FY26. - About 87.7% of individual traders incurred losses in FY26. - Aggregate individual losses were about Rs 91,685 crore; options accounted for roughly 92% of these losses. **Connection / Background:** Equity derivatives include futures and options. SEBI uses such studies to assess investor outcomes and market conduct; the findings are different from exchange turnover data. **Exam Trap / What Changed:** 87.7% is the share of individual traders who lost money, not a market return or a margin requirement. SEBI press release ■ INSURANCE | IRDAI IRDAI action: Acko and Niva Bupa barred from opening new places of business for six months

[Primary / authoritative source](#) ➤

46. IRDAI action: Acko and Niva Bupa barred from opening new places of business for six months

16-22 Aug | Regulators, Markets, Insurance & Pensions

Why in News: The Insurance Regulatory and Development Authority of India (IRDAI) disclosed enforcement orders against Acko General Insurance and Niva Bupa Health Insurance for exceeding prescribed Expenses of Management (EoM) limits.

Key Exam Facts: - Both insurers were directed not to open any new place of business for six months from the respective order date. - The orders relate to non-compliance with EoM limits for financial year 2024-25 under the IRDAI (Expenses of Management, including Commission, of Insurers) Regulations, 2024. - Acko's excess over allowable EoM was reported at Rs 334.78 crore; Niva Bupa's at Rs 248.37 crore. **Connection / Background:** EoM rules discipline operating and distribution costs, including commissions, so that insurer growth does not bypass prudential expense limits. **Exam Trap / What Changed:** This is a restriction on opening new places of business; it is not cancellation of the insurers' registration or a ban on serving existing policyholders. IRDAI - warnings and penalties ■

[Primary / authoritative source ↗](#)

47. FPIs invest Rs 23,544 crore in Indian equities in August so far

2026-08-24 | Regulators, Markets, Insurance & Pensions

Why in News: Latest depository data reported on 23 August showed Foreign Portfolio Investors (FPIs) remaining net buyers of Indian equities during August. **Key Exam Facts** - Net equity inflow so far in August: Rs 23,544 crore. - Stock-exchange purchases contributed Rs 14,118 crore; the primary market contributed Rs 9,426 crore. - In debt, the General Limit route saw an outflow of Rs 995 crore, Voluntary Retention Route (VRR) an outflow of Rs 83 crore, while Fully Accessible Route - (FAR) recorded an inflow of Rs 852 crore. **Connection / Background:** FPI money is portfolio capital invested in financial securities. It differs from Foreign Direct Investment (FDI), which is generally associated with a more lasting ownership/management interest. FPI flows can influence market liquidity, bond demand and the rupee. **Exam Trap / What Changed:** Do not mix the Rs 23,544 crore equity figure with debt flows. Also remember: FAR, VRR and the General Limit are debt-market access routes, not equity-market categories.

[Primary / authoritative source ↗](#)

48. SEBI aligns cyber-incident reporting portal with FSB FIRE format

2026-08-25 | Regulators, Markets, Insurance & Pensions

Why in News: SEBI aligns cyber-incident reporting portal with FSB FIRE format. **Key Exam Facts** - SEBI issued a circular on 24 August aligning its Cyber Incident Reporting Portal with the Financial Stability Board's - FIRE format. - FIRE stands for Format for Incident Reporting Exchange and is intended to standardise incident information and - improve comparability. - Exam link: FSB = Financial Stability Board; SEBI regulates India's securities market.

[Primary / authoritative source ↗](#)

49. SEBI introduces IT Resilience Index for Market Infrastructure Institutions

2026-08-25 | Regulators, Markets, Insurance & Pensions

Why in News: SEBI introduces IT Resilience Index for Market Infrastructure Institutions. **Key Exam Facts** - The ITRI framework measures robustness of critical IT systems of Market Infrastructure Institutions (MIIs). - Its design covers dimensions such as availability, security, integrity, governance, reliability/monitoring, business - continuity, flexibility and scalability. - Stock exchanges, clearing corporations and depositories are key MIIs. The index turns resilience into a - measurable supervisory metric.

[Primary / authoritative source ↗](#)

50. SEBI launches Cyber Suraksha Portal

2026-08-25 | Regulators, Markets, Insurance & Pensions

Why in News: SEBI launches Cyber Suraksha Portal. **Key Exam Facts** - SEBI launched the Cyber Suraksha Portal as a central hub for cybersecurity-related circulars, advisories, - threat/vulnerability information and knowledge resources. - The portal is aimed at easier access to cyber-security information across the securities-market ecosystem. - Connect this with SEBI's same-day FIRE reporting and ITRI measures - reporting, information sharing and - resilience form one cyber-supervision chain.

[Primary / authoritative source](#) ➤

51. SEBI, RRU and NISM announce cybersecurity capacity-building MoU

2026-08-25 | Regulators, Markets, Insurance & Pensions

Why in News: SEBI, RRU and NISM announce cybersecurity capacity-building MoU. **Key Exam Facts** - SEBI announced an MoU with Rashtriya Raksha University (RRU) and National Institute of Securities Markets - (NISM). - The partnership focuses on long-term training, research and capacity building in cybersecurity for the securities- - market ecosystem. - Exam link: NISM is SEBI's educational/capacity-building institution for securities markets; RRU focuses on national

[Primary / authoritative source](#) ➤

52. 26 August becomes compliance deadline for revised mutual-fund scheme categorisation framework

2026-08-27 | Regulators, Markets, Insurance & Pensions

Why in News: 26 August becomes compliance deadline for revised mutual-fund scheme categorisation framework. **Key Exam Facts** - SEBI's Mutual Fund Master Circular required existing schemes to align nomenclature, investment objective, strategy, - benchmark and other parameters with the revised scheme categories by 26 August 2026. - Such alignment changes are not treated as a fundamental attribute change under the specified provision. - Mutual Funds must also publish category-wise portfolio-overlap levels on AMC websites every month. - Connection / **Exam Trap:** Regulator link: Mutual Funds are regulated by SEBI, not RBI. The exam date here is the

[Primary / authoritative source](#) ➤

53. Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI) proposes merchant-banker exemption for qualifying small-value debt private placements The Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI) issued a consultation paper on 27 August proposing relief from mandatory merchant-banker appointment for certain listed issuers making small-value debt private placements. Key points

2026-08-28 | Regulators, Markets, Insurance & Pensions

Why in News: Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI) proposes merchant-banker exemption for qualifying small-value debt private placements The Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI) issued a consultation paper on 27 August proposing relief from mandatory merchant-banker appointment for certain listed issuers making small-value debt private placements. Key points. **Key Exam Facts** - For the proposal, small-value debt refers to debt securities or non-convertible redeemable preference - shares with face value of Rs 10,000 issued through private placement. - Eligible issuers would need to be regulated by an Indian financial-sector regulator, listed for at least - one year, free of specified pending fines, and have no relevant defaults in the previous three financial - years plus current year.

[Primary / authoritative source](#) ➤

54. IRDAI allows insurers to invest in NDB Maharajah INR Bonds A circular dated 27 August from the Insurance Regulatory and Development Authority of India (IRDAI) permits insurers to treat qualifying onshore rupee bonds of the New Development Bank (NDB) as approved investments. Key points

2026-08-28 | Regulators, Markets, Insurance & Pensions

Why in News: IRDAI allows insurers to invest in NDB Maharajah INR Bonds A circular dated 27 August from the Insurance Regulatory and Development Authority of India (IRDAI) permits insurers to treat qualifying onshore rupee bonds of the New Development Bank (NDB) as approved investments. Key points. **Key Exam Facts** - NDB proposes to raise Rs 25,000 crore over five years through Maharajah INR Bonds. - The proceeds are intended for general corporate purposes and financing/ onward lending to - sustainable development, sustainable infrastructure, green and social projects in India. - The onshore rupee bonds fall within the definition of securities and remain subject to applicable - investment-rating and regulatory conditions.

[Primary / authoritative source ↗](#)

55. SEBI extends implementation timeline for new ETF trading norms

2026-08-29 | Regulators, Markets, Insurance & Pensions

Why in News: The Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI) issued a circular on 28 August extending the implementation timeline for provisions of its 15 June 2026 framework for Exchange Traded Funds (ETFs). The underlying framework covers base price, price bands, call auction in the pre-open session and close-out procedure for ETFs. The fresh circular is an implementation-timeline extension, not a new ETF product category. Circular number: HO/47/11/11(1)2026-MRD-POD3/II/19839/2026. **Exam Trap / What Changed:** ETF = Exchange Traded Fund; unlike a conventional mutual-fund purchase, ETF units trade on an exchange during market hours.

[Primary / authoritative source ↗](#)

56. NEW: PFRDA standardises classification and presentation of NPS schemes

28 AUG | Regulators, Markets, Insurance & Pensions

Why in News: Pension Fund Regulatory and Development Authority (PFRDA) issued Circular PFRDA/2026/47/REG-PF/10 on 28 August 2026 and a separate operationalisation circular PFRDA/2026/48/REG-PF/11. **Key Exam Facts** - The framework removes the distinction between "Common Schemes" and schemes introduced under the Multiple Scheme Framework (MSF), creating a standardised classification/presentation architecture. **Connection / Background:** National Pension System (NPS) is regulated by PFRDA. Pension Funds manage subscriber assets while Central Recordkeeping Agencies (CRAs), Points of Presence (PoPs), Trustee Bank and Custodian perform distinct intermediary roles. **Exam Trap / What Changed:** The earlier Common Scheme vs MSF distinction should not be carried forward as a current classification divide.

[Primary / authoritative source ↗](#)

57. NEW: Revised NPS Point of Presence charge structure takes effect from 1 October 2026

28 AUG | Regulators, Markets, Insurance & Pensions

Why in News: PFRDA issued Circular PFRDA/2026/46/REG-POP/08 revising charges for Points of Presence (PoPs) across NPS and NPS Lite. **Key Exam Facts** - One-time onboarding charge: Rs 200 per Permanent Retirement Account Number (PRAN). A reduced Rs 100 may apply for fully digital, non-face-to-face onboarding as determined by PFRDA. Annual charge: 0.20% of Assets Under Management (AUM) per year, adjusted through Net Asset Value (NAV) and paid quarterly; dormant accounts are excluded. - Minimum contribution: Rs 250 at onboarding and Rs 10 for subsequent contributions. e-NPS-onboarded subscribers using e-NPS/D-Remit are not liable for PoP charges; subscribers originally onboarded through a PoP remain liable even if they later contribute through e-NPS/D-Remit. **Exam Trap / What Changed:** Effective 1 October 2026; it supersedes the 10 March 2026 PoP-charge circular and CRA implementation begins from Q3 FY 2026-27.

[Primary / authoritative source ↗](#)

58. QBUSE: unincorporated establishments rise to 8.67 crore; employment reaches 13.70 crore

2026-08-24 | Regulators, Markets, Insurance & Pensions

Why in News: The National Statistical Office released the April-June 2026 Quarterly Bulletin of Unincorporated Sector Enterprises (QBUSE), giving a high- frequency picture of the non-agricultural unincorporated economy. **Key Exam Facts** - Estimated establishments: 8.67 crore, up 9.20% year-on-year. - Employment: 13.70 crore, up 6.55% year-on-year. - Women accounted for more than 30% of total employment. - About 82% of establishments used the internet for entrepreneurial purposes and nearly 80% used cashless transaction modes. - The share reporting some form of registration rose to 42.5%. **Connection / Background:** QBUSE is a quarterly extension of the Annual Survey of Unincorporated Sector Enterprises (ASUSE). It captures manufacturing, trade and other services outside the incorporated-company framework. **Exam Trap / What Changed:** QBUSE is released by the National Statistical Office (NSO) under the Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation (MoSPI), not by RBI or SEBI.

[Primary / authoritative source](#) ➤

59. New Service Producer Price Indices released for Q1 FY27

2026-08-25 | Regulators, Markets, Insurance & Pensions

Why in News: New Service Producer Price Indices released for Q1 FY27. **Key Exam Facts** - The new SPPI series uses base year 2022-23. Q1 FY27 values include Securities Transaction Service 89.9 and - Banking Service 100.9. - Pension Fund Management rose to 113.3; Insurance remained 102.9; Telecom 112.2; Railway Passenger 103.4; - Air Passenger 126.4. **Exam Trap / What Changed:** SPPI measures producer-side service prices; do not confuse it with CPI, WPI or GDP deflators. **MARKETS & SEBI**

[Primary / authoritative source](#) ➤

60. Nandan Nilekani-led task force seeks inputs on public-examination reform

2026-08-29 | Regulators, Markets, Insurance & Pensions

Why in News: A High-Powered Task Force (HPTF) chaired by Nandan Nilekani invited public suggestions on reforms in public examinations. The scope covers conduct, security, design and governance of public examinations, including those conducted by the National Testing Agency (NTA). Areas include technology, examination infrastructure, accessibility, inclusion and student well-being. Last date for submissions: 13 September 2026. **Exam Trap / What Changed:** Nilekani is chair of the HPTF; this release does not appoint him to NTA.

[Primary / authoritative source](#) ➤

61. IFSCA update tracker: ETF secondary-listing consultation, FME website rule and ISIN timeline extension

25-27 AUG | Regulators, Markets, Insurance & Pensions

Why in News: International Financial Services Centres Authority (IFSCA) issued three capital-market/fund-management updates during 25-27 August. **Key Exam Facts** - 27 August - consultation paper on secondary listing of Exchange Traded Funds (ETFs) in International Financial Services Centres (IFSCs). 26 August - Fund Management Entities (FMEs) required to maintain a website or webpage. 25 August - timeline extended for obtaining International Securities Identification Numbers (ISINs) from a recognised depository in IFSC. **Connection / Background:** IFSCA is the unified regulator for permitted financial products, services and institutions in India's IFSCs; GIFT IFSC is located in Gujarat International Finance Tec-City. **Exam Trap / What Changed:** SEBI regulates domestic securities markets; IFSCA regulates securities-market activity inside IFSC within its statutory remit.

[Primary / authoritative source](#) ➤

62. PFRDA enables same-day investment of NPS contributions received by Trustee Bank up to 1:30 PM

04 Aug | Regulators, Markets, Insurance & Pensions

Why in News: Pension Fund Regulatory and Development Authority (PFRDA) issued a 4 August circular enabling same-day investment of National Pension System contributions received by the Trustee Bank up to 1:30 PM. **Connection:** earlier investment timing can reduce idle-day lag between contribution receipt and market investment. **Exam Trap:** 1:30 PM is the cut-off in this circular; do not confuse it with bank branch or stock-market closing time.

[Primary / authoritative source](#) ➤

63. IFSCA updates AML, CFT and KYC Guidelines and payment-system soundness consultation

03-04 Aug | Regulators, Markets, Insurance & Pensions

Why in News: International Financial Services Centres Authority (IFSCA) modified its Anti-Money Laundering, Counter-Terrorist Financing and Know Your Customer guidelines on 3 August and on 4 August opened consultation on financial-soundness criteria for Payment System Operators in IFSC. **Connection:** IFSCA is the unified regulator for permitted financial services in International Financial Services Centres. **Exam Trap:** IFSCA regulates IFSC financial services; NPCI operates several domestic retail payment rails.

[Primary / authoritative source](#) ➤

64. SEBI extends PaRRVA enrolment timeline

03 Aug | Regulators, Markets, Insurance & Pensions

Why in News: Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI) extended the timeline for enrolment with PaRRVA under its 3 August circular. **Connection:** this is a securities-market regulatory compliance timeline. **Exam Trap:** timeline extensions change an implementation date; they do not automatically change the underlying regulatory objective.

[Primary / authoritative source](#) ➤

65. IFSCA specifies certification courses and valid Letter of Approval requirement

06-10 Aug | Regulators, Markets, Insurance & Pensions

Why in News: IFSCA specified certification requirements for capital-market intermediary employees on 6 August, directed regulated entities to maintain a valid and subsisting Letter of Approval under the SEZ Act, and on 10 August specified certification for Fund Management Entity employees. **Connection:** these are operational compliance requirements inside IFSC regulation.

[Primary / authoritative source](#) ➤

66. SEBI amends municipal debt securities framework

11 Aug | Regulators, Markets, Insurance & Pensions

Why in News: SEBI issued an 11 August circular linked to amendments in the Issue and Listing of Municipal Debt Securities framework. **Connection:** municipal bonds are debt securities used by urban local bodies/municipal entities to access capital-market funding subject to SEBI rules. **Exam Trap:** municipal debt is a capital-market borrowing instrument, not an RBI municipal grant.

[Primary / authoritative source](#) ➤

Payments, FinTech & Digital Economy 16 updates

67. Digital Rupee enters food-subsidy delivery through PMGKAY

12-15 Aug | Payments, FinTech & Digital Economy

Why in news: The Government announced a Central Bank Digital Currency (CBDC)-based Direct Benefit Transfer (DBT) model for food subsidy in Chandigarh and Dadra & Nagar Haveli. - Pradhan Mantri Garib Kalyan Anna Yojana (PMGKAY) beneficiaries in the two Union Territories will receive the food-subsidy value through programmable CBDC tokens in digital-rupee wallets. - The tokens can be used to purchase foodgrains from empanelled merchants. - Chandigarh and Dadra & Nagar Haveli are the first Union Territories to operationalise food-subsidy transfers to all eligible PMGKAY beneficiaries through programmable CBDC tokens. - The model builds on earlier pilots in Puducherry and Gujarat. **Connection:** CBDC is the digital form of sovereign currency issued by the Reserve Bank of India (RBI). Here, CBDC is being connected with DBT architecture and a welfare scheme - so one current event can generate banking-awareness, digital-payment and government-scheme questions. **Remember / possible trap:** CBDC and Unified Payments Interface (UPI) are not the same. UPI is a payment interface that transfers bank-account money; CBDC is central-bank money in digital form.

[Primary / authoritative source](#) ➤

68. Financial Inclusion 2026: accounts, DBT, insurance, pension, credit and UPI in one chain

12-15 Aug | Payments, FinTech & Digital Economy

Why in news: PIB released a major financial-inclusion factsheet with updated banking, social-security and digital-payment data. - Reserve Bank of India Financial Inclusion (FI) Index: 70.0 in March 2026, up from 43.4 in March 2017. - India had more than 1.81 lakh bank branches as of 17 July 2026; 99.92% of villages were covered by banking outlets within a 5-km radius as of 6 March 2026. - India Post Payments Bank (IPPB) served more than 11 crore customers through more than 1.65 lakh post offices. - Jan Dhan-Aadhaar-Mobile (JAM) enabled cumulative Direct Benefit Transfer of Rs 52,89,019 crore across 320 schemes of 56 ministries as of 10 August 2026. - Pradhan Mantri Jeevan Jyoti Bima Yojana (PMJJBY): Rs 2 lakh life cover, age 18-50, annual premium Rs 436. - Pradhan Mantri Suraksha Bima Yojana (PMSBY): Rs 2 lakh accidental death/full disability cover, Rs 1 lakh partial disability cover, age 18-70, annual premium Rs 20. - Atal Pension Yojana (APY): guaranteed pension of Rs 1,000-Rs 5,000 per month after age 60; 9.29 crore subscribers as of 30 June 2026. - Unified Payments Interface (UPI), July 2026: 2,365.8 crore transactions worth Rs 29,87,880.49 crore; 741 banks live on UPI. **Connection:** Use one retrieval chain: Pradhan Mantri Jan-Dhan Yojana (PMJDY) -> JAM -> DBT -> insurance/pension -> inclusive credit -> UPI. This is easier to retain than eight unrelated facts. **Remember / possible trap:** The FI Index measures access, usage and quality. UPI transaction volume, transaction value and number of live banks are three separate figures.

[Primary / authoritative source](#) ➤

69. NIELIT launches CYBER KUSHTI 2026, a national cybersecurity and AI hackathon

16-22 Aug | Payments, FinTech & Digital Economy

Why in News: The National Institute of Electronics and Information Technology (NIELIT) launched CYBER KUSHTI 2026 on 15 August, with the formal release issued on 16 August. **Key Exam Facts:** - NIELIT works under the Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology (MeitY). - The hackathon is designed to test human judgement in cybersecurity assessment, not merely detection speed. - The final round will be held at the 3rd National Conference on Cyber Security, Digital Forensics and Intelligence (NCCDFI 2026). - AI stands for Artificial Intelligence. **Connection / Background:** This is useful for science-tech GA because it combines a government institution, cybersecurity, digital forensics and AI. **Exam Trap / What Changed:** NIELIT is not under the Ministry of Education; it is under MeitY.

[Primary / authoritative source](#) ➤

70. Qatar-India PosTransfer remittance corridor goes live through Qatar Post, powered by UPI

16-22 Aug | Payments, FinTech & Digital Economy

Why in News: A postal remittance service integrating the Universal Postal Union Interconnection Platform (UPU-IP) with India's Unified Payments Interface (UPI) became available through Qatar Post outlets. **Key Exam Facts:** - Partners: Qatar Post, India Post, UPU-IP and NPCI International Payments Limited (NIPL). - The service became available in Qatar on 15 August 2026 and was officially detailed by the Government of India on 17 August. - A sender provides the recipient's UPI ID; the Indian recipient must enable foreign inward remittances in the UPI app. Credit is then made to the UPI-enabled bank account. - Transaction range: QAR 10 to QAR 4,000, subject to a maximum equivalent of Rs 1,00,000 per transaction; flat service charge QAR 15. **Connection / Background:** NIPL is the international arm of NPCI. PosTransfer uses postal networks for cross-border remittance while UPI provides the last-mile digital credit into India. **Exam Trap / What Changed:** This is an inward remittance service from Qatar to India; it is not a domestic UPI person-to-person transfer and not a Qatar central-bank CBDC project.

[Primary / authoritative source ↗](#)

71. Shabnam Sinha named incoming Chairperson of Airtel Payments Bank

16-22 Aug | Payments, FinTech & Digital Economy

Why in News: Airtel Payments Bank announced a board transition: Shabnam Sinha will succeed Sunil Bharti Mittal as Chairperson. **Key Exam Facts:** - Sinha will take charge for a three-year term beginning 1 October 2026. - Sunil Bharti Mittal will step down as Non-Executive Chairman and leave the Board effective 30 September 2026. - The appointment has been approved by the Bank's Board and by the Reserve Bank of India (RBI). - Sinha was already an Independent Director at Airtel Payments Bank and chairs its Special Committee for Monitoring Frauds. **Connection / Background:** Payments Banks are differentiated banks designed mainly for deposits, payments and remittance services; they cannot undertake conventional lending from their own balance sheet. **Exam Trap / What Changed:** The announcement date was 17 August, but the new Chairperson's term starts on 1 October 2026.

[Primary / authoritative source ↗](#)

72. Public Sector Bank (PSB) Confluence 2026 concludes with youth-banking campaign and common digital platform proposal

16-22 Aug | Payments, FinTech & Digital Economy

Why in News: The two-day Public Sector Bank Confluence organised by the Department of Financial Services (DFS), Ministry of Finance, concluded on 18 August 2026. Only the new Day-2 outcomes are included here because Day-1 themes were covered earlier. **Key Exam Facts:** - A focused month-long banking campaign for youth above 16 years is to begin on 2 October 2026 and be coordinated through the Indian Banks' Association (IBA). - A common online portal/application was proposed to give young people simple banking information along with education, skilling and entrepreneurship opportunities. - Day 2 focused on Agriculture and Horticulture Value Chain Infrastructure, Priority Sector Lending (PSL) and Reimagining Credit Card Business. - Credit-card discussions included digital onboarding, cross-selling and RuPay integration with the Unified Payments Interface (UPI). **Connection / Background:** Connect this with financial inclusion: the policy focus is shifting from merely opening accounts to early engagement, digital access, credit behaviour and long-term customer relationships. **Exam Trap / What Changed:** UPDATE only: do not repeat the earlier Day-1 four-theme fact block. The new exam facts are the 2 October youth campaign, IBA coordination and proposed common portal/app.

[Primary / authoritative source ↗](#)

73. Unique Identification Authority of India (UIDAI) crosses 2 crore Mandatory Biometric Updates for school children

16-22 Aug | Payments, FinTech & Digital Economy

Why in News The Unique Identification Authority of India (UIDAI) reported a major milestone in the school-based Mandatory Biometric Update (MBU) drive. **Key Exam Facts:** - More than 2 crore Mandatory Biometric Updates were completed across about 1.56 lakh schools. - The drive is integrated with the Unified District Information System for Education Plus (UDISE+) ecosystem. - Mandatory biometric updates are associated with the age milestones of 5 years and 15 years. - Biometric update charges are waived for children aged 5-17 years up to 30 September 2026 under the current arrangement.

Connection / Background: Aadhaar biometrics change as children grow, so MBU is an identity-quality measure rather than a new Aadhaar enrolment. **Exam Trap / What Changed:** Remember the age milestones: 5 and 15 years. Do not confuse MBU with ordinary demographic updates such as address or mobile-number changes.

[Primary / authoritative source ↗](#)

74. DPIIT expands startup support through separate partnerships with PhonePe and Shell India

16-22 Aug | Payments, FinTech & Digital Economy

Why in News: The Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade (DPIIT) announced separate industry partnerships with PhonePe and Shell India to support DPIIT-recognised startups. **Key Exam Facts:** - The partnerships focus on access to technology/digital infrastructure, mentorship, market opportunities and industry networks. - They are ecosystem-support agreements rather than direct government equity investments in startups. - DPIIT administers the Startup India recognition framework under the Ministry of Commerce and Industry. **Connection / Background:** Startup India recognition can connect eligible firms to policy incentives and ecosystem support; corporate MoUs add mentorship and market-access channels. **Exam Trap / What Changed:** Do not confuse the DPIIT-PhonePe startup MoU with the separate PhonePe PulsePro-MeitY data-planning MoU. DPIIT / Ministry of Commerce & Industry ■ PIB ■ DIGITAL IDENTITY | UIDAI Aadhaar App crosses 5 crore downloads; update usage rises sharply

[Primary / authoritative source ↗](#)

75. Aadhaar App crosses 5 crore downloads; update usage rises sharply

16-22 Aug | Payments, FinTech & Digital Economy

Why in News: The Aadhaar App crossed 50 million (5 crore) downloads, marking another adoption milestone for mobile-based digital identity services. **Key Exam Facts:** - More than 60 lakh mobile-number updates, over 15 lakh address updates and more than 23 lakh email updates were reported through the app. - Services include mobile/address/email update, biometric lock/unlock and e-Aadhaar download. - More than 200 Offline Verification Seeking Entities (OVSEs) had been onboarded for consent-based offline identity verification. **Connection / Background:** The Unique Identification Authority of India (UIDAI) is the statutory authority for Aadhaar; offline verification can use QR/digitally signed data without exposing unnecessary identity fields. **Exam Trap / What Changed:** App downloads are not the same as the number of Aadhaar holders or the number of Aadhaar authentications. UIDAI ■ MeitY ■

[Primary / authoritative source ↗](#)

76. UPDATE: Digital BRICS Forum & Expo held in Pune; cyber trust and resilient ICT ecosystems in focus

16-22 Aug | Payments, FinTech & Digital Economy

Why in News: The Digital BRICS Forum and Expo was held on 20 August as the outcome-stage event within the ongoing BRICS Information and Communication Technologies (ICT) Track in Pune. **Key Exam Facts:** - The forum brought together government, industry, academia, startups and research institutions. - Panel themes included Cybersecurity and Trustworthy ICT, Child Online Protection, and Sustainable and Resilient Digital and ICT Ecosystems. - The 12th BRICS Communications Ministers Meeting was scheduled for 21 August as the next high-level stage. **Connection / Background:** This is a material update to the previously announced BRICS ICT schedule: the new fact is the forum's actual holding and thematic outcome on 20 August. **Exam Trap / What Changed:** Do not republish the old five-day schedule as fresh news; remember Digital Forum = 20 August, Ministers Meeting = 21 August. PIB - BRICS ICT Track ■ BRICS | SCIENCE 16th BRICS STI Senior Officials Meeting concludes in Chennai

[Primary / authoritative source ↗](#)

77. UPI completes 10 years; FY26 volume crosses 24,162 crore transactions

2026-08-25 | Payments, FinTech & Digital Economy

Why in News: UPI completes 10 years; FY26 volume crosses 24,162 crore transactions. **Key Exam Facts** - The 24-August anniversary release treats 25 August 2016 as UPI's launch date by NPCI under RBI oversight. - FY16-17: 1.78 crore transactions worth Rs 0.07 lakh crore with 44 banks; FY25-26: over 24,162 crore transactions - worth about Rs 314 lakh crore with 703 banks. - UPI is presently operational in 11 countries and has become a major cross-border digital-payments platform.

[Primary / authoritative source ↗](#)

78. India-Cambodia trade grows over 36%; UPI-KHQR linkage advances

2026-08-25 | Payments, FinTech & Digital Economy

Why in News: India-Cambodia trade grows over 36%; UPI-KHQR linkage advances. **Key Exam Facts** - The 3rd India-Cambodia Joint Working Group on Trade and Investment met in Phnom Penh on 24 August. - Bilateral trade rose over 36% to US\$406.78 million in FY25-26 from US\$299 million; Apr-Jun 2026 trade grew - 63.25% year-on-year. - The sides welcomed UPI acceptance at KHQR merchants, launched 2 June, and discussed the next phase - enabling Cambodian apps to scan UPI QR in India.

[Primary / authoritative source ↗](#)

79. RBI approves three-month extension for Ketan Merchant as Interim CEO of Fino Payments Bank

2026-08-27 | Payments, FinTech & Digital Economy

Why in News: RBI approves three-month extension for Ketan Merchant as Interim CEO of Fino Payments Bank. **Key Exam Facts** - Fino Payments Bank disclosed the RBI approval on 26 August 2026. - The extension runs for three months from 27 August 2026 or until the regular MD & CEO takes charge, whichever is - earlier. - The approval follows the bank board's earlier proposal to continue the interim leadership arrangement. - Connection / **Exam Trap:** Fino is a Payments Bank. Do not confuse an Interim CEO extension with conversion approval or

[Primary / authoritative source ↗](#)

80. Parishrama Adalat resolves 65 delayed-payment cases worth Rs 8.29 crore

2026-08-26 | Payments, FinTech & Digital Economy

Why in News: Parishrama Adalat resolves 65 delayed-payment cases worth Rs 8.29 crore. **Key Exam Facts** - The Hyderabad event focused on delayed dues to Micro and Small Enterprises and used conciliation and Online - Dispute Resolution approaches. - Resolution of delayed payments improves working-capital continuity for MSEs. - Connection / **Exam Trap:** Link this with the MSMED Act, MSE Facilitation Councils and the MSME Samadhaan mechanism. - BANKING LEGENDS | 26 AUG 2026

[Primary / authoritative source](#) ➔

81. India-Uzbekistan UPI merchant acceptance agreement links UPI with UZQR

30 Aug | Payments, FinTech & Digital Economy

Why in News: On 30 August, NPCI International Payments Limited and Uzbekistan interbank processing partner signed an agreement to enable Indian travellers to pay by scanning Uzbekistan national interoperable QR code UZQR. **Connection:** NIPL is the international arm of National Payments Corporation of India. **Exam Trap:** UZQR is the destination-country QR infrastructure; UPI is the Indian payment rail.

[Primary / authoritative source](#) ➔

82. iFMS fertilizer system connects more than 14 crore Aadhaar-linked buyers

30 Aug | Payments, FinTech & Digital Economy

Why in News: The Integrated Fertilizer Management System (iFMS) was highlighted as a digital fertiliser-distribution and monitoring platform connecting more than 14 crore Aadhaar-linked buyers. **Connection:** fertiliser DBT and point-of-sale data improve subsidy targeting and supply monitoring.

[Primary / authoritative source](#) ➔

Economy, Data, Trade & Business 25 updates

83. July 2026 CPI inflation at 4.45%; food inflation at 5.52%

12-15 Aug | Economy, Data, Trade & Business

Why in news: The Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation (MoSPI) released the July 2026 Consumer Price Index (CPI) on the new base year 2024=100. - All-India CPI inflation: 4.45% year-on-year (provisional). - Rural CPI inflation: 4.84%; urban CPI inflation: 3.96%. - Consumer Food Price Index (CFPI) inflation: 5.52%; rural 5.79%, urban 5.05%. - Housing inflation: 2.22%. - June 2026 final combined CPI inflation was 4.38%. **Connection:** CPI is the key retail-inflation measure used in monetary-policy discussion. The new CPI series uses base year 2024=100, while the revised National Accounts series uses 2022-23 as base year. **Remember / possible trap:** Do not mix up CPI base year 2024 with National Accounts base year 2022-23. Also, 5.52% is food inflation, not headline CPI inflation.

[Primary / authoritative source](#) ➔

84. Manufacturing GVA records 10.88% CAGR in revised national-accounts series

12-15 Aug | Economy, Data, Trade & Business

Why in news: MoSPI published manufacturing data based on the revised National Accounts Statistics series. - The National Accounts base year was revised from 2011-12 to 2022-23; the revised series was released in February 2026. - Manufacturing share in total Gross Value Added (GVA) at current prices: 14.8% in 2025-26 (Provisional Estimates). - Manufacturing GVA growth at constant prices: 10.7% in 2025-26. - Compound Annual Growth Rate (CAGR) of manufacturing GVA at constant prices during 2022-23 to 2025-26: 10.88%. **Connection:** GVA measures value added by producers/sectors. Gross Domestic Product (GDP) incorporates product taxes minus product subsidies on top of GVA. **Remember / possible trap:** 10.88% is the CAGR for 2022-23 to 2025-26, not the single-year 2025-26 growth rate of 10.7%.

[Primary / authoritative source](#) ➔

85. India and SACU sign Terms of Reference for preferential-trade negotiations

12-15 Aug | Economy, Data, Trade & Business

Why in news: India and the Southern African Customs Union (SACU) signed Terms of Reference (ToR) for negotiations towards a Preferential Trade Agreement (PTA). - SACU members: Botswana, Eswatini, Lesotho, Namibia and South Africa. - SACU is the world's oldest functioning customs union, formally established in 1910. - Its headquarters is in Windhoek, Namibia. **Connection:** A PTA generally provides tariff preferences on an agreed list of products and is narrower than a comprehensive free-trade arrangement. **Remember / possible trap:** SACU has five members. Zimbabwe and Zambia are not SACU members.

[Primary / authoritative source](#) ➤

86. PLFS April-June 2026: unemployment rate at 5.4%

12-15 Aug | Economy, Data, Trade & Business

Why in news: The National Statistics Office released the quarterly Periodic Labour Force Survey (PLFS) bulletin for April-June 2026. - Unemployment Rate (UR) for persons aged 15 years and above: 5.4%. - Labour Force Participation Rate (LFPR): 54.6%. - Rural LFPR: 56.9%; urban LFPR: 50.2%. - The overall UR was 0.4 percentage points higher than the previous quarter. **Connection:** PLFS is the regular official labour-market survey. UR and LFPR are different indicators: unemployment is a share of the labour force; LFPR measures participation in the labour force. **Remember / possible trap:** 5.4% is the quarterly April-June unemployment rate; a monthly PLFS release may show a different value.

[Primary / authoritative source](#) ➤

87. July 2026 Wholesale Price Index inflation eases slightly to 9.78%

12-15 Aug | Economy, Data, Trade & Business

Why in News: The Office of the Economic Adviser released the July 2026 Wholesale Price Index (WPI), Output Producer Price Index (PPI) and Input PPI. WPI inflation was 9.78% year-on-year, compared with 9.87% in June. **Key Exam Facts** - The All Commodities WPI (base year 2022-23) stood at 110.0 in July 2026. - The July indices for Primary Articles, Fuel and Power, and Manufactured Products were 117.2, 105.4 and 108.4 respectively. - The new WPI series uses 2022-23 as base year and contains 957 items, up from 697 in the old series. **Connection / Background:** WPI tracks prices at the wholesale/producer side, while Consumer Price Index (CPI) measures retail prices faced by consumers. India is transitioning toward broader PPI use, while WPI will continue during the transition period. **Exam Trap / What Changed:** Do not confuse the WPI base year 2022-23 with the older 2011-12 series.

[Primary / authoritative source](#) ➤

88. DRI detects more than Rs 2,500 crore customs-duty evasion in areca-nut imports

16-22 Aug | Economy, Data, Trade & Business

Why in News: The Directorate of Revenue Intelligence (DRI) uncovered a syndicate allegedly routing South-East Asian areca nuts as Bangladesh-origin goods to claim preferential tariff treatment. **Key Exam Facts:** - Potential revenue loss detected: more than Rs 2,500 crore. - Nine persons were arrested. - Rs 75 lakh cash and about 160 metric tonnes of areca nuts were seized. - Areca-nut imports ordinarily attract 100% Basic Customs Duty; qualifying Bangladesh-origin goods can get benefit under the South Asian Free Trade Area (SAFTA), subject to Rules of Origin. **Connection / Background:** The case is a clean exam linkage between customs duty, preferential trade agreements and Rules of Origin. **Exam Trap / What Changed:** SAFTA preference depends on genuine origin compliance; routing goods through a member country does not by itself establish origin.

[Primary / authoritative source](#) ➤

89. Department of Fisheries reiterates fisher empowerment and Blue Economy focus

16-22 Aug | Economy, Data, Trade & Business

Why in News: The Department of Fisheries used the Independence Day observance to highlight its commitment to fishers, fisheries growth and the Blue Economy. **Key Exam Facts:** - The Department functions under the Ministry of Fisheries, Animal Husbandry and Dairying. - Blue Economy refers broadly to sustainable economic use of ocean and aquatic resources. - Fisheries policy links livelihoods, exports, food security, aquaculture and coastal development. - For banking exams, fisheries also connects to Kisan Credit Card coverage for allied activities. **Connection / Background:** This is a useful static-current bridge: ministry structure + Blue Economy + allied-sector credit. **Exam Trap / What Changed:** Blue Economy is wider than marine fishing alone; it includes broader sustainable ocean-related economic activity.

[Primary / authoritative source](#) ➤

90. July 2026 PLFS: unemployment rate falls to 5.1%; labour-force participation improves

16-22 Aug | Economy, Data, Trade & Business

Why in News: The Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation (MoSPI) released the July 2026 Monthly Bulletin of the Periodic Labour Force Survey (PLFS). **Key Exam Facts:** - Overall Unemployment Rate (UR) for persons aged 15 years and above fell to 5.1% in July from 5.5% in June. - Rural UR declined to 4.5% from 5.0%, while urban UR was 6.7% versus 6.6% in June. - Labour Force Participation Rate (LFPR) rose to 55.4% from 54.4%. - Worker Population Ratio (WPR) rose to 52.5% from 51.4%; female LFPR improved to 34.4% from 32.7%. **Connection / Background:** UR measures the unemployed as a share of the labour force; LFPR measures the share of the population that is working or seeking/available for work; WPR measures the share actually employed. **Exam Trap / What Changed:** A lower UR does not by itself prove employment rose; read it together with LFPR and WPR. In July, both participation and worker ratio also increased.

[Primary / authoritative source](#) ➤

91. India-Japan bilateral trade reaches about US\$27.5 billion in financial year 2025-26

16-22 Aug | Economy, Data, Trade & Business

Why in News: A late 18 August official release highlighted the scale of India-Japan trade and investment ties. **Key Exam Facts:** - Bilateral trade in financial year 2025-26 was about US\$27.5 billion. - Japan was identified as India's fifth-largest source of Foreign Direct Investment (FDI). - More than 1,400 Japanese companies operate in India, with 11 Japanese industrial townships across 8 states. - At the July 2026 India-Japan Annual Summit, Japan set a target of investing 10 trillion yen in India over the next decade. **Connection / Background:** Remember the chain: Japan -> FDI -> industrial townships -> long-term investment target. This is more useful than memorising the trade number alone. **Exam Trap / What Changed:** 10 trillion yen is an investment target over the next decade; it is not the annual bilateral trade figure.

[Primary / authoritative source](#) ➤

92. Official trade-agreement review puts financial year 2025-26 combined exports at record US\$863.1 billion

16-22 Aug | Economy, Data, Trade & Business

Why in News: A Press Information Bureau backgrounder reviewed India's active trade agreements and released consolidated export figures. **Key Exam Facts:** - Combined merchandise and services exports in financial year 2025-26 reached a record US\$863.1 billion. - Merchandise exports were US\$441.8 billion. - For April-June 2026, combined exports were estimated at US\$232.73 billion, up 11.37% year-on-year. - The India-United Arab Emirates Comprehensive Economic Partnership Agreement (CEPA) has been in force since 1 May 2022; the India-Australia Economic Cooperation and Trade Agreement (ECTA) since 29 December 2022. **Connection / Background:** Trade agreements affect market access, but the exam can ask either the agreement name/effective date or the latest export totals. **Exam Trap / What Changed:** US\$863.1 billion is merchandise plus services; US\$441.8 billion is merchandise alone.

[Primary / authoritative source](#) ➤

93. international affairs, science, defence, sports and important days - connected for retention and exam use. RBI Central Board: S. Somanath appointed; Anand Mahindra reappointed

16-22 Aug | Economy, Data, Trade & Business

Why in News: The Government appointed Somanath Sreedhara Panicker, former Chairman of the Indian Space Research Organisation, as a part-time non-official Director on the Central Board of the Reserve Bank of India (RBI), and reappointed Anand Gopal Mahindra in the same category. **Key Exam Facts:** - Both appointments are for four years with effect from 20 August 2026. - The RBI Central Board includes official directors and non-official directors appointed/nominated under the Reserve Bank of India Act, 1934. - This is a governance appointment to the central bank; it is not an appointment to the six-member Monetary Policy Committee. **Connection / Background:** For exams, separate the RBI Central Board (institutional governance) from the Monetary Policy Committee (policy-rate decisions). **Exam Trap / What Changed:** S. Somanath is the former Indian Space Research Organisation Chairman; Anand Mahindra is Chairman of Mahindra Group. RBI - S. Somanath appointment ■ RBI - Anand Mahindra reappointment ■ BANKING | LIQUIDITY RBI absorbs surplus liquidity through two overnight VRRR auctions

[Primary / authoritative source](#) ➤

94. Duty-free raw-sugar import quota of 10 lakh tonnes allowed till 31 October

16-22 Aug | Economy, Data, Trade & Business

Why in News: The Directorate General of Foreign Trade (DGFT) notified a Tariff Rate Quota (TRQ) for duty-free import of raw sugar to augment domestic availability. **Key Exam Facts:** - Notification No. 31/2026-27 permits 10 lakh metric tonnes of raw sugar under the TRQ. - The window is available up to 31 October 2026, subject to the notified conditions. - The measure concerns raw sugar; it does not mean a blanket duty waiver on all refined/white sugar imports. **Connection / Background:** A TRQ allows a specified quantity to be imported at a lower or zero tariff; imports beyond the quota remain subject to the normal tariff regime. **Exam Trap / What Changed:** TRQ is quantity-linked tariff relief, not an unrestricted free-import policy. DGFT notifications ■

[Primary / authoritative source](#) ➤

95. FTP amended: eligible export receipts in Indian Rupees get parity with foreign-currency earnings

16-22 Aug | Economy, Data, Trade & Business

Why in News: The Directorate General of Foreign Trade (DGFT) amended the Foreign Trade Policy (FTP) 2023 to broaden recognition of export contracts and receipts settled in Indian Rupees (INR). **Key Exam Facts:** - Notification No. 30/2026-27 amended paragraphs 2.52 and 2.53 of FTP 2023 with immediate effect. - For non-Asian Clearing Union transactions, export contracts/invoices may be denominated in foreign currency or INR and proceeds may be realised in either. - INR receipts for exports to countries other than Nepal and Bhutan through approved banking channels are eligible for FTP benefits/incentives and export-obligation fulfilment at par with foreign-currency earnings, subject to the specified exceptions. **Connection / Background:** The change aligns trade-policy benefits with permitted cross-border rupee settlement under the foreign-exchange framework and supports greater use of INR in international trade. **Exam Trap / What Changed:** This is not a common BRICS currency and it does not make every cross-border rupee transaction automatically eligible; banking/FEMA and country-specific conditions still apply. DGFT notifications ■ GOVERNMENT SCHEME | HOUSING Over 11.18 lakh PMAY-G houses approved for Bihar; allocation about Rs 13,427 crore

[Primary / authoritative source](#) ➤

96. RBI releases August 2026 Bulletin with State of the Economy assessment

2026-08-26 | Economy, Data, Trade & Business

Why in News: RBI releases August 2026 Bulletin with State of the Economy assessment. **Key Exam Facts** - The Bulletin includes the 3-5 August monetary-policy material, six speeches, the State of the Economy article and - current statistics. - The assessment said domestic activity remained resilient, demand was buoyant, manufacturing and services - strengthened, and liquidity conditions eased. - Headline CPI inflation edged up mainly because of food prices while core inflation remained broadly stable.

[Primary / authoritative source](#) ➤

97. DGFT frees exports of wheat and wheat-flour products

2026-08-25 | Economy, Data, Trade & Business

Why in News: DGFT frees exports of wheat and wheat-flour products. **Key Exam Facts** - Notification 34/2026-27 changed export policy of wheat/meslin flour and related products under HS 11010000 - from Prohibited to Free. - Notification 35/2026-27 similarly changed specified wheat tariff lines including other durum wheat and wheat - seed/other wheat lines from Prohibited to Free. - Both notifications are dated 24 August 2026 and take immediate effect. Exam link: DGFT functions under the

[Primary / authoritative source](#) ➤

98. National Traders' Welfare Board holds its 100th virtual interaction meeting

2026-08-26 | Economy, Data, Trade & Business

Why in News: National Traders' Welfare Board holds its 100th virtual interaction meeting. **Key Exam Facts** - The 100th VC meeting marked a milestone in regular government engagement with retail traders across India. - The dedicated virtual platform was proposed at the Board's second meeting on 7 February 2024 to disseminate - schemes, receive grievances and collect suggestions. - Connection / **Exam Trap:** Remember the institution: National Traders' Welfare Board (NTWB), under the commerce - ecosystem, focuses on trader welfare and engagement.

[Primary / authoritative source](#) ➤

99. NITI Aayog clarifies that the "8.7 crore NEET youth" figure is not an unemployment count

2026-08-26 | Economy, Data, Trade & Business

Why in News: NITI Aayog clarifies that the "8.7 crore NEET youth" figure is not an unemployment count. **Key Exam Facts** - The figure comes from the report "Reimagining Skilling for Viksit Bharat@2047". - NEET means Not in Education, Employment or Training; the report category cannot be read directly as the number of - unemployed youth. - The Union Budget 2026-27 announced a Rs 600 crore Integrated Scheme in Skilling Architecture (ISSA) for - convergence across education, skilling and employment.

[Primary / authoritative source](#) ➤

100. India-Seychelles meeting seeks stronger fisheries, aquaculture and blue-economy cooperation

2026-08-27 | Economy, Data, Trade & Business

Why in News: India-Seychelles meeting seeks stronger fisheries, aquaculture and blue-economy cooperation. **Key Exam Facts** - The high-level meeting was held on 25 August and officially released on 26 August by India's Department of - Fisheries. - The Seychelles delegation was led by Fisheries, Agriculture and Blue Economy Minister Wallace Cosgrow. - Seychelles expressed interest in accelerating a dedicated bilateral MoU in fisheries and aquaculture with an - advanced work plan.

[Primary / authoritative source](#) ➤

101. Defence export SOP and OGEL framework simplified

2026-08-29 | Economy, Data, Trade & Business

Why in News: The Department of Defence Production announced reforms to simplify defence-export procedures. SOP = Standard Operating Procedure; OGEL = Open General Export Licence. The objective is to reduce procedural burden and improve access to international markets while retaining national-security safeguards. The reform is linked to Make in India and Aatmanirbhar Bharat objectives. **Exam Trap / What Changed:** OGEL is a licensing facilitation framework; it does not mean unrestricted export of all defence items.

[Primary / authoritative source ↗](#)

102. UPDATE: India and Morocco target doubling bilateral trade in five years

24-26 AUG | Economy, Data, Trade & Business

Why in News: The 7th India-Morocco Joint Commission Meeting progressed from the pre-meeting agenda to a five-year ambition to double bilateral trade. **Key Exam Facts** - Cooperation covered trade, investment, food safety, standards and sectoral market access. **Connection / Background:** Morocco is a key North African partner and a major phosphate/fertiliser-linked economy. **Exam Trap / What Changed:** Use "doubling trade in five years" as the final outcome, not only the earlier meeting agenda.

[Primary / authoritative source ↗](#)

103. NEW: 4th India-Argentina Joint Trade Committee widens cooperation to lithium, pharma, digital and space

29 AUG | Economy, Data, Trade & Business

Why in News: The 4th India-Argentina Joint Trade Committee (JTC), held in Buenos Aires on 24 August, was officially detailed on 29 August. **Key Exam Facts** - India was led by Commerce Secretary Rajesh Agrawal; Argentina by Fernando Brun, Secretary for International Economic Relations. Cooperation covered lithium, energy, agriculture, sanitary and phytosanitary market access, pharmaceuticals, digital, space and emerging technologies. - The visit included the largest-ever Indian business delegation to Argentina. **Exam Trap / What Changed:** Meeting date was 24 August; authoritative outcome release came on 29 August.

[Primary / authoritative source ↗](#)

104. CBN and PHARMEXCIL sign MoU to facilitate legitimate pharma exports

2026-08-25 | Economy, Data, Trade & Business

Why in News: CBN and PHARMEXCIL sign MoU to facilitate legitimate pharma exports. **Key Exam Facts** - Central Bureau of Narcotics (CBN) and Pharmaceuticals Export Promotion Council of India (PHARMEXCIL) signed - an MoU at CBN headquarters in Gwalior. - Objective: facilitate legitimate international trade while strengthening regulatory cooperation and preventing - diversion of controlled pharma products. - Exam link: CBN is under Department of Revenue, Ministry of Finance; PHARMEXCIL is set up by Ministry of

[Primary / authoritative source ↗](#)

105. July 2026 CPI inflation comes at 4.45% on new base 2024=100

12 Aug | Economy, Data, Trade & Business

Why in News: MoSPI released July 2026 Consumer Price Index data on 12 August. **Key Exam Facts:** all-India CPI inflation 4.45%; rural 4.84%; urban 3.96%; Consumer Food Price Index inflation 5.52%. **Connection:** CPI uses base 2024=100 in the new series; revised national accounts use base 2022-23. **Exam Trap:** do not mix CPI base year with GDP/IIP base years.

[Primary / authoritative source ↗](#)

106. India and Uzbekistan elevate ties to Comprehensive Strategic Partnership; US\$5 billion trade target by 2030

30 Aug | Economy, Data, Trade & Business

Why in News: India-Uzbekistan leaders elevated bilateral relations to a Comprehensive Strategic Partnership and targeted annual bilateral trade of US\$5 billion by 2030. The Prime Minister also received Uzbekistan highest honour for foreign leaders, the Oliy Darajali Do'stlik Order. **Connection:** trade target + partnership level + award are three different exam hooks.

[Primary / authoritative source](#) ➔

107. Q1 FY27 real GDP grows 7.8%; nominal GDP 10.3%; real GVA 8.2%

31 Aug | Economy, Data, Trade & Business

Why in News: MoSPI released the first-quarter national accounts on 31 August. **Key Exam Facts:** real GDP Rs 81.36 lakh crore and growth 7.8%; nominal GDP Rs 88.27 lakh crore and growth 10.3%; real GVA growth 8.2%; nominal GVA growth 11.5%. **Connection:** constant-price estimates measure real growth; current-price estimates include price effects. **Exam Trap:** GDP and GVA growth are different values; both use the revised 2022-23 base framework.

[Primary / authoritative source](#) ➔

Government Schemes, Infrastructure & National

35 updates

108. SAMRIDH supports five startups; Rs 1.81 crore disbursed

12-15 Aug | Government Schemes, Infrastructure & National

Why in news: The Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology reported support to five startups through the SAMRIDH programme. - SAMRIDH = Startup Accelerator of MeitY for Product Innovation, Development and Growth. - The programme was designed to accelerate around 300 startups through accelerators. - Focus sectors include health-tech, education technology, agriculture technology, consumer technology, financial technology, Software as a Service (SaaS) and sustainability. - Rs 1.81 crore was disbursed in the reported accelerator-led support. **Connection:** The programme shows a government startup-support model working through accelerators rather than directly operating all incubation. **Remember / possible trap:** MeitY = Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology.

[Primary / authoritative source](#) ➔

109. Sixteenth Finance Commission recommends Rs 4.35 lakh crore for Rural Local Bodies

12-15 Aug | Government Schemes, Infrastructure & National

Why in news: The Ministry of Panchayati Raj detailed Rural Local Body (RLB) grants recommended by the Sixteenth Finance Commission for 2026-31. - Total grants for duly constituted Panchayati Raj Institutions/Rural Local Bodies across all 28 states: Rs 4,35,236 crore. - Chhattisgarh recommendation: Rs 11,664 crore. - Grant components: Basic Grant and Performance Grant in an 80:20 ratio. - The Basic Grant is further divided into Tied and Untied Grants. **Connection:** The Finance Commission is a constitutional fiscal-federal institution. Local-body grants connect Union finance, states and grassroots governance. **Remember / possible trap:** The 80:20 ratio is Basic Grant : Performance Grant, not Tied : Untied Grant.

[Primary / authoritative source](#) ➔

110. RailOne crosses 4.76 crore downloads and 10 lakh daily average tickets

12-15 Aug | Government Schemes, Infrastructure & National

Why in news: Indian Railways released updated adoption figures for its integrated RailOne application. - RailOne was launched on 1 July 2025. - It integrates reserved, unreserved and platform ticketing, train enquiry, Passenger Name Record (PNR) enquiry, RailMadad and other services. - As of 2 August 2026: 10 lakh daily average tickets - 2.79 lakh reserved and 7.24 lakh unreserved. - Downloads: 4.76 crore. - National Train Enquiry System (NTES) handles more than 6 crore daily enquiries. **Connection:** RailOne uses Single Sign-On (SSO) to bring multiple passenger services into one interface.

Remember / possible trap: NTES is the National Train Enquiry System; RailOne is the integrated passenger application.

[Primary / authoritative source](#) ➤

111. NCLT launches e-Inspection and e-Certified Copy services

12-15 Aug | Government Schemes, Infrastructure & National

Why in news: The National Company Law Tribunal (NCLT) launched two digital registry services. - The services are e-Inspection and e-Certified Copy. - They were inaugurated by NCLT President Justice Anupinder Singh Grewal. - NCLT deals with company-law matters and is a key adjudicating authority in corporate insolvency under the Insolvency and Bankruptcy Code (IBC) framework. **Connection:** A useful chain is Companies Act -> NCLT -> corporate disputes/insolvency -> National Company Law Appellate Tribunal (NCLAT) as appellate forum. **Remember / possible trap:** Do not confuse NCLT with the National Financial Reporting Authority (NFRA) or Debt Recovery Tribunals (DRTs).

[Primary / authoritative source](#) ➤

112. Government e-Marketplace completes 10 years; launches helpdesk short code 14550

12-15 Aug | Government Schemes, Infrastructure & National

Why in news: Government e-Marketplace (GeM) marked its 10th foundation day with new initiatives for public procurement. - GeM is the Government of India's online public-procurement platform. - New nationwide five-digit helpdesk short code: 14550. - The anniversary programme highlighted a more user-friendly and Artificial Intelligence-enabled GeM. - A commemorative My Stamp was also launched. **Connection:** GeM connects digital governance with public procurement, transparency and market access for sellers including Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs). **Remember / possible trap:** 14550 is the new GeM helpdesk short code.

[Primary / authoritative source](#) ➤

113. Agriculture scholarships shift to monthly NSP-DBT disbursement

12-15 Aug | Government Schemes, Infrastructure & National

Why in news: The Agriculture Ministry launched a National Scholarship Portal (NSP)-based disbursement mechanism for agriculture students. - Rs 21.35 crore was transferred through Direct Benefit Transfer (DBT) to more than 6,000 agriculture students. - Students are to receive scholarship amounts every month through the new mechanism. - The programme was launched at the Indian Council of Agricultural Research - Indian Agricultural Research Institute (ICAR-IARI), Pusa, New Delhi. **Connection:** This story links the National Scholarship Portal, Direct Benefit Transfer and agricultural-education institutions. **Remember / possible trap:** ICAR = Indian Council of Agricultural Research; IARI = Indian Agricultural Research Institute.

[Primary / authoritative source](#) ➤

114. Government sets emergency LPG production potential at 63,810 tonnes per day

16-22 Aug | Government Schemes, Infrastructure & National

Why in News: India fixed refinery- and producer-wise maximum Liquefied Petroleum Gas (LPG) production levels to create a domestic buffer if imported supply is disrupted. **Key Exam Facts:** - Combined production potential is 63,810 tonnes per day. - The order covers 21 public- and private-sector refineries/upstream companies. - Reliance Industries was assigned the largest individual production quota. - The trigger is supply stress; the objective is energy security and reduced vulnerability to import disruption. **Connection / Background:** India depends significantly on imported LPG, so geopolitical disruptions in West Asia can quickly become a household-energy issue. **Exam Trap / What Changed:** This is not normal daily output. It is a maximum production potential/ target to be activated during supply constraints.

[Primary / authoritative source ↗](#)

115. Ministry of Mines announces Patna roadshow for 8th tranche of critical and strategic mineral block auctions

16-22 Aug | Government Schemes, Infrastructure & National

Why in News: The Ministry of Mines announced a roadshow and National Mineral Exploration and Development Trust (NMEDT) workshop in Patna for 17 August 2026. **Key Exam Facts:** - The event relates to the 8th tranche of auction of critical and strategic mineral blocks. - Venue city: Patna, Bihar. - NMEDT stands for National Mineral Exploration and Development Trust. - Critical-mineral auctions are central to domestic supply chains for clean energy, electronics and strategic manufacturing. **Connection / Background:** Critical minerals now sit at the intersection of mining policy, energy transition, defence and industrial policy. **Exam Trap / What Changed:** Do not confuse NMEDT with the National Mineral Exploration Trust's older nomenclature; use the name given in the current release.

[Primary / authoritative source ↗](#)

116. Kaushal Manthan focuses on PM-SETU and industry-linked ITI reform

16-22 Aug | Government Schemes, Infrastructure & National

Why in News: The Ministry of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship (MSDE) convened the Regional Conference of Skill Ministers, Kaushal Manthan, in Kolkata. **Key Exam Facts:** - The conference was chaired by Jayant Chaudhary, Minister of State (Independent Charge) for Skill Development and Entrepreneurship. - States discussed PM-SETU, decentralised planning, industry partnerships and workforce mobility. - PM-SETU expands to Pradhan Mantri Skilling and Employability Transformation through Upgraded ITIs. - States were encouraged to align ITI clusters with industrial corridors, MSME concentrations, emerging technologies and upcoming investments. **Connection / Background:** The Hub-and-Spoke approach allows smaller ITIs to access shared laboratories, master trainers, career services and employer networks through stronger hub institutions. **Exam Trap / What Changed:** PM-SETU is an ITI-upgradation and employability reform programme; it is not a direct cash-transfer scheme.

[Primary / authoritative source ↗](#)

117. Central Information Commission launches AppCoMS 2.0 for RTI second appeals and complaints

16-22 Aug | Government Schemes, Infrastructure & National

Why in News: The Central Information Commission (CIC) launched an upgraded Appeal and Complaint Management System, AppCoMS 2.0. **Key Exam Facts:** - Launched on 17 August 2026 by Chief Information Commissioner Raj Kumar Goyal. - AppCoMS is the Appeal and Complaint Management System; the original online portal was introduced in September 2016. - The upgraded system supports end-to-end processing of Second Appeals and Complaints under the Right to Information Act, 2005. - New features include user accounts linked to email/mobile, case timelines, document access and Digital Signature Certificates for notices/orders. **Connection / Background:** Under the RTI framework, the CIC handles second appeals and complaints relating to Central public authorities. **Exam Trap / What Changed:** AppCoMS 2.0 belongs to the CIC and RTI appeal/complaint process; it is not CPGRAMS, the public-grievance portal.

[Primary / authoritative source ↗](#)

118. Domestic Piped Natural Gas (PNG) Incentive Scheme approved; effective from 1 September 2026

16-22 Aug | Government Schemes, Infrastructure & National

Why in News The Government approved a new incentive scheme to accelerate household Piped Natural Gas (PNG) connections; the release came late on 18 August. **Key Exam Facts:** - The scheme becomes effective on 1 September 2026. India currently has about 1.74 crore domestic PNG connections. - Eligible City Gas Distribution (CGD) entities will receive an additional 200 standard cubic metres (SCM) of lower-priced domestically produced Administered Price Mechanism (APM)/ New APM gas for every incremental billed domestic PNG connection above the threshold. - The additional allocation is spread over two tranches across six months. - The Government expects the connection payback period to fall from about 10 years to about 3 years and has encouraged states to reduce Value Added Tax on natural gas to 5%. **Connection / Background:** Lower-priced domestic gas changes the economics of household network expansion. Link PNG with City Gas Distribution, domestic gas allocation and energy affordability. **Exam Trap / What Changed:** The 200 SCM incentive is linked to each eligible incremental billed connection; it is not a household consumption entitlement.

[Primary / authoritative source](#) ➤

119. Cabinet clears four railway multitracking projects worth about Rs 9,450 crore

16-22 Aug | Government Schemes, Infrastructure & National

Why in News: The Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs approved four railway multitracking projects across West Bengal, Odisha, Tamil Nadu and Andhra Pradesh. **Key Exam Facts:** - Total estimated cost: about Rs 9,450 crore. - Network addition: about 410 km across eight districts. - The projects are expected to add freight capacity of about 76 million tonnes per annum. - They are aligned with integrated planning under PM Gati Shakti. **Connection / Background:** Multitracking raises line capacity on existing corridors and supports freight movement, industrial connectivity and passenger operations. **Exam Trap / What Changed:** 410 km is the network addition; Rs 9,450 crore is the combined project cost.

[Primary / authoritative source](#) ➤

120. Cabinet enables sitting of Jammu & Kashmir and Ladakh High Court bench in Ladakh

16-22 Aug | Government Schemes, Infrastructure & National

Why in News: The Union Cabinet approved a step enabling a bench/sitting of the common High Court of Jammu & Kashmir and Ladakh in the Union Territory of Ladakh, improving local access to justice. **Key Exam Facts:** - The High Court serves both the Union Territory of Jammu and Kashmir and the Union Territory of Ladakh. - The decision addresses the distance and access burden for litigants in Ladakh. - Administrative/notification follow-through is distinct from creating a separate High Court. **Connection / Background:** Under the post-2019 reorganisation framework, Jammu & Kashmir and Ladakh share a common High Court. **Exam Trap / What Changed:** The decision is about a bench/sitting in Ladakh, not the creation of an independent Ladakh High Court. Ministry of Home Affairs ■ PIB ■ DIGITAL ECONOMY | DPI PhonePe PulsePro data to support PM GatiShakti planning through MeitY MoU

[Primary / authoritative source](#) ➤

121. Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas ■ IndianOil ■ India and Japan sign Maritime Security Cooperation arrangement

16-22 Aug | Government Schemes, Infrastructure & National

Why in News: Defence Minister Rajnath Singh and Japan's Defence Minister Shinjiro Koizumi held talks in New Delhi and signed an arrangement to deepen maritime security cooperation. **Key Exam Facts:** - The framework covers Maritime Domain Awareness, Search and Rescue, Humanitarian Assistance and Disaster Relief, ship visits/exercises and exchanges. - The two sides also discussed logistics, ports, maintenance/repair and opportunities in shipbuilding/ design. - A senior-official working mechanism is expected to support implementation. **Connection / Background:** India-Japan defence ties sit within their Special Strategic and Global Partnership and a shared focus on a free and open Indo-Pacific. **Exam Trap / What Changed:** This is a defence-maritime cooperation arrangement, not a mutual- defence treaty. Japan Ministry of Defense - joint statement ■ Ministry of Defence India ■

[Primary / authoritative source ↗](#)

122. SIDBI and RRBs move to expand MSME co-lending through an end-to-end digital platform

2026-08-26 | Government Schemes, Infrastructure & National

Why in News: SIDBI and RRBs move to expand MSME co-lending through an end-to-end digital platform. **Key Exam Facts** - A conclave of heads of all 28 RRBs was held in New Delhi on 25 August; the official release was issued on 26 August. - The arrangement combines SIDBI's MSME credit expertise with RRBs' rural and semi-urban reach; pilot - implementation has taken place in three RRBs. - SIDBI's Co-Lending Origination Platform supports a faster, paperless journey from application to sanction, - documentation and disbursement.

[Primary / authoritative source ↗](#)

123. Prime Minister Street Vendor's AtmaNirbhar Nidhi (PM SVANidhi) completes one year of restructured phase The Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs published a one-year progress update after restructuring the Prime Minister Street Vendor's AtmaNirbhar Nidhi (PM SVANidhi) scheme. Key points

2026-08-28 | Government Schemes, Infrastructure & National

Why in News: Prime Minister Street Vendor's AtmaNirbhar Nidhi (PM SVANidhi) completes one year of restructured phase The Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs published a one-year progress update after restructuring the Prime Minister Street Vendor's AtmaNirbhar Nidhi (PM SVANidhi) scheme. Key points. **Key Exam Facts** - The scheme was launched on 1 June 2020; the restructured version was approved on 27 August 2025 - and lending is extended to 31 March 2030. - In the first year after restructuring, 21.86 lakh loans were disbursed to 10.56 lakh new beneficiaries, - amounting to Rs 6,294 crore. - The restructured scheme targets 1.15 crore street vendors, including 50 lakh new beneficiaries; an

[Primary / authoritative source ↗](#)

124. Regenerative-agriculture backgrounder maps scale of natural farming and micro-irrigation

2026-08-24 | Government Schemes, Infrastructure & National

Why in News: A 23 August government backgrounder connected natural farming, soil health, micro-irrigation, agroforestry and integrated farming with regenerative agriculture and climate resilience. **Key Exam Facts** - Natural-farming clusters covered 8.80 lakh hectares and enrolled 18.19 lakh farmers as of 5 March 2026. - 18,786 natural-farming clusters had been formed; 33,676 Community Resource Persons had been trained. - Per Drop More Crop had covered about 109 lakh hectares as of May 2026. - 25.89 crore Soil Health Cards had been generated since inception as of 13 March 2026. **Connection / Background:** Regenerative agriculture seeks not only to maintain resources but to rebuild soil health, biodiversity and ecosystem resilience. Relevant schemes include National Mission on Natural Farming (NMNF), Paramparagat Krishi Vikas Yojana and Per Drop More Crop. **Exam Trap / What Changed:** Do not confuse 8.80 lakh hectares under natural-farming clusters with the much larger 109 lakh hectares covered under Per Drop More Crop; they refer to different interventions.

[Primary / authoritative source ↗](#)

125. Kharif sowing update: pulses edge higher; rice area trails last year

2026-08-25 | Government Schemes, Infrastructure & National

Why in News: Kharif sowing update: pulses edge higher; rice area trails last year. **Key Exam Facts** - As on 21 August, rice area was 405.10 lakh ha versus 418.29 lakh ha a year earlier. - Total pulses area was 113.63 lakh ha versus 112.14 lakh ha; tur 43.86 lakh ha, urad 24.38 lakh ha and moong - 32.68 lakh ha. - Weekly crop-area data matters for food supply, inflation expectations and agricultural output.

[Primary / authoritative source ↗](#)

126. 53rd PRAGATI meeting reviews six infrastructure projects worth over Rs 30,000 crore

2026-08-26 | Government Schemes, Infrastructure & National

Why in News: 53rd PRAGATI meeting reviews six infrastructure projects worth over Rs 30,000 crore. **Key Exam Facts** - The projects span railways, roads and power across nine States. - The meeting also reviewed AgriStack and measures against cyber fraud and "digital arrest" scams, with emphasis on - training, awareness and coordinated enforcement. - PRAGATI stands for Pro-Active Governance and Timely Implementation. - Connection / **Exam Trap:** PRAGATI is a technology-enabled platform for resolving bottlenecks in major programmes/ projects

[Primary / authoritative source ↗](#)

127. PAIMANA tracks 1,775 central-sector infrastructure projects of Rs 150 crore and above

2026-08-26 | Government Schemes, Infrastructure & National

Why in News: PAIMANA tracks 1,775 central-sector infrastructure projects of Rs 150 crore and above. **Key Exam Facts** - MoSPI's flash report tracks 1,775 ongoing projects across 17 ministries; revised total cost is Rs 37.11 lakh crore. - Cumulative expenditure stood at Rs 19.26 lakh crore, or 51.91% of revised cost. - The project interface has been renamed PAIMANA-PROJ; PAIMANA-CRIP, launched in July 2026, supports API-based - project data integration. - Connection / **Exam Trap:** PAIMANA is the central monitoring framework for large infrastructure projects; the Rs 150 crore

[Primary / authoritative source ↗](#)

128. Critical Minerals Innovation Hackathon 2026 launched under National Critical Mineral Mission

2026-08-26 | Government Schemes, Infrastructure & National

Why in News: Critical Minerals Innovation Hackathon 2026 launched under National Critical Mineral Mission. **Key Exam Facts** - CMiH 2026 has two problem statements: open-data mineral prospectivity mapping for lithium/REE pegmatites, and a - smart technology/patent tracker. - JNARDDC, Nagpur is the host institute; idea submissions close on 20 September 2026. - Winners will be announced during India Mining Week 2026 (15-17 November); first and second prizes for each - problem are Rs 1.50 lakh and Rs 1.00 lakh.

[Primary / authoritative source ↗](#)

129. 10th Sujal Gram Samvad stresses community-led O&M under Jal Jeevan Mission 2.0

2026-08-26 | Government Schemes, Infrastructure & National

Why in News: 10th Sujal Gram Samvad stresses community-led O&M under Jal Jeevan Mission 2.0. **Key Exam Facts** - The dialogue highlighted Gram Panchayat and Village Water & Sanitation Committee roles in sustainable rural water- - supply management. - Themes included operation and maintenance, user charges, water quality, source sustainability and local - accountability. - Connection / **Exam Trap:** JJM 2.0 places greater emphasis on long-term service delivery and local operation & maintenance,

[Primary / authoritative source ↗](#)

130. Indian Railways plans four-laning across about 11,000 km of seven high-density routes

2026-08-27 | Government Schemes, Infrastructure & National

Why in News: Indian Railways plans four-laning across about 11,000 km of seven high-density routes. **Key Exam Facts** - The seven high-density routes together span roughly 11,000 km. - They account for about 41% of total railway traffic while representing only around 16% of the network. - The capacity push is aimed at easing congestion and increasing passenger and freight throughput on the busiest - corridors. - Connection / **Exam Trap:** High-density route share of traffic and share of network are different percentages: about 41%

[Primary / authoritative source](#) ➤

131. Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation (MoSPI) releases concept paper on monetary asset accounts for marine fish resources The Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation (MoSPI) released a concept paper on experimental monetary asset accounts for marine fish resources. Key points

2026-08-28 | Government Schemes, Infrastructure & National

Why in News: Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation (MoSPI) releases concept paper on monetary asset accounts for marine fish resources The Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation (MoSPI) released a concept paper on experimental monetary asset accounts for marine fish resources. **Key Exam Facts** - The approach is aligned with the System of Environmental-Economic Accounting (SEEA) Central - Framework endorsed by the United Nations Statistical Commission. - MoSPI has compiled environmental accounts through the EnviStats India series since 2018. - The paper explores how marine fish resources can be valued as natural assets, complementing - physical resource accounts.

[Primary / authoritative source](#) ➤

132. UPDATE: Onion buffer moves by rail; retail intervention begins at Rs 35/kg and cumulative movement reaches 86 rakes

26-27 AUG | Government Schemes, Infrastructure & National

Why in News: The first Kanda Express movement from Nashik was followed by retail release of buffer onion at Rs 35 per kg. **Key Exam Facts** - By the later update, rail movement of buffer onion had risen to 86 rakes. **Connection / Background:** Buffer operations are used to moderate seasonal price spikes and improve availability in consumption centres. **Exam Trap / What Changed:** Rs 35/kg is the retail intervention price in the update; 86 rakes is the later cumulative rail- movement figure.

[Primary / authoritative source](#) ➤

133. NEW: Government clarifies revised CBG pricing - producer price Rs 2,110/MMBtu, effective recoverable cost about Rs 1,895/MMBtu

29 AUG | Government Schemes, Infrastructure & National

Why in News: The Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas clarified the consumer impact of revised Compressed Bio-Gas (CBG) pricing under GOBARdhan. **Key Exam Facts** - Earlier linked price was about Rs 1,478 per MMBtu; producer procurement price is Rs 2,110 per MMBtu. Government affordability support of Rs 10/kg is about Rs 215 per MMBtu at 95% methane, making the effective cost recovered through the wider gas pool about Rs 1,895 per MMBtu. - The effective increase versus Rs 1,478 is about 28%, not the headline 43% producer-price increase. The cost is spread across a domestic gas base about 2.5-3 times larger than earlier. **Exam Trap / What Changed:** Rs 2,110 is the producer procurement price, not the direct price charged to CNG/PNG consumers.

[Primary / authoritative source](#) ➤

134. Ministry of Rural Development participates in World Water Week 2026 in Stockholm

2026-08-26 | Government Schemes, Infrastructure & National

Why in News: Ministry of Rural Development participates in World Water Week 2026 in Stockholm. **Key Exam Facts** - India presented community-led approaches to water security and rural resilience at World Water Week in Stockholm. - The participation linked watershed management, community institutions and sustainable rural livelihoods with - climate resilience. - Connection / **Exam Trap:** World Water Week is an international annual water-policy forum held in Stockholm; do not confuse - it with World Water Day (22 March).

[Primary / authoritative source ↗](#)

135. Election Commission holds second regional conference on ELC 2.0 and ECINET

2026-08-25 | Government Schemes, Infrastructure & National

Why in News: Election Commission holds second regional conference on ELC 2.0 and ECINET. **Key Exam Facts** - ECI organised the second regional conference on Electoral Literacy Clubs (ELC 2.0) and ECINET. - The focus was informed democratic participation, electoral literacy among students and use of ECI's digital - ecosystem. - Exam link: ECI is a constitutional body under Article 324; ELCs are voter-education platforms.

[Primary / authoritative source ↗](#)

136. Second application call opens under Rs 5,000-crore PRIP Scheme

2026-08-29 | Government Schemes, Infrastructure & National

Why in News: The Department of Pharmaceuticals announced the second call for applications under the Promotion of Research and Innovation in Pharma & MedTech (PRIP) Scheme. Total scheme outlay: Rs 5,000 crore. Early-stage projects of startups and Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs) can receive assistance up to Rs 5 crore per project. Eligible early-stage projects can move from Technology Readiness Level (TRL) 1/2/3 up to a level not beyond TRL 5. **Exam Trap / What Changed:** PRIP supports pharma and medical-technology R&D; it is not a production-linked incentive scheme.

[Primary / authoritative source ↗](#)

137. Samudra Manthan National Offshore Exploration Scheme approved with Rs 84,084 crore outlay

01 Aug | Government Schemes, Infrastructure & National

Why in News: The Union Cabinet approved Samudra Manthan, a Central Sector Scheme of the Ministry of Petroleum & Natural Gas, for implementation through FY 2030-31. **Key Exam Facts:** approved outlay Rs 84,084 crore; the programme targets offshore seismic work, deepwater and ultra-deepwater drilling, common production infrastructure and a domestic oil-and-gas manufacturing/services ecosystem. **Connection / Background:** energy security and lower import dependence. **Exam Trap:** Rs 84,084 crore is the scheme outlay, not annual petroleum subsidy.

[Primary / authoritative source ↗](#)

138. PM-KISAN continuation approved for 2026-27 to 2030-31 with Rs 3.15 lakh crore outlay

01 Aug | Government Schemes, Infrastructure & National

Why in News: The Cabinet continued Pradhan Mantri Kisan Samman Nidhi (PM-KISAN) for 2026-27 to 2030-31. **Key Exam Facts:** five-year outlay Rs 3.15 lakh crore; eligible landholding farmer families receive Rs 6,000 a year in three equal Direct Benefit Transfer instalments. **Connection:** agriculture income support + DBT architecture. **Exam Trap:** Rs 6,000 is the annual beneficiary support, not the five-year scheme outlay.

[Primary / authoritative source ↗](#)

139. Pradhan Mantri Surya Sarovar Yojana approved for floating solar plus storage

01 Aug | Government Schemes, Infrastructure & National

Why in News: The Cabinet approved Pradhan Mantri Surya Sarovar Yojana for floating solar photovoltaic projects with energy storage. **Key Exam Facts:** total outlay Rs 5,070 crore; programme design targets 5,000 MW floating solar capacity with 10,000 MWh storage. **Connection:** renewable energy + storage + water-body-based solar deployment.

[Primary / authoritative source ↗](#)

140. Government boosts MSME financing through SIDBI and ECLGS 5.0

04 Aug | Government Schemes, Infrastructure & National

Why in News: The Government highlighted measures to expand Micro, Small and Medium Enterprise financing through Small Industries Development Bank of India (SIDBI) and Emergency Credit Line Guarantee Scheme 5.0. **Connection:** SIDBI is the principal financial institution for MSME promotion, financing and development; ECLGS is a credit-guarantee support architecture, not a grant scheme.

[Primary / authoritative source ↗](#)

141. PM-SETU cluster model: 1 Hub ITI plus 4 Spoke ITIs; Anchor Industry Partner proposed 51% SPV share

30 Aug | Government Schemes, Infrastructure & National

Why in News: PM-SETU discussions highlighted a cluster structure of one Hub Industrial Training Institute plus four Spoke ITIs, with a proposed 51% ownership share for Anchor Industry Partners in the special-purpose vehicle. **Connection:** vocational training reform is being tied to industry-led governance and employability.

[Primary / authoritative source ↗](#)

142. Union Government accounts to July 2026: receipts Rs 13.07 lakh crore; expenditure Rs 17.62 lakh crore

31 Aug | Government Schemes, Infrastructure & National

Why in News: Monthly Union Government accounts up to July were released on 31 August. **Key Exam Facts:** total receipts Rs 13,06,709 crore; net tax revenue Rs 8,44,560 crore; non-tax revenue Rs 4,23,013 crore; total expenditure Rs 17,61,853 crore, including capital expenditure Rs 4,50,635 crore. **Connection:** these are year-to-date fiscal-account figures, not full-year Budget Estimates.

[Primary / authoritative source ↗](#)

International, Organisations & Diplomacy 33 updates

143. NDB and BRICS focus on mobilising private capital

12-15 Aug | International, Organisations & Diplomacy

Why in news: Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman addressed a seminar on the role of the New Development Bank (NDB) in mobilising private capital in member countries. - The seminar was held in Jaipur on the sidelines of the BRICS Finance Ministers and Central Bank Governors meeting. - The focus was on using the NDB to mobilise private capital at scale in member economies. - NDB was created by the BRICS countries as a multilateral development bank. **Connection:** This connects a current BRICS meeting with a static institution: NDB finances infrastructure and sustainable-development projects. **Remember / possible trap:** NDB is different from the World Bank and Asian Development Bank.

[Primary / authoritative source ↗](#)

144. APEDA and Tripura organise International Organic Buyer- Seller Meet

12-15 Aug | International, Organisations & Diplomacy

Why in News: The Agricultural and Processed Food Products Export Development Authority (APEDA) and the Government of Tripura organised an International Organic Buyer-Seller Meet to connect organic producers with global buyers. **Key Exam Facts** - More than 20 international buyers participated, according to the official release. - The meeting focused on commercial linkages, long-term sourcing and global market access for Tripura's organic products. - APEDA functions under the Ministry of Commerce and Industry and promotes exports of scheduled agricultural and processed-food products.

Connection / Background: Buyer-seller meets are export-promotion tools that connect producers/exporters directly with overseas buyers. **Exam Trap / What Changed:** APEDA is an export-promotion authority, not the regulator for all food safety standards; food-safety regulation is primarily associated with FSSAI.

[Primary / authoritative source](#) ➤

145. IMF daily SDR interest rate stands at 2.879% on 14 August

12-15 Aug | International, Organisations & Diplomacy

Why in News: The International Monetary Fund (IMF) published its daily Special Drawing Rights (SDR) reference values for 14 August 2026. **Key Exam Facts** - SDR interest rate: 2.879%. - The IMF page showed 1 US dollar = SDR 0.731521 for 14 August. - The SDR is an international reserve asset created by the IMF; it is not a circulating currency used by the public.

Connection / Background: The SDR's value is based on a basket of major currencies and is used in IMF accounting and member transactions. **Exam Trap / What Changed:** SDR is a reserve asset/unit of account, not a national currency and not a cryptocurrency.

[Primary / authoritative source](#) ➤

146. India hosts 7th BRICS ICT Working Group Meeting in Pune

16-22 Aug | International, Organisations & Diplomacy

Why in News: The in-person BRICS Track on Cooperation in Information and Communication Technologies opened in Pune with the seventh meeting of the BRICS Working Group for Cooperation in ICTs. **Key Exam Facts:** - Venue: Pune; date: 17 August 2026. - Held under India's BRICS Chairship 2026. - India's Chairship theme: Building for Resilience, Innovation, Cooperation and Sustainability. - Agenda areas included Artificial Intelligence, next-generation communications, Industry 4.0, electromagnetic-field exposure and digital-ecosystem integration. **Connection / Background:** BRICS cooperation now extends beyond macroeconomics to digital public infrastructure, future networks, cyber issues and emerging technologies.

Exam Trap / What Changed: This was the 7th BRICS ICT Working Group Meeting; do not confuse it with the BRICS Environment or Youth meetings held under the same 2026 Chairship.

[Primary / authoritative source](#) ➤

147. Indian Army contingent departs for 15th India-Thailand Exercise MAITREE-XV

16-22 Aug | International, Organisations & Diplomacy

Why in News: The Indian Army contingent left for Thailand to participate in the fifteenth edition of joint military Exercise MAITREE. **Key Exam Facts:** - Exercise dates: 18-31 August 2026. - Venue: Vibhavadi Rangsit Camp, Surat Thani, Thailand. - Each side has an 85-person contingent; India is represented mainly by 9 Gorkha Rifles. - Training focuses on joint counter-insurgency/counter-terrorist operations in jungle and semi-urban terrain under Chapter VII of the UN Charter.

Connection / Background: Exercise MAITREE was instituted in 2006 and is a bilateral India-Thailand Army exercise designed to improve interoperability and exchange operational practices. **Exam Trap / What Changed:** MAITREE is with Thailand. Do not confuse it with India's exercises with Nepal, Sri Lanka or other Southeast Asian partners.

[Primary / authoritative source](#) ➤

148. 12th BRICS Environment Ministers Meeting produces four collaborative knowledge compendiums

16-22 Aug | International, Organisations & Diplomacy

Why in News The 12th BRICS Environment Ministers Meeting was held in New Delhi on 18 August under India's BRICS 2026 Chairship. The previous edition had only the meeting announcement; this note keeps only the outcome. **Key Exam Facts:** - BRICS retains the acronym formed from Brazil, Russia, India, China and South Africa, although the grouping has since expanded. - Four collaborative knowledge compendiums were unveiled, including work on sustainable lifestyles. - The BRICS Environment Working Group (EWG) was established in 2015; the Contact Group on Climate Change and Sustainable Development was established in 2024. - India's 2026 BRICS Chairship theme is "Building for Resilience, Innovation, Cooperation and Sustainability". **Connection / Background:** The meeting outcome links environment diplomacy with practical knowledge-sharing rather than a new binding treaty. **Exam Trap / What Changed:** UPDATE: the new fact is the meeting outcome and compendiums. The meeting date/venue had already been announced earlier.

[Primary / authoritative source ↗](#)

149. International Cricket Council (ICC) July 2026 Players of the Month: Justin Greaves and Hayley Matthews

16-22 Aug | International, Organisations & Diplomacy

Why in News The International Cricket Council (ICC) announced its men's and women's Player of the Month awards for July 2026. **Key Exam Facts:** - West Indies all-rounder Justin Greaves won the men's award for the first time. - West Indies captain Hayley Matthews won the women's award for a record fifth time. - It was the first time West Indies players won both awards in the same month and only the fifth same-country double since the awards began in January 2021. **Connection / Background:** Monthly award questions are easy marks when remembered as country pairs: July 2026 = West Indies double. **Exam Trap / What Changed:** Greaves = maiden award; Matthews = fifth award.

[Primary / authoritative source ↗](#)

150. India-hosted 8th BRICS Youth Energy Summit added as overnight official confirmation

16-22 Aug | International, Organisations & Diplomacy

Why in News The Ministry of Power published the official confirmation on 19 August for the Eighth BRICS Youth Energy Summit 2026, held virtually during the 17-18 August window. It is included as a delayed- confirmation carry-over, not as a new 19 August event. **Key Exam Facts:** - India hosted the eighth edition under its BRICS 2026 Chairship. - The summit was held virtually and placed youth participation at the centre of BRICS energy cooperation. - It formed part of the BRICS energy-cooperation calendar under India's chairship. **Connection / Background:** This is exactly the type of overnight confirmation that can otherwise be missed by a strict midnight cutoff. **Exam Trap / What Changed:** Date logic matters: event window = 17-18 August; official confirmation surfaced on 19 August. Treat it as carry-over confirmation, not duplicate current-day news.

[Primary / authoritative source ↗](#)

151. Delhi IGI Airport scales up international-domestic transshipment cargo operations

16-22 Aug | International, Organisations & Diplomacy

Why in News: Civil Aviation Minister Ram Mohan Naidu flagged off the scaled-up phase of transshipment cargo operations at Delhi International Airport. **Key Exam Facts:** - The reform followed a successful proof of concept. - The scaled-up phase added two international and four domestic destinations. - Operations are centred at DIAL's Transshipment Excellence Centre at IGI Airport Terminal 2. - The objective is faster cargo transfer, lower dwell time and stronger hub-and-spoke connectivity. **Connection / Background:** Transshipment means cargo is transferred through an intermediate hub without that hub being the final destination. **Exam Trap / What Changed:** This reform concerns air-cargo routing and handling, not passenger transit rules.

[Primary / authoritative source ↗](#)

152. Primary / official source: Open source ■ 2nd BRICS 2026 Tourism Working Group Meeting held in Jaipur

16-22 Aug | International, Organisations & Diplomacy

Why in News: India hosted the second BRICS Tourism Working Group meeting in Jaipur under its 2026 BRICS Chairship. **Key Exam Facts:** - Meeting dates: 19-20 August 2026. - It was chaired by Tourism Secretary Bhuvnesh Kumar. - Priority areas include AI and Tourism, sustainable/responsible tourism, tourism skilling, and seamless travel facilitation. - The BRICS Tourism Ministers' Meeting is scheduled for 21-22 August 2026 in Jaipur. **Connection / Background:** India's BRICS 2026 theme is "Building for Resilience, Innovation, Cooperation and Sustainability." **Exam Trap / What Changed:** Working Group meeting: 19-20 August; Ministers' Meeting: 21-22 August.

[Primary / authoritative source ↗](#)

153. BRICS Youth Council Meeting and Youth Summit open in Gandhinagar

16-22 Aug | International, Organisations & Diplomacy

Why in News: India's BRICS Chairship hosted the BRICS Youth Council Meeting and BRICS Youth Summit in Gandhinagar, Gujarat. **Key Exam Facts:** - Youth Council Meeting and Youth Summit: 19-20 August 2026, Gandhinagar. - BRICS Youth Ministers' Meeting: 22 August 2026, Visakhapatnam. - Youth cooperation is a key pillar of India's BRICS 2026 people-centric agenda. - The process builds on the BRICS Youth Coordination Meeting held virtually on 25 March 2026. **Connection / Background:** India's 2026 BRICS youth programme links youth with innovation, entrepreneurship, volunteering and sustainable development. **Exam Trap / What Changed:** Gandhinagar hosts the Council/Summit; Visakhapatnam hosts the Youth Ministers' Meeting.

[Primary / authoritative source ↗](#)

154. India to host 5th Coast Guard Global Summit in New Delhi in February 2027

16-22 Aug | International, Organisations & Diplomacy

Why in News: India announced that the fifth Coast Guard Global Summit will be hosted in New Delhi in February 2027. **Key Exam Facts:** - The summit will coincide with the Golden Jubilee (Swarnim Jayanti) of the Indian Coast Guard. - A Working Level Meeting for the fifth summit was held in hybrid mode on 19 August 2026. - The fourth Coast Guard Global Summit was held in Rome in September 2025. - The CGGS supports international cooperation on maritime safety, security, law enforcement and information sharing. **Connection / Background:** The first Coast Guard Global Summit was convened in 2017 by the Japan Coast Guard and the Nippon Foundation. **Exam Trap / What Changed:** 2027 host city in the latest release: New Delhi.

[Primary / authoritative source ↗](#)

155. India-Malaysia hold 2nd Joint Working Group on Public Administration and Governance Reforms

16-22 Aug | International, Organisations & Diplomacy

Why in News: India and Malaysia held their second Joint Working Group meeting on cooperation in public administration and governance reforms. **Key Exam Facts:** - The mechanism focuses on administrative reform, capacity building and exchange of good governance practices. - India's side is anchored in the Department of Administrative Reforms and Public Grievances. - Such bilateral JWG mechanisms support institutional learning and civil-service cooperation. - The 19 August meeting marked the second round of this structured dialogue. **Connection / Background:** Governance-reform cooperation often covers digital governance, citizen-centric service delivery, capacity building and administrative innovation. **Exam Trap / What Changed:** This is a bilateral governance mechanism, not a BRICS or ASEAN-wide body.

[Primary / authoritative source ↗](#)

156. 65th Subroto Cup International Football Tournament opens in New Delhi

16-22 Aug | International, Organisations & Diplomacy

Why in News: The 65th edition of the Subroto Cup International Football Tournament opened at Dr B.R. Ambedkar Stadium in New Delhi. **Key Exam Facts:** - The tournament is one of India's prominent school football competitions. - The 65th edition commenced on 18 August 2026, with the official update released on 19 August. - The competition is associated with youth and school-level football. - It is named after Air Marshal Subroto Mukerjee. **Connection / Background:** The Subroto Cup has long served as a grassroots platform for school football talent. **Exam Trap / What Changed:** Subroto Cup is a school football tournament, not a professional club league.

[Primary / authoritative source](#) ➤

157. PhonePe PulsePro data to support PM GatiShakti planning through MeitY MoU

16-22 Aug | International, Organisations & Diplomacy

Why in News: PhonePe signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with the Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology (MeitY) to integrate aggregated and anonymised PulsePro insights with the Prime Minister GatiShakti National Master Plan ecosystem. **Key Exam Facts:** - The integration is to be coordinated with the Bhaskaracharya National Institute for Space Applications and Geo-informatics (BISAG-N). - PulsePro provides hyperlocal, near-real-time market and transaction signals in aggregated form. - The intended use includes infrastructure planning, economic analysis and urban/rural development. **Connection / Background:** PM GatiShakti is a geospatial digital platform for integrated infrastructure planning; adding aggregated private-sector demand signals can improve evidence-based planning. **Exam Trap / What Changed:** The MoU concerns aggregated/anonymised analytics, not sharing individual users' payment histories with planners. PhonePe press release ■

[Primary / authoritative source](#) ➤

158. India-Mauritius deepen energy ties with long-term petroleum- supply arrangement

16-22 Aug | International, Organisations & Diplomacy

Why in News: India and Mauritius signed a Government-to-Government oil-and-gas cooperation Memorandum of Understanding and a long-term petroleum-products supply arrangement during the visit of India's Petroleum Minister. **Key Exam Facts:** - The supply arrangement covers petrol, diesel and aviation fuel. - Indian Oil is the Indian public-sector company linked to the sales-and-purchase arrangement. - The agreements were concluded in Port Louis on 20 August 2026. **Connection / Background:** Mauritius depends heavily on imported refined petroleum products; India has longstanding energy and commercial links with the island nation in the Indian Ocean. **Exam Trap / What Changed:** The arrangement covers refined products; it is not a crude-oil import deal into India. Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas ■ IndianOil ■ DEFENCE | INDIA-JAPAN India and Japan sign Maritime Security Cooperation arrangement

[Primary / authoritative source](#) ➤

159. PIB - BRICS ICT Track ■ 16th BRICS STI Senior Officials Meeting concludes in Chennai

16-22 Aug | International, Organisations & Diplomacy

Why in News: The 16th BRICS Science, Technology and Innovation (STI) Senior Officials Meeting concluded in Chennai on 20 August, preparing the agenda for the ministerial-level meeting. **Key Exam Facts:** - The senior-official deliberations were held on 19-20 August in Chennai. - The meeting reviewed BRICS STI working groups, research partnerships, innovation networks and proposed cooperation priorities. - It preceded the 14th BRICS STI Ministerial Meeting. **Connection / Background:** BRICS cooperation extends well beyond finance into research, technology, health, education and innovation. The Department of Science and Technology coordinates India's STI engagement. **Exam Trap / What Changed:** Senior Officials Meeting and Ministerial Meeting are separate levels; do not mix the 16th SOM with the 14th Ministerial Meeting. Department of Science and Technology ■ BRICS India 2026 ■

[Primary / authoritative source](#) ➤

160. India and ADB sign US\$230 million loan for Chennai water supply and sanitation

16-22 Aug | International, Organisations & Diplomacy

Why in News: India and the Asian Development Bank signed a US\$230 million loan to modernise water supply and sanitation in Chennai. **Connection / Background:** ADB is a multilateral development bank headquartered in Manila. Exam focus: institution + amount + city + sector.

[Primary / authoritative source ↗](#)

161. BRICS Tourism Ministers adopt Jaipur Declaration

16-22 Aug | International, Organisations & Diplomacy

Why in News: The BRICS Tourism Ministers' Meeting under India's 2026 Chairship concluded in Jaipur with adoption of the BRICS Tourism Ministers' Communiqué 2026, called the Jaipur Declaration. **Connection:** link Jaipur with the Tourism track and India's BRICS Presidency.

[Primary / authoritative source ↗](#)

162. 12th BRICS Communications Ministers Meeting held in Pune

16-22 Aug | International, Organisations & Diplomacy

Why in News: India chaired the 12th BRICS Communications Ministers Meeting in Pune on 21 August. Focus areas included sustainable ICT infrastructure, digital inclusion, cybersecurity and trustworthy ICT ecosystems. Exam link: Pune + communications/ICT track.

[Primary / authoritative source ↗](#)

163. India and Brazil sign telecom and ICT cooperation MoU

16-22 Aug | International, Organisations & Diplomacy

Why in News: India and Brazil signed an MoU to deepen cooperation in telecommunications and information and communication technologies on the sidelines of the BRICS ICT track meeting in Pune. Exam link: bilateral partner + sector + BRICS setting.

[Primary / authoritative source ↗](#)

164. BRICS Science Ministerial adopts Chennai Declaration

16-22 Aug | International, Organisations & Diplomacy

Why in News: BRICS science ministers unanimously adopted the Chennai Declaration, reaffirming cooperation in science, technology and innovation. Exam link: Chennai Declaration = BRICS STI track under India's 2026 Chairship.

[Primary / authoritative source ↗](#)

165. BRICS Youth Ministers' Meeting concludes in Visakhapatnam with Joint Statement

16-22 Aug | International, Organisations & Diplomacy

Why in News: The BRICS Youth Ministers' Meeting 2026 concluded in Visakhapatnam and adopted a Joint Statement. Connect this with the Youth Council Meeting and Youth Summit held in Gandhinagar on 19-20 August.

[Primary / authoritative source ↗](#)

166. NABARD and NaBFID sign MoU for rural-infrastructure financing NABARD and NaBFID have signed an MoU to work together on infrastructure projects with significant rural impact, including joint financing and project-development support. Key points

2026-08-28 | International, Organisations & Diplomacy

Why in News: NABARD and NaBFID sign MoU for rural-infrastructure financing NABARD and NaBFID have signed an MoU to work together on infrastructure projects with significant rural impact, including joint financing and project- development support. **Key Exam Facts** - Focus areas include Public-Private Partnership (PPP) projects, agri-value chains and rural - infrastructure. - NABARD Chairman Dr Shaji Krishnan V. highlighted financially sustainable rural infrastructure; - NaBFID Managing Director Rajkiran Rai G. highlighted bankable projects that strengthen rural - incomes.

[Primary / authoritative source](#) ➤

167. UPDATE: India-Japan week culminates in JPY 10 trillion private-investment ambition and deeper technology cooperation

23-27 AUG | International, Organisations & Diplomacy

Why in News: The 23-27 August engagement moved from a 200+ member business-delegation plan to concrete outcomes across Keidanren, investment, semiconductors, Artificial Intelligence (AI), start-ups and the Comprehensive Economic Partnership Agreement (CEPA) review. **Key Exam Facts** - India sought JPY 10 trillion of Japanese private investment; semiconductor demand in India was highlighted as potentially reaching about US\$150 billion by 2032. - Keidanren represents more than 1,500 leading Japanese companies. The week also focused on long-term institutional capital, deep-tech/start-up links, supply-chain resilience and faster CEPA review. **Connection / Background:** India-Japan ties are described as a Special Strategic and Global Partnership. Japan is a major source of long-term infrastructure finance, technology and manufacturing investment. **Exam Trap / What Changed:** Do not treat the 23-August delegation announcement and later Tokyo/Nagoya/Osaka outcomes as separate final stories; the JPY 10 trillion investment ambition is the end-of-week update.

[Primary / authoritative source](#) ➤

168. Jaishankar reaches Moscow for 27th India-Russia IRIGC-TEC session

2026-08-24 | International, Organisations & Diplomacy

Why in News: External Affairs Minister S. Jaishankar reached Moscow on 23 August for a two-day visit focused on the India-Russia economic and strategic partnership. **Key Exam Facts** - He is to co-chair the 27th Session of the India-Russia Inter-Governmental Commission on Trade, Economic, Scientific, Technological and Cultural - Cooperation (IRIGC-TEC). - Russian co-chair: First Deputy Prime Minister Denis Manturov. - Jaishankar is also scheduled to meet Foreign Minister Sergey Lavrov and exchange views on regional and global issues. **Connection / Background:** IRIGC-TEC is a major institutional mechanism for reviewing India-Russia cooperation beyond defence, including trade, industry, energy, science, technology and culture. **Exam Trap / What Changed:** IRIGC-TEC is the trade/economic/science/culture commission. Do not confuse it with the separate India-Russia mechanism for military and military-technical cooperation.

[Primary / authoritative source](#) ➤

169. BRICS Sports Ministers adopt Joint Declaration in Visakhapatnam

2026-08-24 | International, Organisations & Diplomacy

Why in News: The BRICS Sports Ministers' Meeting concluded in Visakhapatnam on 23 August with consensus adoption of the BRICS Sports Joint Declaration. **Key Exam Facts** - India advanced a proposed BRICS Working Group on Sports Technology covering sports science, athlete performance, governance, Artificial Intelligence - and digital innovation. - A BRICS Sports Manufacturing Conclave is proposed in Udaipur, Rajasthan, in November 2026. - Traditional and Indigenous Sports Demonstration Games are proposed in Ahmedabad on 12-13 October 2026 as a non-competitive cultural initiative.

Connection / Background: India is chairing BRICS in 2026 under the theme "Building for Resilience, Innovation, Cooperation and Sustainability". BRICS currently has 11 member countries. **Exam Trap / What Changed:** The 23 August outcome is the Sports Joint Declaration. The Youth Ministers' Joint Statement was a separate 22 August outcome; keep the two ministerial tracks distinct.

[Primary / authoritative source](#) ➤

170. 2nd India-New Zealand Defence Strategic Dialogue held in Wellington

2026-08-26 | International, Organisations & Diplomacy

Why in News: 2nd India-New Zealand Defence Strategic Dialogue held in Wellington. **Key Exam Facts** - The dialogue reviewed maritime security, joint training and cross-service exchanges. - Both sides linked defence engagement to the Strategic Partnership Roadmap 2030 and a free, open and inclusive - Indo-Pacific. - **Connection / Exam Trap:** The official release was issued on 25 August for the dialogue held on 24 August, making it a late - official current-affairs update.

[Primary / authoritative source](#) ➤

171. 7th India-Vietnam Coast Guard High-Level Meeting held in Chennai

2026-08-26 | International, Organisations & Diplomacy

Why in News: 7th India-Vietnam Coast Guard High-Level Meeting held in Chennai. **Key Exam Facts** - Indian Coast Guard DG Paramesh Sivamani and Vietnam Coast Guard Vice Commandant Major General Luong Dinh - Hung led the meeting. - Talks focused on professional cooperation, maritime engagement and operational coordination for a safe, secure - and sustainable maritime environment. - **Connection / Exam Trap:** Coast-guard diplomacy complements naval engagement in maritime law enforcement, safety and

[Primary / authoritative source](#) ➤

172. 25th India-China Special Representatives talks produce an eight-point outcome

25-26 AUG | International, Organisations & Diplomacy

Why in News: India and China held the 25th round of Special Representatives talks on the boundary question in Beijing, followed by an eight-point outcome. **Key Exam Facts** - The mechanism deals with the boundary question while broader bilateral engagement runs through other diplomatic channels. **Connection / Background:** India's Special Representative is the National Security Adviser; the talks are distinct from military commander-level border meetings. **Exam Trap / What Changed:** The eight-point outcome is the material follow-up to the meeting announcement.

[Primary / authoritative source](#) ➤

173. UPDATE: PM begins Uzbekistan-Kyrgyz Republic visit; 26th SCO Summit marks 25 years of the organisation

29 AUG | International, Organisations & Diplomacy

Why in News: The Prime Minister's departure statement confirmed the 29 August-1 September visit sequence to Uzbekistan and the Kyrgyz Republic. **Key Exam Facts** - Engagements cover trade and investment, digital connectivity, defence and energy. The Kyrgyz Republic leg includes the 26th Shanghai Cooperation Organisation (SCO) Summit, coinciding with 25 years of the SCO. **Connection / Background:** India became a full SCO member in 2017. **Exam Trap / What Changed:** The visit announcement came on 28 August; the 29-August departure statement is the authoritative start-of-visit update.

[Primary / authoritative source](#) ➔

174. World Lake Day observed on 27 August 27 August is observed annually as World Lake Day under a United Nations General Assembly resolution. Key points

2026-08-28 | International, Organisations & Diplomacy

Why in News: World Lake Day observed on 27 August 27 August is observed annually as World Lake Day under a United Nations General Assembly resolution. Key points. **Key Exam Facts** - The relevant resolution is A/RES/79/142. - It was adopted by the United Nations General Assembly on 12 December 2024 without a vote. - The observance highlights protection, restoration and sustainable management of lakes as vital - water-related ecosystems. - Remember: World Lake Day: 27 August. World Water Day: 22 March.

[Primary / authoritative source](#) ➔

175. India-Chile CEPA negotiations targeted for conclusion by end-2026

30 Aug | International, Organisations & Diplomacy

Why in News: India and Chile targeted conclusion of Comprehensive Economic Partnership Agreement negotiations by the end of 2026. **Connection:** CEPA is broader than a simple tariff-only arrangement and can cover goods, services, investment and other cooperation areas depending on the negotiated text.

[Primary / authoritative source](#) ➔

Reports, Indices, Appointments & Awards 13 updates

176. Former President Ram Nath Kovind's autobiography released

12-15 Aug | Reports, Indices, Appointments & Awards

Why in news: The Prime Minister released the autobiography of former President Ram Nath Kovind at Vigyan Bhavan, New Delhi. - Title: Triumph of the Indian Republic: My Life, My Struggles. - Ram Nath Kovind served as the 14th President of India. - The release took place on 12 August 2026. **Connection:** Books and authors are classic direct-recall current affairs; linking the author to the office held creates an extra retrieval cue. **Remember / possible trap:** Remember the exact title together with Ram Nath Kovind.

[Primary / authoritative source](#) ➔

177. PM Internship Scheme Industry Awards recognise partner companies

12-15 Aug | Reports, Indices, Appointments & Awards

Why in News: The Ministry of Corporate Affairs (MCA) hosted the Prime Minister Internship Scheme (PMIS) Industry Awards in New Delhi to recognise partner companies that created meaningful internship opportunities during the pilot phase.

Key Exam Facts - A related ministerial interaction on 14 August included 86 interns representing more than 24 partner companies. - The scheme is designed to expose young people to real workplace environments and bridge classroom learning with industry needs. - The 14 August programme focused on the pilot experience and employer participation rather than announcing a new eligibility rule. **Connection / Background:** PMIS is an industry-linked internship initiative administered through the corporate-affairs ecosystem with participating companies. **Exam Trap / What Changed:** Do not treat the Industry Awards as a new recruitment notification; the news was recognition and review of the pilot-phase partnership.

[Primary / authoritative source](#) ➤

178. President approves 78 Armed Forces gallantry awards and 89 Mentions-in-Despatches

12-15 Aug | Reports, Indices, Appointments & Awards

Why in News: On the eve of the 80th Independence Day, President Droupadi Murmu approved 78 gallantry awards for Armed Forces personnel, including 13 posthumous awards, along with 89 Mention-in-Despatches. **Key Exam Facts** - The announcement covers Armed Forces gallantry honours for Independence Day 2026. - Thirteen of the 78 gallantry awards were posthumous. - Mention-in-Despatches is a distinct military recognition and should not be added into the 78-award total. **Connection / Background:** India announces major military gallantry/service honours around Republic Day and Independence Day. **Exam Trap / What Changed:** 78 and 89 are separate counts: 78 gallantry awards; 89 Mention-in-Despatches.

[Primary / authoritative source](#) ➤

179. AIIB President deepens Pacific-region engagement

12-15 Aug | Reports, Indices, Appointments & Awards

Why in News: Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank (AIIB) President Zou Jiayi's 14 August update covered engagement with Fiji, Samoa, Papua New Guinea and New Zealand to explore sustainable-infrastructure priorities. **Key Exam Facts** - The visit focused on climate resilience, connectivity, project preparation and collaboration with development partners. - AIIB began operations in Beijing in 2016. - AIIB reports 111 approved members and authorised capital of US\$100 billion. **Connection / Background:** AIIB is a multilateral development bank focused on infrastructure and sustainability. India is a founding member and one of its largest shareholders/borrowers. **Exam Trap / What Changed:** AIIB is headquartered in Beijing; do not confuse it with the Manila-based Asian Development Bank (ADB).

[Primary / authoritative source](#) ➤

180. President delivers address on eve of the 80th Independence Day

12-15 Aug | Reports, Indices, Appointments & Awards

Why in News: President Droupadi Murmu addressed the nation on 14 August 2026 on the eve of India's 80th Independence Day. **Key Exam Facts** - The address was broadcast nationally through Akashvani and Doordarshan. - The 2026 Independence Day cycle also commemorates 150 years of Vande Mataram. - The President's 14 August address is the actual event; the 13 August announcement that the address would take place was only a schedule notice. **Connection / Background:** The President traditionally addresses the nation on the eve of Independence Day, while the Prime Minister addresses the nation from the Red Fort on 15 August. **Exam Trap / What Changed:** This item is an UPDATE to the prior schedule notice: what changed is that the address was actually delivered.

[Primary / authoritative source](#) ➤

181. Five National ANUBHAV Awards conferred at 9th ceremony; pension digitalisation highlighted

16-22 Aug | Reports, Indices, Appointments & Awards

Why in News: Union Minister Dr Jitendra Singh conferred the National ANUBHAV Awards at the 9th National ANUBHAV Awards Ceremony and the 60th Pre-Retirement Counselling Workshop in New Delhi. **Key Exam Facts:** - Five awardees received the National ANUBHAV Awards; Jury Awards were also presented. - The ceremony was held at Vigyan Bhawan on 17 August 2026. - Around 800 government officials participated in the 60th Pre-Retirement Counselling Workshop. - The Minister also released the Handbook on Pension Mitra, the awardees' citation booklet and guidelines for the Nationwide Digital Life Certificate Campaign-5. **Connection / Background:** ANUBHAV captures experiences of retiring/retired government employees and converts institutional memory into lessons for governance reforms. **Exam Trap / What Changed:** For 2026, remember five National ANUBHAV Award recipients; the broader list of selected awardees also included Jury recognition.

[Primary / authoritative source](#) ➤

182. NSE Indices launches Nifty500 Growth 50 strategy index

2026-08-27 | Reports, Indices, Appointments & Awards

Why in News: NSE Indices launches Nifty500 Growth 50 strategy index. **Key Exam Facts** - The index selects the top 50 stocks from the Nifty 500 using a growth score. - Growth score uses 3-year Profit After Tax growth, 3-year sales growth and 1-year risk-adjusted return. - Stock weights combine the growth score with free-float market capitalisation. - **Connection / Exam Trap:** It is a strategy index, not a broad-market index containing all 500 stocks. Free-float market - capitalisation excludes promoter/strategic holdings not readily available for trading.

[Primary / authoritative source](#) ➤

183. Envoys of six nations present credentials to President Droupadi Murmu

2026-08-25 | Reports, Indices, Appointments & Awards

Why in News: Envoys of six nations present credentials to President Droupadi Murmu. **Key Exam Facts** - The President accepted credentials from envoys of South Sudan, United Arab Emirates, Nigeria, Moldova, - Germany and Sweden. - Presentation of credentials formally recognises an ambassador/high commissioner as the sending state's - diplomatic representative. - **Exam link:** Rashtrapati Bhavan credentials ceremonies are useful for country-envoy mapping questions.

[Primary / authoritative source](#) ➤

184. Vice-President launches India's first non-GMO high-expansion popcorn maize hybrid

2026-08-25 | Reports, Indices, Appointments & Awards

Why in News: Vice-President launches India's first non-GMO high-expansion popcorn maize hybrid. **Key Exam Facts** - Vice-President C. P. Radhakrishnan launched the hybrid at Musunuru in Eluru district, Andhra Pradesh. - The seed was developed by Gourmet Popcornica and is positioned as an indigenous alternative to imported - popcorn hybrid technology. **Exam Trap / What Changed:** this is a non-GMO high-expansion popcorn maize hybrid, not a genetically modified crop.

[Primary / authoritative source](#) ➤

185. President appoints Judge and Additional Judges to Himachal Pradesh High Court The Ministry of Law and Justice announced judicial appointments to the Himachal Pradesh High Court on 27 August. Key points

2026-08-28 | Reports, Indices, Appointments & Awards

Why in News: President appoints Judge and Additional Judges to Himachal Pradesh High Court The Ministry of Law and Justice announced judicial appointments to the Himachal Pradesh High Court on 27 August. Key points. **Key Exam Facts** - Chirag Bhanu was appointed as a Judge of the Himachal Pradesh High Court. - Bhupesh Sharma and Yogesh Jaswal were appointed as Additional Judges. - The appointments were made by the President in exercise of constitutional powers after consultation - with the Chief Justice of India. - Remember: Appointment type: Chirag Bhanu - Judge; Bhupesh Sharma and Yogesh Jaswal - Additional

[Primary / authoritative source](#) ➤

186. Vice-President launches sovereign AI stack "Gnani Artha"

2026-08-29 | Reports, Indices, Appointments & Awards

Why in News: Vice-President C. P. Radhakrishnan launched "Gnani Artha", described in the official release as a sovereign Artificial Intelligence (AI) stack. The stack comprises Evon 3.3 and Plexus. The launch was reported on 28 August 2026. The event was framed around technological self-reliance and domestic AI capability. **Exam Trap / What Changed:** Remember the product-stack pairing: Gnani Artha = Evon 3.3 + Plexus.

[Primary / authoritative source](#) ➤

187. 21 HEI and polytechnic teachers selected for National Awards to Teachers 2026

2026-08-25 | Reports, Indices, Appointments & Awards

Why in News: 21 HEI and polytechnic teachers selected for National Awards to Teachers 2026. **Key Exam Facts** - President Droupadi Murmu will confer the awards on 5 September 2026 at Vigyan Bhawan. - The 21 awardees include 12 from Central Higher Education Institutions, 5 from State Universities/colleges and 4 - from polytechnics. - Do not mix this with the separate school-teacher award list announced earlier.

[Primary / authoritative source](#) ➤

188. Publications Division wins seven FIP Excellence in Book Production Awards 2026

24-26 AUG | Reports, Indices, Appointments & Awards

Why in News: Publications Division received seven honours at the Federation of Indian Publishers (FIP) Excellence in Book Production Awards 2026. **Connection / Background:** Publications Division functions under the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting. **Exam Trap / What Changed:** The same award result appeared in more than one daily cycle; the final count remains seven.

[Primary / authoritative source](#) ➤

Defence, Science, Technology, Health & Environment 29 updates

189. Electronics Hardware Technology Park units rise to 79

12-15 Aug | Defence, Science, Technology, Health & Environment

Why in News: The Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology released updated data on the Electronics Hardware Technology Park (EHTP) scheme. **Key Exam Facts** - EHTP is a 100% export-oriented scheme for electronic hardware. - The number of EHTP units rose from 70 in FY 2023-24 to 73 in FY 2024-25 and 79 in FY 2025-26. - Estimated exports by EHTP units in FY 2025-26 were Rs 11,101.81 crore; Karnataka had 34 units and the largest export value among listed states. **Connection / Background:** Software Technology Parks of India (STPI) provides statutory services under EHTP through a single-window clearance system. Eligible units receive benefits under the Foreign Trade Policy 2023. **Exam Trap / What Changed:** EHTP has no separate fund allocation in this release; it is an export-facilitation scheme, not a budgetary subsidy pool.

[Primary / authoritative source](#) ➤

190. MoD signs Rs 1,577 crore loiter-munition contracts for Army

12-15 Aug | Defence, Science, Technology, Health & Environment

Why in News: The Ministry of Defence (MoD) signed contracts with Tata Advanced Systems Limited and NIBE Private Limited for Loiter Munition Systems, munitions and accessories for the Indian Army. **Key Exam Facts** - Approximate contract value: Rs 1,577 crore. - The systems are intended to strengthen the capability of Artillery Regiments. - Procurement is under the Buy (Indian) category through the Fast Track Procedure. **Connection / Background:** A loitering munition can remain in an area while searching for a target before striking, combining surveillance and strike functions. **Exam Trap / What Changed:** The procurement is for the Indian Army, and the category stated is Buy (Indian), not a foreign government-to-government purchase.

[Primary / authoritative source](#) ➤

191. Indian Army athletes win 16 medals at Commonwealth Games 2026

12-15 Aug | Defence, Science, Technology, Health & Environment

Why in News: Defence Minister Rajnath Singh interacted with the Indian Army contingent that won 16 medals at the Commonwealth Games 2026 in Glasgow. **Key Exam Facts** - Army tally: 8 Gold, 7 Silver and 1 Bronze = 16 medals. - India's overall tally cited by the Ministry of Defence was 39 medals: 13 Gold, 17 Silver and 9 Bronze. - Defence Forces personnel accounted for 18 of India's medals, including 16 from Army and 2 from Navy. **Connection / Background:** Service athletes contribute to India's international sporting performance through institutional training systems. **Exam Trap / What Changed:** Do not confuse the Army's 16 medals with India's overall 39- medal tally.

[Primary / authoritative source](#) ➤

192. India's registered space start-ups reach around 440

12-15 Aug | Defence, Science, Technology, Health & Environment

Why in News: A 14 August PIB factsheet on space sovereignty reported continued expansion of India's private space ecosystem. **Key Exam Facts** - Registered space start-ups increased from 1 in 2014 to around 440 by August 2026. - India's space economy was valued at about US\$9 billion as of August 2026. - The factsheet projects the space economy at roughly US\$40-45 billion over the next decade. **Connection / Background:** Private-sector participation is facilitated through the Indian National Space Promotion and Authorization Centre (IN-SPACe), while the Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) remains the national space agency. **Exam Trap / What Changed:** IN-SPACe is the promotion/authorisation interface for non- government space entities; it is not a replacement for ISRO.

[Primary / authoritative source](#) ➤

193. Chief of the Army Staff General Dhiraj Seth begins official Nepal visit

16-22 Aug | Defence, Science, Technology, Health & Environment

Why in News: The Chief of the Army Staff (COAS) departed for Nepal for an official visit aimed at strengthening military ties.

Key Exam Facts: - Visit dates: 17-19 August 2026. - Purpose: strengthen India-Nepal defence cooperation and military-to-military ties. - COAS stands for Chief of the Army Staff. - Nepal remains one of India's closest defence partners, with deep institutional military linkages. **Connection / Background:** Banking exams frequently ask country-visit, defence-exercise and service-chief combinations. **Exam Trap / What Changed:** This is an official Nepal visit, not the India-Thailand Exercise MAITREE- XV, which is a separate development.

[Primary / authoritative source ↗](#)

194. MoD signs Rs 1,943 crore lease for two MQ-9B Sea Guardian HALE RPAS for Indian Navy

16-22 Aug | Defence, Science, Technology, Health & Environment

Why in News: The Ministry of Defence signed a contract with General Atomics Aeronautical Systems, Inc. (GA-ASI) to lease two MQ-9B Sea Guardian systems for the Indian Navy. **Key Exam Facts:** - Number of systems: 2. - Lease period: 30 months. - Approximate contract value: Rs 1,943 crore. - MQ-9B Sea Guardian is a High-Altitude Long-Endurance (HALE) Remotely Piloted Aircraft System (RPAS), intended to strengthen maritime-domain awareness and persistent Intelligence, Surveillance and Reconnaissance (ISR). **Connection / Background:** HALE platforms can remain airborne for long periods at high altitude, making them useful for wide-area maritime surveillance over the Indian Ocean Region. **Exam Trap / What Changed:** The contract is a lease of two systems for 30 months, not the same as a long-term procurement of an entire MQ-9B fleet.

[Primary / authoritative source ↗](#)

195. Combat Vehicles Research and Development Establishment hands over three indigenous aerospace-engine products

16-22 Aug | Defence, Science, Technology, Health & Environment

Why in News: The Combat Vehicles Research and Development Establishment (CVRDE) of the Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO), Chennai, handed over three indigenously developed products. **Key Exam Facts:** - Co-Axial Lube Oil Filter Assembly for the Kaveri Derivative Engine (KDE). - Mainshaft Bearing for the Small Turbo Fan Engine (STFE). - Indigenous Filter Elements for MiG-29K/KUB aircraft. **Connection / Background:** The story links indigenous component manufacturing with gas-turbine and naval-aircraft support systems. CVRDE is a DRDO laboratory. **Exam Trap / What Changed:** The products are components/support items, not three new aircraft or engines.

[Primary / authoritative source ↗](#)

196. Competition Commission of India clears General Atlantic Singapore ACK to raise Acko Technology stake above 25%

16-22 Aug | Defence, Science, Technology, Health & Environment

Why in News: The Competition Commission of India approved acquisition of additional shareholding in Acko Technology & Services Private Limited. **Key Exam Facts:** - The acquirer is General Atlantic Singapore ACK Pte. Ltd. - The fully diluted holding will cross the 25% threshold pursuant to Acko Technology's rights issue. **Connection / Background:** Acko sits in the digital insurance/insurtech ecosystem, but this specific event is a competition-law combination approval. **Exam Trap / What Changed:** The fact to retain is "crossing 25%"; the release does not say 25% is the final exact holding.

[Primary / authoritative source ↗](#)

197. SCIENCE, FINANCE & INNOVATION Rs 1 lakh crore RDI Scheme: government reiterates conflict-of- interest safeguards

16-22 Aug | Defence, Science, Technology, Health & Environment

Why in News: The Science & Technology Ministry highlighted safeguards around selection and conflict-of-interest management under the Research, Development and Innovation Scheme. **Key Exam Facts:** - Total RDI Scheme outlay: Rs 1 lakh crore. - The scheme is intended to crowd in private-sector R&D; in strategic and sunrise sectors. - Department of Science & Technology is the nodal department. - The update emphasised merit-based evaluation, transparency and protection of public and private capital. **Connection / Background:** The RDI framework uses long-term financing support to strengthen commercial R&D; especially where technology risk and gestation periods are high. **Exam Trap / What Changed:** The Rs 1 lakh crore figure is the scheme outlay, not a one-year grant to a single institution.

[Primary / authoritative source ↗](#)

198. DRI seizes 54 carved ivory artefacts in Lucknow wildlife- trafficking operation

16-22 Aug | Defence, Science, Technology, Health & Environment

Why in News: The Directorate of Revenue Intelligence busted a suspected wildlife-trafficking syndicate in Lucknow. **Key Exam Facts:** - 54 intricately carved ivory artefacts were recovered. - Four persons linked to the syndicate were intercepted. - Ivory trade is regulated/prohibited under wildlife-protection and international conservation frameworks. - DRI is the apex intelligence and investigative agency for anti-smuggling matters under the Central Board of Indirect Taxes and Customs. **Connection / Background:** Wildlife trafficking can involve both customs offences and offences under wildlife-protection law. **Exam Trap / What Changed:** DRI functions under the Department of Revenue, Ministry of Finance.

[Primary / authoritative source ↗](#)

199. DRI recovers around 56 kg methamphetamine concealed with maize at Nava Sheva Port

16-22 Aug | Defence, Science, Technology, Health & Environment

Why in News: DRI foiled an attempt to export methamphetamine from India to Saudi Arabia by concealing it in a maize consignment. **Key Exam Facts:** - Around 56 kg of methamphetamine in powder form was recovered. - The operation was conducted during 16-17 August 2026 at Nava Sheva Port. - Two persons were arrested, including an exporter and a freight-forwarding-linked accused. - The case concerns transnational trafficking of narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances. **Connection / Background:** Methamphetamine is a psychotropic stimulant controlled under narcotics law; maritime cargo routes are a key anti-smuggling enforcement domain. **Exam Trap / What Changed:** Nava Sheva is associated with Jawaharlal Nehru Port near Mumbai.

[Primary / authoritative source ↗](#)

200. Primary / official source: Open source ■ Defence Secretary concludes two-day visit to Armenia

16-22 Aug | Defence, Science, Technology, Health & Environment

Why in News: Defence Secretary Rajesh Kumar Singh concluded a visit to Armenia covering 17-18 August 2026. **Key Exam Facts:** - The visit included bilateral meetings with Armenian defence leadership. - Discussions focused on strengthening defence cooperation and institutional engagement. - Armenia is located in the South Caucasus region. - Defence diplomacy includes government-to-government dialogue, training, capability cooperation and industrial engagement. **Connection / Background:** India-Armenia defence engagement has gained importance within India's wider ties with the South Caucasus. **Exam Trap / What Changed:** Armenia's capital is Yerevan; it is not a Central Asian country.

[Primary / authoritative source ↗](#)

201. IAF concludes multinational exercises Pitch Black and Udara Shakti 2026

16-22 Aug | Defence, Science, Technology, Health & Environment

Why in News: The Indian Air Force concluded participation in high-tempo multinational exercises Pitch Black and Udara Shakti 2026. Exam focus: exercise names + Indian Air Force + international air cooperation.

[Primary / authoritative source ↗](#)

202. National Biodiversity Authority releases Rs 2.82 crore ABS funds

16-22 Aug | Defence, Science, Technology, Health & Environment

Why in News: National Biodiversity Authority released Rs 2.82 crore of Access and Benefit Sharing funds to 27 State Biodiversity Boards, 3 UT Biodiversity Councils and ICAR-IIHR. Exam link: ABS is tied to biodiversity-resource benefit sharing.

[Primary / authoritative source ↗](#)

203. DRI seizes 76 kg methamphetamine in Assam and Mizoram operations

2026-08-29 | Defence, Science, Technology, Health & Environment

Why in News: The Directorate of Revenue Intelligence (DRI) reported two intelligence-led anti-narcotics operations along the North-Eastern frontier. A total of 76 kg of methamphetamine tablets was seized in Assam and Mizoram; two persons were arrested. The action was taken under the Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances (NDPS) Act, 1985. DRI functions under the Department of Revenue, Ministry of Finance. **Exam Trap / What Changed:** DRI is a customs/intelligence enforcement body under the Finance Ministry; do not confuse it with the Narcotics Control Bureau (NCB).

[Primary / authoritative source ↗](#)

204. Technology of all conventional DRDO missile systems opened for transfer to Indian industry

2026-08-26 | Defence, Science, Technology, Health & Environment

Why in News: Technology of all conventional DRDO missile systems opened for transfer to Indian industry. **Key Exam Facts** - The Defence Minister approved transfer of DRDO-developed conventional missile technologies to Indian defence - industry for domestic production. - The move is intended to widen private-sector and MSME participation, raise domestic value addition and reduce - import dependence. - Connection / **Exam Trap:** Technology transfer is distinct from a procurement order: it enables industry to manufacture

[Primary / authoritative source ↗](#)

205. Health Ministry reiterates: no new or unusual H1N1 strain detected

24-26 AUG | Defence, Science, Technology, Health & Environment

Why in News: Two health communications during the week addressed concern about influenza cases. **Key Exam Facts** - The Government said no new or unusual H1N1 strain had been identified and described the circulating influenza as seasonal. **Connection / Background:** Influenza A(H1N1) is monitored through public-health surveillance; confirmation of a new strain requires virological evidence. **Exam Trap / What Changed:** Do not infer a new variant merely from a seasonal rise in cases.

[Primary / authoritative source ↗](#)

206. India highlights science-based snow leopard conservation at Moscow roundtable A 27 August release detailed India's participation in the Russian-Indian Roundtable on Snow Leopard Study and Conservation held in Moscow on 26 August. Key points

2026-08-28 | Defence, Science, Technology, Health & Environment

Why in News: India highlights science-based snow leopard conservation at Moscow roundtable A 27 August release detailed India's participation in the Russian-Indian Roundtable on Snow Leopard Study and Conservation held in Moscow on 26 August. Key points. **Key Exam Facts** - The meeting operated under a partnership between Interregional Association Irbis and the - International Big Cat Alliance (IBCA), signed in December 2025. - India highlighted population estimation, radio telemetry and genetic analysis. - The Wildlife Institute of India (WII) and Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change (MoEFCC) - were central to the Indian scientific inputs.

[Primary / authoritative source](#) ➤

207. Indian Navy to commission Nipun, second indigenous Nistar-class Diving Support Vessel

2026-08-26 | Defence, Science, Technology, Health & Environment

Why in News: Indian Navy to commission Nipun, second indigenous Nistar-class Diving Support Vessel. **Key Exam Facts** - Nipun is scheduled for commissioning on 31 August 2026 at Naval Dockyard, Mumbai. - It was indigenously designed and built by Hindustan Shipyard Limited, Visakhapatnam, and delivered on 30 July - 2026. - The vessel supports deep-sea diving, underwater intervention, medical support and submarine-rescue operations. - Connection / **Exam Trap:** Nipun is the second Diving Support Vessel of the Nistar class; remember ship-class and builder

[Primary / authoritative source](#) ➤

208. Indian Navy receives Samarthak, first indigenous Multi-Purpose Vessel Samarthak, the first indigenous Multi-Purpose Vessel (MPV), was delivered to the Indian Navy on 27 August 2026. Key points

2026-08-28 | Defence, Science, Technology, Health & Environment

Why in News: Indian Navy receives Samarthak, first indigenous Multi-Purpose Vessel Samarthak, the first indigenous Multi-Purpose Vessel (MPV), was delivered to the Indian Navy on 27 August 2026. Key points. **Key Exam Facts** - Builder: Larsen & Toubro Ltd. (L&T), Kattupalli. - Indigenous content: more than 75%. - Roles include trial and evaluation, maritime surveillance and reconnaissance, offshore patrolling and - Humanitarian Assistance and Disaster Relief (HADR).

[Primary / authoritative source](#) ➤

209. Rs 472 crore Jabalpur project to overhaul 80 T-72/T-90 tanks a year The Defence Minister and Madhya Pradesh Chief Minister performed Bhoomi Pujan for a T-Series tank overhaul project at Vehicle Factory, Jabalpur. Key points

2026-08-28 | Defence, Science, Technology, Health & Environment

Why in News: Rs 472 crore Jabalpur project to overhaul 80 T-72/T-90 tanks a year The Defence Minister and Madhya Pradesh Chief Minister performed Bhoomi Pujan for a T-Series tank overhaul project at Vehicle Factory, Jabalpur. Key points. **Key Exam Facts** - Estimated project cost: Rs 472 crore. - Planned annual capacity: 80 T-72 and T-90 tanks. - Vehicle Factory Jabalpur is a unit of the Mini Ratna defence public sector undertaking Armoured - Vehicles Nigam Limited (AVNL). - Remember: The annual capacity is for overhaul of 80 tanks, not purchase of 80 new tanks.

[Primary / authoritative source](#) ➤

210. Sri Lanka Navy Commander Vice Admiral Damian Fernando visits India Vice Admiral Damian Fernando, Commander of the Sri Lanka Navy, is visiting India from 26-29 August 2026 on his maiden visit after assuming command. Key points

2026-08-28 | Defence, Science, Technology, Health & Environment

Why in News: Sri Lanka Navy Commander Vice Admiral Damian Fernando visits India Vice Admiral Damian Fernando, Commander of the Sri Lanka Navy, is visiting India from 26-29 August 2026 on his maiden visit after assuming command. **Key points. Key Exam Facts** - On 27 August he received a ceremonial Guard of Honour and paid homage at the National War - Memorial. - He held talks with Admiral Krishna Swaminathan, Chief of the Naval Staff. - The agenda covers joint operations, capacity building, training and maritime security; the visit also - includes Kochi and Southern Naval Command.

[Primary / authoritative source](#) ➤

211. India and Kuwait hold inaugural Joint Defence Committee meeting

2026-08-29 | Defence, Science, Technology, Health & Environment

Why in News: The first India-Kuwait Joint Defence Committee (JDC) meeting was held in New Delhi on 28 August 2026. Areas discussed included training, military exercises, military medicine, staff talks, defence industry and Research & Development (R&D). The JDC operationalises the defence-cooperation Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) signed during the Prime Minister's Kuwait visit in December 2024. India-Kuwait diplomatic relations were established in 1962; ties were upgraded to a Strategic Partnership in December 2024. **Exam Trap / What Changed:** This was the inaugural JDC meeting, not the first diplomatic engagement between the two countries.

[Primary / authoritative source](#) ➤

212. PM interaction with space-startup CEOs stresses policy consistency and global scale

2026-08-24 | Defence, Science, Technology, Health & Environment

Why in News: On National Space Day, the Prime Minister's interaction with Indian space-startup CEOs highlighted the next phase of private participation in the space economy. **Key Exam Facts** - The discussion covered launch systems, propulsion, space logistics, robotic spacecraft for capturing defunct satellites, docking and refuelling technologies - and space-pharma ideas. - The Prime Minister stressed predictable and consistent policy, cost competitiveness, risk-taking capacity and attracting global talent to India. - Start-ups were encouraged to build wider applications of space technology that improve people's lives and link with other development sectors. **Connection / Background:** India opened the space sector more widely to private participation and created institutions such as IN-SPACe to facilitate and authorise non-government space activity. **Exam Trap / What Changed:** This is an ecosystem/private-space update, not a new ISRO mission launch. IN-SPACe facilitates private participation; ISRO remains India's national space agency.

[Primary / authoritative source](#) ➤

213. India observes its third National Space Day on 23 August

2026-08-24 | Defence, Science, Technology, Health & Environment

Why in News: India marked the third National Space Day on 23 August 2026, commemorating the Chandrayaan-3 lunar landing achieved on 23 August 2023. **Key Exam Facts** - Chandrayaan-3 made India the fourth country to achieve a soft landing on the Moon. - India became the first country to land near the lunar south-polar region. - The landing site was named Shiv Shakti Point. - 23 August was declared National Space Day to commemorate the mission's successful landing. **Connection / Background:** Chandrayaan-3 consisted of a propulsion module, the Vikram lander and the Pragyan rover. The annual observance connects a current event with a high-frequency static science fact. **Exam Trap / What Changed:** National Space Day = 23 August and Chandrayaan-3. Do not mix it with National Science Day (28 February) or World Space Week (4-10 October).

[Primary / authoritative source](#) ➤

214. National Science Centre Delhi unveils newly developed Prehistoric Life Gallery

2026-08-27 | Defence, Science, Technology, Health & Environment

Why in News: National Science Centre Delhi unveils newly developed Prehistoric Life Gallery. **Key Exam Facts** - The gallery was unveiled on 26 August at the National Science Centre, Delhi, a unit of the National Council of Science - Museums. - It uses life-sized and scaled animated robotic models of dinosaurs and other extinct creatures to recreate prehistoric - environments. - The exhibition is designed to improve public understanding of prehistoric life, evolution and natural history.

[Primary / authoritative source](#) ➤

215. Health Ministry sets Phase-I target of 160 district hospitals by March 2027 The Union Health Minister reviewed major Budget 2026-27 health projects on 27 August, including the phased strengthening of emergency and trauma care in district hospitals. Key points

2026-08-28 | Defence, Science, Technology, Health & Environment

Why in News: Health Ministry sets Phase-I target of 160 district hospitals by March 2027 The Union Health Minister reviewed major Budget 2026-27 health projects on 27 August, including the phased strengthening of emergency and trauma care in district hospitals. Key points. **Key Exam Facts** - A gap analysis categorised 613 District Hospitals for phased implementation. - Phase I: 160 hospitals targeted by March 2027; Phase II: 203; Phase III: 250. - The programme aims to increase emergency and trauma care capacity in District Hospitals by 50%. - Remember: 160 hospitals are in Phase I. The gap analysis covers 613 district hospitals in all.

[Primary / authoritative source](#) ➤

216. Health Ministry reviews India's malaria-elimination target for 2030

2026-08-29 | Defence, Science, Technology, Health & Environment

Why in News: The Union Health Ministry reviewed progress and strategies for eliminating malaria in India by 2030. The review stressed focused area-specific action and stronger surveillance. India's national target remains malaria elimination by 2030. Elimination requires interruption of local transmission and sustained surveillance; it is different from eradication worldwide. **Exam Trap / What Changed:** Elimination is a country/area-level goal; eradication means permanent global reduction to zero.

[Primary / authoritative source](#) ➤

217. National Biodiversity Authority releases fresh Rs 5.68 crore Access and Benefit Sharing funds

30 Aug | Defence, Science, Technology, Health & Environment

Why in News: National Biodiversity Authority made a fresh Access and Benefit Sharing disbursement of Rs 5.68 crore. **Connection:** ABS links commercial/research use of biological resources with fair benefit-sharing under biodiversity governance. **Exam Trap:** this fresh release supersedes smaller earlier-week disbursement figures for the latest-value question.

[Primary / authoritative source](#) ➤

Sports 9 updates

218. Sports Ministry suspends recognition of Table Tennis Federation of India

12-15 Aug | Sports

Why in news: The Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports suspended recognition of the Table Tennis Federation of India (TTFI) over governance failures. - The Indian Olympic Association (IOA) was asked to arrange an ad-hoc committee to run the sport. - The action came ahead of the Asian Games. - TTFI = Table Tennis Federation of India; IOA = Indian Olympic Association. **Connection:** Sports-governance questions are often tested through the federation or association involved rather than details of the dispute. **Remember / possible trap:** The suspended body is TTFI; IOA was asked to facilitate interim administration.

[Primary / authoritative source ↗](#)

219. Deepak Dhar among four recipients of ICTP Dirac Medal 2026

12-15 Aug | Sports

Why in news: The International Centre for Theoretical Physics (ICTP) announced four recipients of its 2026 Dirac Medal. - Recipients: Bernard Derrida, Deepak Dhar, Marc Mézard and Haim Sompolsky. - Deepak Dhar is an INSA Distinguished Professor at the International Centre for Theoretical Sciences of Tata Institute of Fundamental Research. - The 2026 citation recognises pioneering work in statistical mechanics and extensions to optimisation, theoretical neuroscience and artificial intelligence. - The ICTP Dirac Medal was established in 1985. **Connection:** Awards questions often ask recipient + awarding institution. Retain both together. **Remember / possible trap:** This is the ICTP Dirac Medal; do not merge it with similarly named physics awards from other organisations.

[Primary / authoritative source ↗](#)

220. 1,057 Police, Fire and allied-service personnel receive Independence Day medals

12-15 Aug | Sports

Why in News: The Ministry of Home Affairs announced 1,057 gallantry and service medals for Police, Fire, Home Guard & Civil Defence and Correctional Services personnel. **Key Exam Facts** - 301 personnel received the Medal for Gallantry (GM). - 92 received the President's Medal for Distinguished Service (PSM). - 664 received the Medal for Meritorious Service (MSM); $301 + 92 + 664 = 1,057$. **Connection / Background:** The gallantry medal recognises conspicuous gallantry; PSM recognises a specially distinguished service record; MSM recognises valuable service marked by resource and devotion to duty. **Exam Trap / What Changed:** The 1,057 total is not the same as the separate Armed Forces gallantry-awards announcement.

[Primary / authoritative source ↗](#)

221. Ayush Shetty knocks out world No. 1 Shi Yuqi at BWF World Championships in New Delhi

16-22 Aug | Sports

Why in News: India's Ayush Shetty produced a major first-round upset at the 2026 Badminton World Championships, defeating defending champion and world No. 1 Shi Yuqi of China. **Key Exam Facts:** - Score: 21-14, 13-21, 21-19. - The tournament is being held in New Delhi. - Shetty was making his World Championships debut. - It was his first win over Shi after three previous defeats and sent him into the second round. **Connection / Background:** The BWF World Championships are badminton's premier individual world- title event, separate from team competitions such as the Thomas and Uber Cups. **Exam Trap / What Changed:** The opponent was China's Shi Yuqi, the world No. 1 and defending champion; this was a first-round win, not the title match.

[Primary / authoritative source ↗](#)

222. National Sports Awards 2025 announced: 17 Arjuna awardees; Justice Arun Kumar Mishra chaired selection committee

16-22 Aug | Sports

Why in News The Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports announced the National Sports Awards 2025 on 18 August 2026. **Key Exam Facts:** - The selection committee was chaired by retired Supreme Court judge Justice Arun Kumar Mishra. - Seventeen sportspersons were named for the Arjuna Award, including Tejaswin Shankar, Treesa Jolly, Pullela Gayatri Gopichand, Vidit Santosh Gujarathi, Divya Jitendra Deshmukh, Lalremsiami and Rajkumar Pal. - I. Arumainayagam (football) was named for the Arjuna Award (Lifetime). - The Rashtriya Khel Protsahan Puraskar went to the Army Paralympic Node, Pune. **Connection / Background:** Awards questions often test award-recipient-sport mapping rather than only the total count. **Exam Trap / What Changed:** The award year is 2025, while the announcement was made in August 2026.

[Primary / authoritative source ↗](#)

223. India beat South Africa 6-1 for first win at Women's Hockey World Cup 2026

16-22 Aug | Sports

Why in News India recorded its first win of the tournament in its second Pool D match on 18 August, beating South Africa 6-1. **Key Exam Facts:** - Result: India 6-1 South Africa. - It followed India's 2-2 opening draw against China, which had already been covered in the previous edition. **Connection / Background:** Tournament questions often test sequence: opening draw vs China -> first win vs South Africa. **Exam Trap / What Changed:** UPDATE only: 6-1 is the new result. The 2-2 China result is background and should not be treated as a fresh story.

[Primary / authoritative source ↗](#)

224. UPDATE: India women hold England 0-0 and advance from World Cup pool

16-22 Aug | Sports

Why in News: India's women drew 0-0 with England in their final Pool D match at the International Hockey Federation (FIH) Hockey World Cup and advanced to the next stage. **Key Exam Facts:** - India finished second in Pool D with five points. - China topped the pool with seven points. - The result followed India's earlier draw with China and win over South Africa; only the new qualification outcome is carried here. **Connection / Background:** For banking-exam sports GA, stable tournament outcomes such as qualification, medals, winners and host cities are more durable than live-match details. **Exam Trap / What Changed:** This is the women's World Cup Pool D outcome; do not mix it with the men's tournament result against Wales. Hockey India ■ SPORTS | BADMINTON | UPDATE BWF Worlds: Treesa Jolly-Gayatri Gopichand reach women's doubles quarterfinals

[Primary / authoritative source ↗](#)

225. BWF World Championships 2026 conclude in New Delhi with five champions crowned

2026-08-24 | Sports

Why in News: The BWF World Championships 2026 concluded in New Delhi on 23 August, producing historic titles for France and major wins for South Korea and China. **Key Exam Facts** - Men's singles: Alex Lanier (France) - first French men's singles world champion. - Women's singles: An Se-young (South Korea) - her second world title. - Men's doubles: Liang Weikeng / Wang Chang (China). - Women's doubles: Baek Ha-na / Lee So-hee (South Korea). - Mixed doubles: Thom Gicquel / Delphine Delrue (France) - France's first mixed-doubles world title. **Connection / Background:** BWF stands for Badminton World Federation, the international governing body for badminton. World Championships titles are separate from Olympic medals and the annual BWF World Tour Finals. **Exam Trap / What Changed:** Alex Lanier is the men's singles champion and An Se-young the women's singles champion. Keep category winners separate; the event was held in New Delhi.

[Primary / authoritative source ↗](#)

226. UPDATE: National Sports Day culminates in "Ek Ghanta Khel Ke Maidan Mein"; Khelo India Dialogue reaches 5,000+ institutes

24-29 AUG | Sports

Why in News: The week-long National Sports Day engagement culminated on 29 August at Major Dhyan Chand National Stadium. **Key Exam Facts** - 29 August 2026 marked the 121st birth anniversary of hockey legend Major Dhyan Chand. The nationwide theme/ initiative was "Ek Ghanta Khel Ke Maidan Mein". - The Khelo India Dialogue earlier connected participants from more than 5,000 institutions and linked sports participation with nation-building and a drug-free India.

Connection / Background: National Sports Day is observed annually on 29 August, Major Dhyan Chand's birth anniversary. **Exam Trap / What Changed:** 24-27 August releases announced the dialogue; 29 August is the actual National Sports Day outcome.

[Primary / authoritative source ↗](#)

Other High-Yield General Awareness 92 updates

227. UMANG and DigiLocker scale up digital public-service delivery

12-15 Aug | Other High-Yield General Awareness

Why in news: The Government released updated usage and service statistics for major Digital India platforms. - Unified Mobile Application for New-age Governance (UMANG): about 2,575 services as of 31 July 2026 - 880 Central and 1,695 State services. - UMANG had more than 11.66 crore registered users and about 798 crore transactions in the previous three years. - DigiLocker offered 5,437 document types/services and had more than 72.43 crore registered users. - Common Service Centres (CSCs): 4,07,122 functional at Gram Panchayat level as of 30 June 2026; 70,069 operated by women Village Level Entrepreneurs (VLEs). **Connection:** UMANG is a service-access layer; DigiLocker is a digital-document platform. Both sit within the wider Digital India architecture. **Remember / possible trap:** UMANG's headline number is services; DigiLocker's headline number is document types/services. Keep the platforms separate.

[Primary / authoritative source ↗](#)

228. BHASHINI and NITI Aayog sign multilingual AI partnership

12-15 Aug | Other High-Yield General Awareness

Why in news: Digital India BHASHINI Division and NITI Aayog signed a Statement of Intent to advance multilingual, voice-first Artificial Intelligence (AI) for public-service delivery. - Digital India BHASHINI Division (DIBD) functions under the Digital India Corporation, Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology. - The partnership will integrate language technologies across NITI Aayog's digital platforms. - The initiative includes BHASHINI for Seva/Sanchalan and collaboration across BHASHINI Udyat, Mitra, AppMitra, Sahayogi and Pravakta. **Connection:** NITI stands for National Institution for Transforming India. BHASHINI belongs to India's language-technology and digital-public-infrastructure ecosystem. **Remember / possible trap:** BHASHINI is a government digital-language initiative, not a private AI company.

[Primary / authoritative source ↗](#)

229. Kavach Version 4.0 approved on 660 route km of Izzatnagar Division

12-15 Aug | Other High-Yield General Awareness

Why in news: Indian Railways approved a Rs 295 crore Kavach Version 4.0 project for the Izzatnagar Division of North Eastern Railway. - Coverage: 660 route km. - Estimated cost: Rs 295 crore. - The work includes a Long-Term Evolution (LTE) communication backbone. - Kavach is India's indigenous Automatic Train Protection (ATP) system; it can automatically apply brakes when required and supports safer operations in low visibility. **Connection:** Remember Kavach as railway safety + Automatic Train Protection, not as a ticketing or passenger-service platform. **Remember / possible trap:** Izzatnagar Division belongs to North Eastern Railway, not Northeast Frontier Railway.

[Primary / authoritative source ↗](#)

230. Census 2027: first phase completed in 31 States/UTs

12-15 Aug | Other High-Yield General Awareness

Why in news: The Ministry of Home Affairs provided an update on preparatory activities for Census 2027. - First phase - Houselisting and Housing Census - had been completed in 31 States/Union Territories. - Remaining states were scheduled to complete the first phase by September 2026. - Population Enumeration in Ladakh and specified snow-bound non-synchronous areas is scheduled for 1-30 September 2026, with a revisional round on 1-5 October. - Self-enumeration for these areas is available from 17-31 August 2026. - Rs 4,102 crore had already been released to States/UTs for training, manpower, technical infrastructure and honoraria. **Connection:** Census 2027 increasingly uses digital tools, including mobile applications, the Census Management and Monitoring System portal and self-enumeration. **Remember / possible trap:** Houselisting and Housing Census is Phase I; Population Enumeration is Phase II.

[Primary / authoritative source ↗](#)

231. Archana Varma takes charge as Water Resources Secretary

12-15 Aug | Other High-Yield General Awareness

Why in news: Archana Varma assumed charge as Secretary, Department of Water Resources, River Development and Ganga Rejuvenation, Ministry of Jal Shakti. - She is a 1995-batch Indian Administrative Service (IAS) officer of the Assam cadre. - She took charge on 12 August 2026. **Connection:** Appointments are easier to retain when the person is linked to the exact department and parent ministry. **Remember / possible trap:** The Department of Water Resources, River Development and Ganga Rejuvenation is under the Ministry of Jal Shakti.

[Primary / authoritative source ↗](#)

232. World Elephant Day: India hosts nearly 60% of wild Asian elephants

12-15 Aug | Other High-Yield General Awareness

Why in news: World Elephant Day was observed on 12 August, with the Environment Ministry highlighting India's conservation position. - India hosts nearly 60% of the world's wild Asian elephant population. - India has 33 Elephant Reserves and 150 identified elephant corridors. - Project Elephant, protected habitats, corridors and technology-based monitoring form major parts of the conservation effort. - World Elephant Day is observed annually on 12 August. **Connection:** Important-day questions become stronger when connected to a current official statistic rather than memorising only the date. **Remember / possible trap:** The 60% figure refers to the world's wild Asian elephant population, not all elephants globally.

[Primary / authoritative source ↗](#)

233. Three Sanchar Mitras selected as ITU Generation Connect Youth Envoys

12-15 Aug | Other High-Yield General Awareness

Why in news: Three Indian Sanchar Mitras were selected as Generation Connect Youth Envoys for 2026-2030. - The selection was facilitated by the Department of Telecommunications (DoT). - Generation Connect Youth Envoy (GCYE) is an initiative of the International Telecommunication Union (ITU). - Term: 2026-2030. **Connection:** ITU is the United Nations specialised agency for information and communication technologies, creating a useful current-static international-organisation link. **Remember / possible trap:** ITU and Universal Postal Union (UPU) are different United Nations specialised agencies.

[Primary / authoritative source ↗](#)

234. PM E-DRIVE amended: e-two-wheeler timeline extended to 31 March 2028

12-15 Aug | Other High-Yield General Awareness

Why in news: The Ministry of Heavy Industries issued an amendment this week extending the electric two-wheeler component of the PM E-DRIVE scheme. - PM E-DRIVE = PM Electric Drive Revolution in Innovative Vehicle Enhancement. - The terminal date for electric two-wheelers was extended to 31 March 2028. - The amended overall scheme outlay is Rs 11,900 crore. - The official scheme portal lists the 10 August 2026 amendment on enhancement of scheme outlay and extension of the e-two-wheeler timeline. **Connection:** This is a classic What Changed? story: revised timeline and revised outlay are more exam-worthy than a generic definition of electric vehicles. **Remember / possible trap:** Use the latest amendment rather than an old note carrying the earlier timeline or outlay.

[Primary / authoritative source ↗](#)

235. Bharat GI to bring Geographical Indication products to ONDC and GeM

12-15 Aug | Other High-Yield General Awareness

Why in news: The Ministry of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises and the Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade signed a memorandum to improve commercialisation and market access of Geographical Indication products. - Bharat GI is the dedicated banner under which Geographical Indication (GI) collectives/authorised users are to be facilitated on Open Network for Digital Commerce (ONDC) and Government e-Marketplace (GeM). - Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade (DPIIT) is the nodal department for registration and legal protection of Geographical Indications in India. - The initiative also links with One District One Product (ODOP). **Connection:** A GI is an intellectual-property right linked to geographical origin and qualities or reputation associated with that origin. **Remember / possible trap:** DPIIT handles GI registration/legal-protection policy; GeM and ONDC are market-access channels in this initiative.

[Primary / authoritative source ↗](#)

236. V.O. Chidambaranar Port becomes first Indian port with ISO 50001:2018 certification

12-15 Aug | Other High-Yield General Awareness

Why in news: V.O. Chidambaranar Port Authority received ISO 50001:2018 certification for its Energy Management System. - It is the first Indian port to receive the certification. - The port is located at Thoothukudi, Tamil Nadu. - ISO 50001:2018 is an international standard for energy-management systems. **Connection:** ISO = International Organization for Standardization. ISO 50001 concerns systematic energy management. **Remember / possible trap:** Remember the location: Thoothukudi, Tamil Nadu.

[Primary / authoritative source ↗](#)

237. India Post makes its first Tiranga delivery by drone

12-15 Aug | Other High-Yield General Awareness

Why in News: India Post carried out its first-ever drone delivery of the national flag, sending a Tiranga from Mandi Head Post Office to Rehardhar Branch Post Office in Himachal Pradesh. **Key Exam Facts** - The initiative was inaugurated virtually by Communications Minister Jyotiraditya M. Scindia. - The flag parcel was received at Rehardhar and handed to an Army veteran. - The Department of Posts plans drone-based mail transmission on 150 identified routes in Himachal Pradesh and Assam. **Connection / Background:** The trial links postal last-mile service with drone technology for difficult terrain and remote areas. **Exam Trap / What Changed:** This was India Post's first Tiranga drone delivery, not necessarily India's first-ever use of a drone for any postal experiment.

[Primary / authoritative source ↗](#)

238. India has 45 UNESCO World Heritage Sites; 615 antiquities repatriated in five years

12-15 Aug | Other High-Yield General Awareness

Why in News: A 14 August cultural-heritage factsheet consolidated updated heritage, conservation and repatriation figures.

Key Exam Facts - India now has 45 United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) World Heritage Sites. - The Archaeological Survey of India (ASI) protects 3,686 centrally protected monuments as of April 2026. - A total of 615 antiquities were retrieved/repatriated during the previous five years up to 30 June 2026. **Connection /**

Background: ASI is the principal archaeological research and heritage- conservation organisation under the Ministry of Culture. **Exam Trap / What Changed:** World Heritage Sites (45) and centrally protected monuments (3,686) are different classifications and should not be mixed.

[Primary / authoritative source](#) ➤

239. Manufacturing factsheet highlights 7.8% output growth in June 2026

12-15 Aug | Other High-Yield General Awareness

Why in News: A late-evening 14 August factsheet reviewed the current manufacturing momentum and policy ecosystem.

Key Exam Facts - Manufacturing output grew 7.8% in June 2026. - Manufacturing contributes about 16-17% of Gross Domestic Product (GDP) and employs more than 27 million workers, according to the factsheet. - Manufacturing Gross Value Added (GVA) at constant prices, using the revised 2022-23 base, recorded a 10.88% compound annual growth rate from 2022-23 to 2025-26. **Connection / Background:** GDP measures economy-wide value added plus taxes less subsidies; GVA measures value generated by producers. Manufacturing GVA is therefore a sectoral production-side measure. **Exam Trap / What Changed:** Do not equate manufacturing's GDP share with its monthly industrial-production growth rate; they measure different things.

[Primary / authoritative source](#) ➤

240. 14 August observed as Partition Horrors Remembrance Day

12-15 Aug | Other High-Yield General Awareness

Why in News: India observed Partition Horrors Remembrance Day (Vibhajan Vibhishika Smriti Diwas) on 14 August; the Vice-President highlighted the human cost and mass displacement associated with Partition. **Key Exam Facts** - The observance is held annually on 14 August. - It commemorates the suffering and sacrifices of people affected by the 1947 Partition. - The day was announced in 2021. **Connection / Background:** For exams, remember the date and purpose rather than treating it as a celebratory national festival. **Exam Trap / What Changed:** Partition Horrors Remembrance Day is 14 August; Independence Day is 15 August.

[Primary / authoritative source](#) ➤

241. FAST-DS 2026 comes into force: one-time window for small taxpayers to disclose specified foreign assets/income

16-22 Aug | Other High-Yield General Awareness

Why in News: The Foreign Assets of Small Taxpayers - Disclosure Scheme, 2026 (FAST-DS) became effective on 16 August 2026 after the Central Board of Direct Taxes notified the rules. **Key Exam Facts:** - It is a one-time voluntary disclosure scheme under Chapter IV (Sections 130-144) of the Finance Act, 2026. - Eligible declarations can be made up to 31 December 2026. - The framework covers specified undisclosed foreign assets/income and provides prescribed tax/fee treatment, valuation rules and forms. - For exam purposes, remember the full form FAST-DS and that the effective date is 16 August 2026. **Connection / Background:** This links direct-tax compliance, foreign-asset reporting and the government's push toward voluntary disclosure rather than prolonged litigation. **Exam Trap / What Changed:** Do not confuse this with a permanent amnesty. It is a time-bound one- time scheme with eligibility/exclusion conditions.

[Primary / authoritative source](#) ➤

242. UPDATE: Devdutt Padikkal converts maiden Test hundred into 167 at Galle

16-22 Aug | Other High-Yield General Awareness

Why in News: After reaching his maiden Test century on the previous day, Padikkal extended the innings to 167 on 16 August. **Key Exam Facts:** - Score: 167. - Venue: Galle International Stadium, Sri Lanka. - It was his maiden Test hundred. - India ended day two at 460/9. **Connection / Background:** This is retained only as a material update to the previously covered Test story, not as repetition. **Exam Trap / What Changed:** The new exam-worthy fact is 167/maiden Test hundred; the earlier "600th Test" milestone should not be republished as new.

[Primary / authoritative source ↗](#)

243. MeitY approves 31 more ECMS proposals; 106 projects now approved

16-22 Aug | Other High-Yield General Awareness

Why in News: The Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology (MeitY) announced fresh approvals under the Electronics Components Manufacturing Scheme (ECMS). **Key Exam Facts:** - 31 additional proposals were approved with projected investment of about Rs 6,844 crore. - Cumulative approvals reached 106 projects, with proposed investment of about Rs 69,548 crore and around 75,000 direct jobs. - 38 ECMS plants were operational and 16 were in advanced stages of construction. - ECMS is aimed at deepening domestic value addition in electronic components and critical raw/ material inputs. **Connection / Background:** Electronics manufacturing policy increasingly focuses not only on final assembly but also on components and supply-chain depth, which reduces import dependence and raises domestic value addition. **Exam Trap / What Changed:** The fresh 31 proposals are a subset of the cumulative 106 approvals; do not treat 31 and 106 as competing figures.

[Primary / authoritative source ↗](#)

244. Kharif sowing area at 1,016.57 lakh hectares as of 14 August 2026

16-22 Aug | Other High-Yield General Awareness

Why in News: The Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare released the latest area-coverage data for kharif crops on 17 August. **Key Exam Facts:** - Total kharif area was about 1,016.57 lakh hectares versus 1,037.52 lakh hectares in the corresponding period of 2025 - a decline of 20.95 lakh hectares. - Rice area was 379.07 lakh hectares versus 393.44 lakh hectares a year earlier. - Pulses covered 108.14 lakh hectares versus 108.49 lakh hectares. - Oilseeds covered 184.46 lakh hectares versus 185.36 lakh hectares; cotton was 107.30 lakh hectares versus 108.26 lakh hectares. **Connection / Background:** Kharif crops are generally sown with the southwest monsoon and harvested in the autumn. Sowing-area data can influence expectations for agricultural output, food prices and rural income. **Exam Trap / What Changed:** Area sown is not the same as production. Yield and weather conditions determine final output.

[Primary / authoritative source ↗](#)

245. Finance Minister chairs 3rd Apex Monitoring Authority meeting of NICDIT

16-22 Aug | Other High-Yield General Awareness

Why in News: Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman chaired the third meeting of the Apex Monitoring Authority of the National Industrial Corridor Development and Implementation Trust (NICDIT) in New Delhi. **Key Exam Facts:** - The meeting reviewed progress of projects under the National Industrial Corridor Development Programme (NICDP). - NICDIT stands for National Industrial Corridor Development and Implementation Trust. - NICDP is the umbrella programme for development of integrated industrial-corridor nodes and townships. - The review focused on project progress and priorities for the next phase of industrial-corridor development. **Connection / Background:** Industrial corridors combine transport connectivity, logistics and planned industrial nodes to improve manufacturing competitiveness and crowd in private investment. **Exam Trap / What Changed:** NICDIT is the implementation trust; NICDP is the programme. The acronyms are related but not interchangeable.

[Primary / authoritative source ↗](#)

246. India launches first Guide to Grasslands and Other Open Natural Ecosystems at UNCCD COP17

16-22 Aug | Other High-Yield General Awareness

Why in News: India launched its first-ever Guide to Grasslands and Other Open Natural Ecosystems (ONES) of India at the 17th Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD). **Key Exam Facts:** - Venue: Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia. - Event: UNCCD COP17. - The Guide covers grasslands, savannas, deserts and other open natural ecosystems. - Environment Minister Bhupender Yadav highlighted science-based conservation and the role of grasslands in biodiversity, livelihoods and climate resilience. **Connection / Background:** UNCCD is the UN convention focused on desertification, land degradation and drought. Open natural ecosystems are ecologically valuable even when they are not tree-dense forests. **Exam Trap / What Changed:** COP17 here is UNCCD COP17, not the climate-change COP under UNFCCC or biodiversity COP under CBD.

Primary / authoritative source ↗

247. SEMICON India 2026 announced for 17-19 September at Yashobhoomi, New Delhi

16-22 Aug | Other High-Yield General Awareness

Why in News The Government released details for the fifth edition of SEMICON India, positioned as a major semiconductor ecosystem event. **Key Exam Facts:** - Dates: 17-19 September 2026; venue: Yashobhoomi, Dwarka, New Delhi. - Theme: "Silicon to Systems: Building the Ecosystem". - The event is jointly organised by the India Semiconductor Mission (ISM) and SEMI. - The official release said 12 semiconductor projects had been approved, 3 had commenced commercial production, 24 startups had been approved under the Design Linked Incentive (DLI), and design-tool support had reached more than 332 academic institutes and 105 startups. **Connection / Background:** For exams, connect fabrication/packaging projects, chip design support and ecosystem events under one India Semiconductor Mission chain. **Exam Trap / What Changed:** SEMICON India 2026 is the event; the India Semiconductor Mission is the government mission. Do not treat them as the same institution.

Primary / authoritative source ↗

248. Sixth Positive Indigenisation List adds 405 strategic items with Rs 3,070 crore business potential

16-22 Aug | Other High-Yield General Awareness

Why in News The Department of Defence Production (DDP), Ministry of Defence, released the sixth Positive Indigenisation List (PIL). **Key Exam Facts:** - The sixth list contains 405 strategic items with estimated business potential of Rs 3,070 crore. - It includes 16 Indian Coast Guard (ICG) items and 389 items of Defence Public Sector Undertakings (DPSUs). - The SRIJAN portal was launched in August 2020; more than 33,000 items had been offered for indigenisation up to June 2026. - The first five Positive Indigenisation Lists together covered 5,012 items. **Connection / Background:** Positive Indigenisation Lists create future import restrictions for notified defence items and encourage domestic sourcing and vendor development. **Exam Trap / What Changed:** 405 belongs to the sixth list. 5,012 is the combined count in the first five lists.

Primary / authoritative source ↗

249. Digital Bharat Nidhi signs amended BharatNet implementation agreement for Chhattisgarh

16-22 Aug | Other High-Yield General Awareness

Why in News An agreement was signed for implementation of the Amended BharatNet Programme in Chhattisgarh. **Key Exam Facts:** - The parties include Digital Bharat Nidhi (DBN), Department of Telecommunications (DoT), Government of Chhattisgarh, Chhattisgarh State BharatNet Infrastructure Limited (CSBIL), Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited (BSNL) and Chhattisgarh Infotech Promotion Society (CHiPS). - BharatNet is the government's rural broadband infrastructure programme, built around connecting Gram Panchayats and extending last-mile digital access. **Connection / Background:** Link Digital Bharat Nidhi with telecom universal-service funding and BharatNet with rural broadband infrastructure. **Exam Trap / What Changed:** Digital Bharat Nidhi is not a bank or a digital-payment scheme; it belongs to the telecom connectivity ecosystem.

[Primary / authoritative source](#) ➤

250. National Cadet Corps (NCC) launches all-girls high-altitude trek "Aparajita - Parang La 2026"

16-22 Aug | Other High-Yield General Awareness

Why in News Defence Minister Rajnath Singh flagged off the National Cadet Corps (NCC) all-India girls high-altitude long trek. **Key Exam Facts:** - Twenty-eight girl cadets will undertake a 250-km, 30-day expedition. - The route crosses Parang La Pass at 5,578 metres (18,300 feet), linking Spiti Valley in Himachal Pradesh with the Changthang region of Ladakh. - The expedition is led by women officers from the three Services. **Connection / Background:** The story connects the NCC with youth development, adventure training and women-led high-altitude expeditions. **Exam Trap / What Changed:** Parang La = 5,578 metres; the trek length = 250 km. These are different measures.

[Primary / authoritative source](#) ➤

251. NH-22: Muzaffarpur-Sitamarhi-Sonbarsa section to be four-laned on HAM

16-22 Aug | Other High-Yield General Awareness

Why in News: The CCEA approved upgradation of the Muzaffarpur-Sitamarhi-Sonbarsa section of NH-22 in Bihar. **Key Exam Facts:** - Project length: 82.578 km. - Capital cost: Rs 3,590.73 crore. - Implementation model: Hybrid Annuity Mode (HAM). - The corridor improves connectivity towards the India-Nepal border region. **Connection / Background:** Under HAM, part of the project cost is paid by the government during construction while the balance is linked to annuity payments over the concession period. **Exam Trap / What Changed:** HAM is not the same as a fully toll-funded BOT project.

[Primary / authoritative source](#) ➤

252. CAQM approves phased shift towards cleaner Light Goods Vehicles in Delhi-NCR

16-22 Aug | Other High-Yield General Awareness

Why in News: The Commission for Air Quality Management approved measures for cleaner light- goods transport and stronger dust control in Delhi-NCR. **Key Exam Facts:** - The decision came through the 29th Full Commission meeting. - The framework targets a phased transition of Light Goods Vehicles towards cleaner fuels/ technologies. - Dust-control requirements for stone-crushing units were also strengthened. - CAQM is a statutory body for air-quality management in NCR and adjoining areas. **Connection / Background:** CAQM coordinates cross-state air-pollution action because the National Capital Region's airshed cuts across administrative boundaries. **Exam Trap / What Changed:** CAQM is not the Central Pollution Control Board; they are separate institutions.

[Primary / authoritative source](#) ➤

253. RK-251: "smart" cancer drug designed to activate mainly inside cancer cells

16-22 Aug | Other High-Yield General Awareness

Why in News: A science update highlighted RK-251, an experimental "smart" cancer drug designed to become active primarily inside cancer cells. **Key Exam Facts:** - The approach aims to reduce damage to healthy tissue compared with non-selective chemotherapy. - The drug strategy relies on tumour-specific biological conditions to trigger activity. - The work is research-stage and should not be treated as an approved replacement for chemotherapy. - The update illustrates the broader trend towards precision and targeted cancer therapeutics. **Connection / Background:** Targeted therapies seek to exploit molecular or cellular features that are more prominent in cancer cells than in normal tissue. **Exam Trap / What Changed:** "Could replace chemotherapy" describes research potential; it does not mean chemotherapy has already been replaced in clinical practice.

[Primary / authoritative source](#) ➤

254. Primary / official source: Open source ■ India's Makhana sector: Bihar remains the production hub

16-22 Aug | Other High-Yield General Awareness

Why in News: A government backgrounder highlighted the growth of Makhana from a traditional crop to a higher-value food and export product. **Key Exam Facts:** - Bihar contributes roughly 90% of India's Makhana production. - Mithila Makhana has a Geographical Indication (GI) tag. - Key production districts include Madhubani, Darbhanga, Sitamarhi, Saharsa, Katihar and Purnea, among others. - Policy focus includes better production technology, post-harvest management, processing, branding and exports. **Connection / Background:** A National Makhana Board has been launched in Bihar to support the sector across production, value addition and market development. **Exam Trap / What Changed:** Mithila Makhana is the GI-linked identity; "Makhana" is the broader crop/product category.

[Primary / authoritative source](#) ➤

255. MMDR Amendment Act, 2026 updates the mineral-regulation framework

16-22 Aug | Other High-Yield General Awareness

Why in News: A government explainer highlighted the Mines and Minerals (Development and Regulation) Amendment Act, 2026. **Key Exam Facts:** - The parent MMDR Act dates to 1957. - The 2026 amendment addresses regulation of mineral-bearing land and state levies on mineral rights/mineral-bearing land. - The central framework seeks greater uniformity and predictability in mineral taxation and regulation. - Mining regulation remains a high-value intersection of federalism, resource security and industrial policy. **Connection / Background:** Mineral policy matters for steel, power, infrastructure and strategic supply chains because royalty, taxation and access rules affect input costs and investment. **Exam Trap / What Changed:** MMDR regulates mines/minerals; it should not be confused with environmental-clearance law.

[Primary / authoritative source](#) ➤

256. "Friends of MY Bharat" launched as a global youth-connect module

16-22 Aug | Other High-Yield General Awareness

Why in News: The Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports introduced "Friends of MY Bharat" to connect Indian-origin youth living abroad with India's youth and volunteering ecosystem. **Key Exam Facts:** - Global Indian youth can register as a "Friend of MY Bharat". - The module showcases volunteering opportunities in education, environment, health awareness, disaster relief and cultural preservation. - A "Know Your India" section covers culture, heritage, history, tourism and prominent leaders. - MY Bharat was launched on 31 October 2023. **Connection / Background:** Mera Yuva Bharat (MY Bharat) is a national youth platform built around service, duty, participation, experiential learning and leadership. **Exam Trap / What Changed:** Friends of MY Bharat is a module under MY Bharat, not a separate ministry or statutory body.

[Primary / authoritative source](#) ➤

257. Viksit Bharat Young Leaders Dialogue 2027 begins with Viksit Bharat Quiz

16-22 Aug | Other High-Yield General Awareness

Why in News: The 2027 edition of the Viksit Bharat Young Leaders Dialogue began with a nationwide Viksit Bharat Quiz.

Key Exam Facts: - The process is designed as a merit-based youth leadership and idea-development journey. - Selected participants can progress towards the National Viksit Bharat Young Leaders Dialogue in New Delhi. - The programme provides a platform for youth to present ideas linked to nation-building and Viksit Bharat. - The quiz is the entry stage, not the final dialogue itself. **Connection / Background:** VBYLD uses competitive stages to identify and mentor young leaders, combining knowledge testing with idea presentation and dialogue. **Exam Trap / What Changed:** Remember the sequence: quiz first; national dialogue later.

[Primary / authoritative source](#)

258. July 2026 core-industry growth at 5.4%; iron ore leads the new nine-industry series

16-22 Aug | Other High-Yield General Awareness

Why in News: The Index of Core Industries (ICI) grew 5.4% year-on-year in July 2026, compared with the final 6.0% growth in June. **Key Exam Facts:** - Cumulative growth for April-July 2026 was 4.3%, against 1.5% in the same period a year earlier. - Iron ore grew 29.5%, cement 13.1%, electricity 9.0%, coal 7.6%, steel 2.9% and refinery products 2.7%. - Natural gas, crude oil and fertilisers contracted. - The revised ICI uses base year 2022-23 and has nine core industries after adding iron ore. **Connection / Background:** The ICI is released by the Office of the Economic Adviser under the Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade and feeds into industrial-activity analysis ahead of the Index of Industrial Production. **Exam Trap / What Changed:** Do not use the old eight-core-industry count for the revised 2022-23 series: iron ore is now the ninth core industry. Office of Economic Adviser - ICI data ■ PIB - new ICI series background ■ TRADE POLICY | DGFT Duty-free raw-sugar import quota of 10 lakh tonnes allowed till 31 October

[Primary / authoritative source](#)

259. Over 11.18 lakh PMAY-G houses approved for Bihar; allocation about Rs 13,427 crore

16-22 Aug | Other High-Yield General Awareness

Why in News: A major rural-housing approval was announced for Bihar under the Pradhan Mantri Awaas Yojana-Gramin (PMAY-G). **Key Exam Facts:** - Approved houses: 11,18,937 for eligible rural families. - The associated allocation announced was about Rs 13,427 crore. - PMAY-G is the Union rural-housing scheme aimed at providing pucca houses with basic amenities to eligible rural households. **Connection / Background:** PMAY-G is implemented by the Ministry of Rural Development and uses beneficiary identification, geo-tagging and direct benefit transfer-linked monitoring. **Exam Trap / What Changed:** PMAY-G is rural housing; Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana-Urban is a separate urban-housing programme. PMAY-G official portal ■ Ministry of Rural Development ■

[Primary / authoritative source](#)

260. 31st Southern Zonal Council meeting focuses on inter-state coordination and water disputes

16-22 Aug | Other High-Yield General Awareness

Why in News: The 31st meeting of the Southern Zonal Council was held near Mahabalipuram/Kovalam in Tamil Nadu under the chairmanship of Union Home Minister Amit Shah. **Key Exam Facts:** - The Southern Zonal Council covers Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka, Kerala, Tamil Nadu and Telangana, along with Puducherry, Andaman and Nicobar Islands, and Lakshadweep. - States agreed to pursue faster resolution of pending water disputes through dialogue and coordination with the Union government. - Zonal Councils are statutory bodies created under the States Reorganisation Act, 1956. **Connection / Background:** Zonal Councils are cooperative-federalism forums for inter-state issues such as boundaries, transport, security, infrastructure and water. **Exam Trap / What Changed:** The Southern Zonal Council is not a constitutional body and should not be confused with the Inter-State Council under Article 263. Ministry of Home Affairs - Zonal Councils ■ PIB ■ BLUE ECONOMY | SCIENCE CMLRE releases national assessment of deep-sea and distant- water fishery resources

[Primary / authoritative source](#)

261. CMLRE releases national assessment of deep-sea and distant- water fishery resources

16-22 Aug | Other High-Yield General Awareness

Why in News: The Centre for Marine Living Resources and Ecology (CMLRE), under the Ministry of Earth Sciences, released a national report on deep-sea and distant-water fishery resources as part of its Silver Jubilee observance. **Key Exam Facts:** - The report draws on more than 400 oceanographic cruises under the Marine Living Resources Programme. - The Fisheries Oceanographic Research Vessel (FORV) Sagar Sampada has been a key survey platform. - Coverage spans the Arabian Sea, Bay of Bengal, Lakshadweep, Andaman Sea and Southern Ocean, supporting a science-based Blue Economy roadmap. **Connection / Background:** Deep-sea resource assessment links fisheries, biodiversity, export potential and ecological sustainability; CMLRE is a specialised Ministry of Earth Sciences institution based in Kochi. **Exam Trap / What Changed:** CMLRE is under the Ministry of Earth Sciences, not the Department of Fisheries. CMLRE ■ Ministry of Earth Sciences ■

[Primary / authoritative source](#) ➤

262. BWF Worlds: Treesa Jolly-Gayatri Gopichand reach women's doubles quarterfinals

16-22 Aug | Other High-Yield General Awareness

Why in News: At the Badminton World Federation (BWF) World Championships in New Delhi, India's Treesa Jolly and Gayatri Gopichand advanced to the women's doubles quarterfinals. **Key Exam Facts:** - The Indian pair defeated Japan's seventh seeds Rin Iwanaga and Kie Nakanishi in straight games. - The 2026 BWF World Championships are being hosted in New Delhi. - Ayush Shetty's exit ended India's men's singles challenge. **Connection / Background:** The event's host-city fact was already established earlier; today's new item is the Indian pair reaching the quarterfinals. **Exam Trap / What Changed:** Do not confuse the BWF World Championships with the annual India Open. Badminton World Federation ■ Badminton Association of India ■

[Primary / authoritative source](#) ➤

263. Mangrol delivered as third ASW Shallow Water Craft built by CSL

16-22 Aug | Other High-Yield General Awareness

Why in News: Mangrol, the third Anti-Submarine Warfare Shallow Water Craft built by Cochin Shipyard Limited, was delivered. Exam link: ASW-SWC + Cochin Shipyard + indigenous naval shipbuilding.

[Primary / authoritative source](#) ➤

264. DFS workshop focuses on accessibility of financial services for Divyangjans

16-22 Aug | Other High-Yield General Awareness

Why in News: Department of Financial Services concluded a two-day workshop on enhancing accessibility of financial services for Divyangjans. Banking Awareness link: accessibility is part of inclusive banking across branches, digital channels, ATMs and customer service.

[Primary / authoritative source](#) ➤

265. DGGI detects about Rs 185 crore evasion in clandestine pan masala and tobacco network

16-22 Aug | Other High-Yield General Awareness

Why in News: Directorate General of GST Intelligence detected alleged evasion of about Rs 185 crore and seized 27 undeclared pouch-packing machines in Uttar Pradesh. Exam link: DGGI operates under CBIC and focuses on GST intelligence/enforcement.

[Primary / authoritative source](#) ➤

266. Finance Minister to visit Canada and USA for economic dialogue and G20 meetings

2026-08-25 | Other High-Yield General Awareness

Why in News: Finance Minister to visit Canada and USA for economic dialogue and G20 meetings. **Key Exam Facts** - Nirmala Sitharaman's official visit is scheduled for 25 August-2 September 2026. - Agenda includes the inaugural India-Canada Economic and Financial Dialogue and G20 Finance Ministers and - Central Bank Governors engagements under the US G20 presidency. - The visit also includes meetings with investors and financial-sector stakeholders.

[Primary / authoritative source ↗](#)

267. CCI approves Cyient's acquisition of 100% of Tao Digital Solutions

2026-08-26 | Other High-Yield General Awareness

Why in News: CCI approves Cyient's acquisition of 100% of Tao Digital Solutions. **Key Exam Facts** - The Competition Commission of India approved Cyient Ltd's acquisition of the entire share capital of Tao Digital - Solutions. - Tao provides product engineering, managed services, cybersecurity, payments, digitisation and AI, cloud and data - services. - Connection / **Exam Trap:** CCI reviews combinations under India's competition-law framework; this is a competition-

[Primary / authoritative source ↗](#)

268. CCI approves Yancoal Australia's acquisition of Kestrel Coal Group

2026-08-26 | Other High-Yield General Awareness

Why in News: CCI approves Yancoal Australia's acquisition of Kestrel Coal Group. **Key Exam Facts** - Yancoal Australia will acquire 100% equity interest and warrants in Kestrel Coal Group from the sellers. - Kestrel holds an 80% interest in the Kestrel Joint Venture coal mine in Queensland, which primarily produces - metallurgical coal. - Connection / **Exam Trap:** The India nexus arises through Kestrel's coal sales into India; CCI can review global combinations - where Indian competition may be affected.

[Primary / authoritative source ↗](#)

269. CSIR-NAL unveils three indigenous micro and small gas-turbine engines

2026-08-26 | Other High-Yield General Awareness

Why in News: CSIR-NAL unveils three indigenous micro and small gas-turbine engines. **Key Exam Facts** - The engines are NJ-05 (5 kg thrust), NJ-50 (50 kg) and NJ-100 (100 kg). - Applications include tactical UAVs, drone interceptors and compact missile systems. - Connection / **Exam Trap:** NAL stands for National Aerospace Laboratories and operates under the Council of Scientific & - Industrial Research (CSIR).

[Primary / authoritative source ↗](#)

270. EPFO releases August pension early for 4,40,901 Kerala-zone pensioners through CPPS

2026-08-27 | Other High-Yield General Awareness

Why in News: EPFO releases August pension early for 4,40,901 Kerala-zone pensioners through CPPS. **Key Exam Facts** - EPFO credited August 2026 pension on 26 August ahead of Onam for 4,40,901 pensioners under the Kerala Zone. - Ordinarily, monthly pension under the Employees' Pension Scheme, 1995 is disbursed at the end of the month. - The credit was made through the Centralized Pension Payment System (CPPS) directly into beneficiaries' bank - accounts. - Connection / **Exam Trap:** CPPS is a pension-payment platform; EPS 1995 is the pension scheme. Keep the system and the

[Primary / authoritative source ↗](#)

271. India at UNCCD COP17: 21.76 million hectares restored; finance, drought resilience and rangelands linked in one agenda

24-27 AUG | Other High-Yield General Awareness

Why in News: India used the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD) COP17 platform to present restoration progress and push a broader resilience agenda. **Key Exam Facts** - India reported restoration of 21.76 million hectares of degraded land. It called for predictable international finance, a shift from drought response to drought resilience, and community-led restoration of rangelands. **Connection / Background:** UNCCD is the UN convention focused on desertification, land degradation and drought. COP17 was held in Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia. **Exam Trap / What Changed:** Treat the four daily releases as one evolving COP17 position, not four unrelated facts.

[Primary / authoritative source](#) ➤

272. NEW: PMFBY backgrounder updates insurance scale - 92.46 crore applications insured, claims above Rs 2.06 lakh crore

29 AUG | Other High-Yield General Awareness

Why in News: A 29-August official backgrounder updated the live scale of Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojana (PMFBY). **Key Exam Facts** - More than 92.46 crore farmer applications were insured from Kharif 2016 through Rabi 2025-26; more than 26.33 crore applications received claims exceeding Rs 2.06 lakh crore. FY 2026-27 allocation: Rs 12,200 crore. **Connection / Background:** PMFBY provides crop-insurance protection against specified non-preventable risks. Technology initiatives include YES-TECH and WINDS. **Exam Trap / What Changed:** Keep "insured applications" separate from "applications paid claims"; the two figures are not farmer headcounts.

[Primary / authoritative source](#) ➤

273. DAY-NRLM launches National Campaign on Entrepreneurship-II for rural women

2026-08-24 | Other High-Yield General Awareness

Why in News: The Ministry of Rural Development launched a three-month National Campaign on Entrepreneurship-II under Deendayal Antyodaya Yojana- National Rural Livelihoods Mission (DAY-NRLM). **Key Exam Facts** - Campaign period: 21 August to 21 November 2026. - It covers farm and non-farm enterprises and marketing of Self-Help Group (SHG) products. - It contributes to the vision of creating 6 crore Lakhpati Didis. - Targets include entrepreneurship/livelihood training for 5 lakh SHG women, formalisation support for 50,000 enterprises and onboarding 25,000 SHG - members on e-commerce platforms. **Connection / Background:** DAY-NRLM builds women-led SHGs, community institutions, livelihoods and access to finance. E-commerce links such as Government e-Marketplace (GeM) and Open Network for Digital Commerce (ONDC) can widen market access. **Exam Trap / What Changed:** This is Entrepreneurship-II under DAY-NRLM and runs for three months. The "6 crore" figure is the broader Lakhpati Didi vision, not the number of women trained in this single campaign.

[Primary / authoritative source](#) ➤

274. Talabira II & III mines post record FY26 production of 19.14 MT

2026-08-25 | Other High-Yield General Awareness

Why in News: Talabira II & III mines post record FY26 production of 19.14 MT. **Key Exam Facts** - Talabira II & III coal mines in Odisha were allocated to NLC India Ltd in May 2016. - FY25-26 production reached a record 19.14 million tonnes, up 11.28%; dispatch reached 17.69 MT. - Of dispatch, 10.72 MT went to the power sector and 6.97 MT to non-regulated sectors. - SCHEMES, TECH & NATIONAL

[Primary / authoritative source](#) ➤

275. India's crude steel output reaches 56.2 MT in Apr-Jul 2026

2026-08-26 | Other High-Yield General Awareness

Why in News: India's crude steel output reaches 56.2 MT in Apr-Jul 2026. **Key Exam Facts** - July crude steel output was 14.4 MT, up 1.9% year-on-year; Apr-Jul output was 56.2 MT, up 2.4%. - Finished steel consumption in Apr-Jul reached 56.0 MT, rising 7.9%. - India was a net importer of finished steel in Apr-Jul: imports were about 2.77 MT and exports about 2.29 MT. Annual - crude-steel capacity stood at 222.7 MTPA. - Connection / **Exam Trap:** Do not mix production, capacity and consumption: they are three different steel-sector indicators.

[Primary / authoritative source](#) ➤

276. e-Shram completes five years with 31.89 crore registrations

2026-08-26 | Other High-Yield General Awareness

Why in News: e-Shram completes five years with 31.89 crore registrations. **Key Exam Facts** - The portal was launched on 26 August 2021 as an Aadhaar-authenticated National Database of Unorganised - Workers (NDUW). - As of 18 August 2026, registrations reached 31.89 crore; women formed 54.28% of registered workers. - The One-Stop Solution integrates 15 social-security and welfare schemes; every registrant receives a 12-digit - Universal Account Number (UAN).

[Primary / authoritative source](#) ➤

277. Goa Shipyard hands over ICGS Ajit to Indian Coast Guard

2026-08-26 | Other High-Yield General Awareness

Why in News: Goa Shipyard hands over ICGS Ajit to Indian Coast Guard. **Key Exam Facts** - ICGS Ajit is a 51.43-metre Fast Patrol Vessel, with more than 65% indigenous content and speed above 27 knots. - It has an endurance of about 1,500 nautical miles and is intended for EEZ patrol, fisheries protection, anti- - smuggling/anti-piracy and search-and-rescue missions. - Connection / **Exam Trap:** Goa Shipyard Limited (GSL) is a defence public-sector shipyard; Indian Coast Guard operates under - the Ministry of Defence.

[Primary / authoritative source](#) ➤

278. TRAI extends deadlines on draft QoS amendments for access and broadband services

2026-08-26 | Other High-Yield General Awareness

Why in News: TRAI extends deadlines on draft QoS amendments for access and broadband services. **Key Exam Facts** - Comments on the consultation paper are now due by 2 September 2026 and counter-comments by 15 September - 2026. - The paper concerns draft amendments to the 2024 Quality of Service regulations for wireline, wireless and - broadband services. - Connection / **Exam Trap:** TRAI regulates telecom-sector service standards; consultation papers are not final regulations.

[Primary / authoritative source](#) ➤

279. C-DOT marks 43rd Foundation Day and showcases indigenous quantum-security products

2026-08-26 | Other High-Yield General Awareness

Why in News: C-DOT marks 43rd Foundation Day and showcases indigenous quantum-security products. **Key Exam Facts** - The theme was "Beyond Connectivity: Secure, Trusted and Intelligent Communication". - A Quantum Products Wall and booklet showcased indigenous Quantum Key Distribution (QKD) and Post-Quantum - Cryptography (PQC) solutions. - C-DOT was established in 1984 and works on telecom R&D including 6G, cybersecurity and quantum-secure - communications.

[Primary / authoritative source](#) ➤

280. Nationwide Legal Metrology training programme launched for uniform implementation of reforms

2026-08-26 | Other High-Yield General Awareness

Why in News: Nationwide Legal Metrology training programme launched for uniform implementation of reforms. **Key Exam Facts** - The programme follows decriminalisation and Jan Vishwas-linked reforms under the Legal Metrology framework. - Five-day courses have been completed for Gujarat and Uttar Pradesh officers; all remaining States/UTs are to be covered over the next four months. - Training is being conducted at the Indian Institute of Legal Metrology (IILM), Ranchi. - Connection / **Exam Trap:** Legal metrology deals with standards and regulation of weights and measures used in trade and

[Primary / authoritative source](#) ➤

281. 36th Annual Conference of Agricultural University Vice-Chancellors begins in New Delhi

2026-08-26 | Other High-Yield General Awareness

Why in News: 36th Annual Conference of Agricultural University Vice-Chancellors begins in New Delhi. **Key Exam Facts** - The two-day conference (25-26 August) has the theme "Reimagining Agricultural Higher Education for Viksit - Bharat@2047". - It brings together Agricultural Universities, DARE and ICAR leadership to discuss student reforms, research, - accreditation, industry-academia links and data-driven governance. - Connection / **Exam Trap:** DARE = Department of Agricultural Research and Education; ICAR = Indian Council of Agricultural

[Primary / authoritative source](#) ➤

282. ICAR-CCARI "Carbon Pathshala" introduces Goa farmers to voluntary carbon markets

2026-08-26 | Other High-Yield General Awareness

Why in News: ICAR-CCARI "Carbon Pathshala" introduces Goa farmers to voluntary carbon markets. **Key Exam Facts** - The workshop focused on carbon markets, carbon sequestration and biochar-based carbon credits for farmers. - It is linked to a project studying plantation-based systems and carbon-credit generation through biochar in India's - west-coast region. - Connection / **Exam Trap:** A carbon credit is a tradable unit linked to verified emissions reduction/removal; voluntary markets - differ from mandatory compliance markets.

[Primary / authoritative source](#) ➤

283. Official sugar-sector backgrounder puts 2025-26 sugarcane output at 500 MMT

2026-08-27 | Other High-Yield General Awareness

Why in News: Official sugar-sector backgrounder puts 2025-26 sugarcane output at 500 MMT. **Key Exam Facts** - India is the world's second-largest sugarcane producer; the sector supports nearly 5 crore farmers and around 5 - lakh factory/allied workers. - Sugarcane production reached 500 MMT in 2025-26, about 43.5% above 2015-16 output of 348.44 MMT. - Area rose to 58.87 lakh hectares; Uttar Pradesh and Maharashtra are the top producing states. Sugar exports were 8 - lakh MT in 2025-26.

[Primary / authoritative source](#) ➤

284. IICT and Netflix announce scholarships for 100 students across six programmes

2026-08-27 | Other High-Yield General Awareness

Why in News: IICT and Netflix announce scholarships for 100 students across six programmes. **Key Exam Facts** - The scholarship package offers up to 80% financial support to 100 students. - It covers six professional programmes: two one-year diploma programmes and four six-month certificate - programmes. - Fields include interactive comics, visual effects, virtual art department content creation, media-tech workflow, - character animation and e-sports/gaming management.

[Primary / authoritative source](#) ➤

285. First Mahila Commando Conversion Course begins at National Security Guard (NSG) Training Academy, Manesar The first Mahila Commando Conversion Course (MCCC) has begun at the National Security Guard (NSG) Training Academy in Manesar. Key points

2026-08-28 | Other High-Yield General Awareness

Why in News: First Mahila Commando Conversion Course begins at National Security Guard (NSG) Training Academy, Manesar The first Mahila Commando Conversion Course (MCCC) has begun at the National Security Guard (NSG) Training Academy in Manesar. Key points. **Key Exam Facts** - Participants include women personnel from State Police Forces and Central Armed Police Forces - (CAPFs). - Training areas include weapons, tactical intervention, hostage rescue and counter-terror operations. - The course expands specialised commando-skilling opportunities for women personnel.

[Primary / authoritative source](#) ➤

286. Industrial output grows 6.7% in July 2026

2026-08-29 | Other High-Yield General Awareness

Why in News: The Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation (MoSPI) released the Quick Estimate of the Index of Industrial Production (IIP) for July 2026. IIP grew 6.7% year-on-year; June 2026 quick estimate was 7.3%. Manufacturing grew 7.3%; Electricity & Gas Supply 8.7%; Water Supply, Sewerage & Waste Management 7.4%; Mining & Quarrying contracted 0.9%. The July 2026 IIP index stood at 124.8 against 117.0 in July 2025; base year is 2022-23=100. **Exam Trap / What Changed:** IIP is an output-volume indicator; it is not the Consumer Price Index (CPI) or inflation rate.

[Primary / authoritative source](#) ➤

287. Ex-mill sugar prices fall around 20%

2026-08-29 | Other High-Yield General Awareness

Why in News: The Department of Food and Public Distribution reported a roughly 20% decline in ex-mill sugar prices, with retail prices beginning to ease. The government also announced a fortnightly sugar quota system from September to improve timely lifting and market availability. The policy response was aimed at reducing artificial scarcity despite adequate physical stocks. Ex-mill price is the price at which sugar leaves the mill; it is not identical to the final retail price. **Exam Trap / What Changed:** A fall in ex-mill prices does not imply an equal percentage fall in retail prices.

[Primary / authoritative source](#) ➤

288. NEW: Per Drop More Crop crosses 115 lakh hectares under micro-irrigation

29 AUG | Other High-Yield General Awareness

Why in News: The 29-August Per Drop More Crop (PDMC) backgrounder updated coverage and assistance rules. **Key Exam Facts** - More than 115 lakh hectares were under micro-irrigation as of July 2026. Assistance applies up to five hectares per beneficiary: 55% for small and marginal farmers and 45% for other farmers. Central assistance released in the last three years: Rs 8,123.24 crore. - PDMC has been implemented under Pradhan Mantri Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana (PM-RKVY) since 2022-23. Assistance for the same land can be received again after seven years. **Exam Trap / What Changed:** Do not keep PDMC permanently under PMKSY in current-affairs answers; since 2022-23 it is implemented under PM-RKVY.

[Primary / authoritative source](#) ➤

289. Sarnath backgrounder links its UNESCO inscription to India's tally of 45 World Heritage properties

2026-08-27 | Other High-Yield General Awareness

Why in News: Sarnath backgrounder links its UNESCO inscription to India's tally of 45 World Heritage properties. **Key Exam Facts** - The Ancient Buddhist Site of Sarnath was inscribed at the 48th World Heritage Committee Session in Busan, South - Korea, on 25 July 2026. - The official 26-August backgrounder says India now has 45 World Heritage properties: 37 cultural, 7 natural and 1 - mixed. - India ranks sixth globally and second in the Asia-Pacific by number of listed properties; its Tentative List stands at 69.

[Primary / authoritative source ↗](#)

290. India and US discuss civil nuclear cooperation ahead of IAEA ATLAS launch

2026-08-27 | Other High-Yield General Awareness

Why in News: India and US discuss civil nuclear cooperation ahead of IAEA ATLAS launch. **Key Exam Facts** - Atomic Energy Commission Chairman Ajit Kumar Mohanty met US Energy Secretary Chris Wright in Washington. - The talks reviewed bilateral civil nuclear cooperation and ways to strengthen ties. - The meeting came ahead of the IAEA ATLAS initiative exploring small modular reactors for civilian ships and offshore - energy. - Connection / **Exam Trap:** AEC is India's Atomic Energy Commission. Small Modular Reactor (SMR) is a reactor design

[Primary / authoritative source ↗](#)

291. IAEA launches ATLAS initiative for safe nuclear applications at sea

2026-08-27 | Other High-Yield General Awareness

Why in News: IAEA launches ATLAS initiative for safe nuclear applications at sea. **Key Exam Facts** - ATLAS stands for Atomic Technologies Licensed for Applications at Sea. - The initiative supports safe, secure and peaceful use of nuclear power in civilian shipping and floating nuclear power - plants. - The Washington launch brought together around 600 participants from more than 50 countries and international - organisations.

[Primary / authoritative source ↗](#)

292. WHO Emergency Committee reviews Ebola Bundibugyo outbreak in DR Congo

2026-08-29 | Other High-Yield General Awareness

Why in News: The World Health Organization (WHO) published the meeting report of the second International Health Regulations (IHR) Emergency Committee on the Ebola Bundibugyo virus disease epidemic in the Democratic Republic of the Congo. The update was dated 28 August 2026. IHR stands for International Health Regulations. Bundibugyo virus is one of the viruses that can cause Ebola virus disease. **Exam Trap / What Changed:** Do not treat every WHO Emergency Committee meeting as a new declaration of a Public Health Emergency of International Concern (PHEIC).

[Primary / authoritative source ↗](#)

293. Prime Minister's Uzbekistan-Kyrgyz Republic visit announced for 29 Aug-1 Sep

2026-08-29 | Other High-Yield General Awareness

Why in News: The Prime Minister's Office announced the Prime Minister's visit to Uzbekistan and the Kyrgyz Republic from 29 August to 1 September 2026. The announcement was issued on 28 August 2026. Uzbekistan and the Kyrgyz Republic are both Central Asian countries. For exam revision, distinguish this itinerary from earlier India-Japan and India- Morocco engagements covered in preceding editions. **Exam Trap / What Changed:** This 28-Aug item is the visit announcement; outcomes belong to later editions after meetings take place.

[Primary / authoritative source ↗](#)

294. Operation Black Hawk seizes over 18.6 kg crude heroin

2026-08-25 | Other High-Yield General Awareness

Why in News: Operation Black Hawk seizes over 18.6 kg crude heroin. **Key Exam Facts** - Central Bureau of Narcotics teams from Madhya Pradesh and Uttar Pradesh busted an inter-state heroin - syndicate near Lucknow. - The operation seized 18.64 kg of crude heroin and resulted in three arrests. - Exam link: CBN operates under the Department of Revenue, Ministry of Finance and enforces narcotics-related - laws including the NDPS framework.

[Primary / authoritative source ↗](#)

295. 9th National Security Strategies Conference concludes with a 15-20 year threat horizon

24-25 AUG | Other High-Yield General Awareness

Why in News: The 9th National Security Strategies Conference in New Delhi moved from inauguration to conclusion during the week. **Key Exam Facts** - Discussions covered long-horizon security planning, emerging threats, technology and inter-agency coordination, with a 15-20 year threat horizon highlighted. **Connection / Background:** Such conferences support strategic coordination across security and law-enforcement institutions. **Exam Trap / What Changed:** Remember the 9th edition and the long-term 15-20 year horizon; do not count inauguration and conclusion as separate weekly stories.

[Primary / authoritative source ↗](#)

296. INS Sudarshini completes Lisbon port call under Lokayan 26

23-26 AUG | Other High-Yield General Awareness

Why in News: INS Sudarshini arrived in Lisbon during its Lokayan 26 transoceanic expedition and later departed after a three-day port call. **Key Exam Facts** - INS Sudarshini is an Indian Navy sail-training ship. Lokayan 26 is a long-duration overseas sailing expedition. **Connection / Background:** Training ships support seamanship, navigation and naval diplomacy. **Exam Trap / What Changed:** Arrival and departure are one port-call sequence, not two separate weekly developments.

[Primary / authoritative source ↗](#)

297. NSDC, Cultus and AWS launch nationwide Cloud & AI skilling initiative

2026-08-24 | Other High-Yield General Awareness

Why in News: National Skill Development Corporation (NSDC) and Cultus Education launched a nationwide Cloud and Artificial Intelligence skilling programme with support from Amazon Web Services (AWS). **Key Exam Facts** - Foundational AI and cloud literacy target: 1.5 lakh learners. - Intensive job-ready training target: 10,000 participants through AWS re/Start. - The programme is fully online and focuses particularly on Tier-2, Tier-3 and underserved talent hubs across States and Union Territories. - The learning journey includes hands-on training, certification support, employer interview links and a National Hackathon. **Connection / Background:** NSDC works under the skill-development ecosystem of the Ministry of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship. AWS re/Start is a workforce-development programme focused on entry-level cloud skills. **Exam Trap / What Changed:** 1.5 lakh is the foundational-learning target; 10,000 is the intensive AWS re/Start cohort. Do not add them and call 1.6 lakh the same training level.

[Primary / authoritative source ↗](#)

298. Five GRSE-YIL expansion projects launched with nearly Rs 3,500 crore investment

2026-08-24 | Other High-Yield General Awareness

Why in News: Defence Minister Rajnath Singh laid the foundation for five brownfield expansion projects of Garden Reach Shipbuilders & Engineers (GRSE) and Yantra India Limited (YIL) in West Bengal. **Key Exam Facts** - Combined investment highlighted: nearly Rs 3,500 crore. - The projects expand existing shipbuilding and defence-manufacturing capacity rather than creating greenfield entities from scratch. - GRSE is a Navratna Defence Public Sector Undertaking and a major Indian naval shipbuilder. - The expansion is linked to Make in India and Atmanirbhar Bharat in defence production. **Connection / Background:** Brownfield expansion means adding or upgrading capacity at existing industrial sites. GRSE's shipbuilding role makes the project relevant to indigenous naval-platform capacity and defence supply chains. **Exam Trap / What Changed:** Remember "five brownfield expansion projects" and "nearly Rs 3,500 crore". Do not confuse GRSE with Cochin Shipyard Limited, which was linked to the recently delivered ASW Shallow Water Craft Mangrol.

[Primary / authoritative source ↗](#)

299. NCSK marks 33rd Foundation Day; sewer-death compensation data updated

2026-08-24 | Other High-Yield General Awareness

Why in News: The National Commission for Safai Karamcharis (NCSK) celebrated its 33rd Foundation Day in New Delhi on 23 August with more than 900 Safai Karamcharis and other stakeholders. **Key Exam Facts** - Compensation had been provided to families in 1,223 of 1,377 reported sewer and septic-tank death cases. - First Information Reports (FIRs) had been registered in 750 of the reported cases. - NCSK launched a missed-call facility for stakeholders to register grievances and released its Annual Calendar 2026. - The Commission was set up in 1994 and works on welfare, dignity, safety and rehabilitation issues concerning Safai Karamcharis. **Connection / Background:** The Prohibition of Employment as Manual Scavengers and their Rehabilitation Act, 2013 expanded NCSK's monitoring and complaint-related responsibilities concerning manual scavenging. **Exam Trap / What Changed:** Use the confirmed event fact: 33rd Foundation Day. Remember NCSK = National Commission for Safai Karamcharis; do not confuse it with the National Commission for Scheduled Castes.

[Primary / authoritative source ↗](#)

300. National Conclave on Tribal Languages & Museums announced for Mysuru

2026-08-24 | Other High-Yield General Awareness

Why in News: The Ministry of Tribal Affairs announced a three-day National Conclave on Tribal Languages & Museums to be held in Mysuru, Karnataka, from 24-26 August 2026. **Key Exam Facts** - The conclave brings tribal-language documentation, preservation and revitalisation together with a parallel focus on Tribal Museums and Tribal Freedom - Fighter Museums. - Planned outputs include a national picture of language documentation, community-led revitalisation models and approaches to multilingual education. - The programme is also set to feature an update to the Adi Vaani platform, including an iOS application and five additional languages, and an MoU with the - Central Institute of Indian Languages. **Connection / Background:** Language preservation, museum curation and digital tools are being used together to conserve tribal heritage and improve access to knowledge in indigenous languages. **Exam Trap / What Changed:** The 23 August development is the announcement. The conclave itself runs from 24-26 August, so launches scheduled there should not be presented as completed on 23 August.

[Primary / authoritative source ↗](#)

301. Textiles Committee highlights zero-defect quality and circular textile recovery

2026-08-24 | Other High-Yield General Awareness

Why in News: A 23 August update on the Textiles Committee's 62nd Foundation Day highlighted quality assurance, traceability, environmental conformity and textile circularity. **Key Exam Facts** - The Textiles Committee is a statutory body under the Ministry of Textiles, established under the Textiles Committee Act, 1963 and functioning since 22 - August 1964. - The Foundation Day programme emphasised zero-defect manufacturing, traceability and environmental conformity. - During a visit to a Textile Recovery Facility in Navi Mumbai, a Letter of Intent was signed between the Textiles Committee and Refibre for a digital circular- - textile infrastructure platform focused on collection, traceability and impact measurement. **Connection / Background:** The Committee supports textile quality, testing, export facilitation and standardisation. Circular recovery adds a sustainability layer by improving collection, sorting, recycling and material traceability. **Exam Trap / What Changed:** Textiles Committee is a statutory body under the Ministry of Textiles; do not confuse it with the Textile Commissioner's office or an industry association.

[Primary / authoritative source ↗](#)

302. PNGRB authorises nearly 1,800 km of new LPG pipelines worth about Rs 7,000 crore

2026-08-24 | Other High-Yield General Awareness

Why in News: A high-value 21 August energy-regulation update authorised three new Liquefied Petroleum Gas (LPG) pipeline projects that materially expand India's common-carrier LPG network. **Key Exam Facts** - Petroleum and Natural Gas Regulatory Board (PNGRB) authorised nearly 1,800 km of pipelines at an estimated investment of about Rs 7,000 crore. - The three projects span Telangana, Maharashtra, Uttar Pradesh, Uttarakhand, Karnataka and Goa. - The addition expands the common-carrier LPG pipeline network by roughly 23.5%. - It builds on the earlier 2,757-km Kandla-Gorakhpur LPG Pipeline, described as the country's longest LPG pipeline. **Connection / Background:** Pipeline transport can reduce dependence on road tankers, improve supply-chain resilience and lower handling risk. PNGRB is the downstream oil-and-gas regulator established under the PNGRB Act, 2006. **Exam Trap / What Changed:** PNGRB regulates petroleum and natural-gas downstream infrastructure; it is not the upstream exploration regulator. Remember 1,800 km + about Rs 7,000 crore + six states.

[Primary / authoritative source ↗](#)

303. GENESIS Entrepreneur-in-Residence Cohort 3 opens applications

2026-08-25 | Other High-Yield General Awareness

Why in News: GENESIS Entrepreneur-in-Residence Cohort 3 opens applications. **Key Exam Facts** - MeitY Startup Hub launched GENESIS EIR Cohort 3 at the NextGen Startup Summit, Coimbatore edition. - Support is up to Rs 10 lakh per startup for early-stage ideas, with focus on Tier-II/III ecosystems and deep-tech - domains. - Applications close 3 September 2026; GENESIS has an overall budget of Rs 490 crore.

[Primary / authoritative source ↗](#)

304. Medical Devices Rules amendments ease sterilisation outsourcing and market access

2026-08-25 | Other High-Yield General Awareness

Why in News: Medical Devices Rules amendments ease sterilisation outsourcing and market access. **Key Exam Facts** - Proposed changes to Medical Devices Rules, 2017 remove the need for a separate loan licence when sterilisation - is outsourced to a duly licensed facility. - The European Union is proposed to be added to recognised stringent jurisdictions for clinical-investigation - waiver, alongside the US, UK, Australia, Canada and Japan. - A six-month transition is proposed for related labelling changes.

[Primary / authoritative source ↗](#)

305. India Post upgrades Dak MITRA and Dak Sewa apps

2026-08-25 | Other High-Yield General Awareness

Why in News: India Post upgrades Dak MITRA and Dak Sewa apps. **Key Exam Facts** - Department of Posts highlighted upgraded Dak MITRA and Dak Sewa applications as part of its digital and - infrastructure transformation. - The initiatives aim to improve assisted postal services, customer access, grievance/service interfaces and field- - level digital delivery. - Exam link: Department of Posts functions under the Ministry of Communications.

[Primary / authoritative source ↗](#)

306. AIIA launches GARBHINI MITRA course for maternal wellness support

2026-08-25 | Other High-Yield General Awareness

Why in News: AIIA launches GARBHINI MITRA course for maternal wellness support. **Key Exam Facts** - All India Institute of Ayurveda (AIIA), New Delhi launched GARBHINI MITRA for the 2026-27 academic session. - The course provides structured health-skill development for pregnancy and postnatal wellness support using - Ayurveda-based lifestyle and community guidance. - Exam link: AIIA is under the Ministry of Ayush.

[Primary / authoritative source ↗](#)

307. First CHEMCONNECT 2026 held at IIT Madras; BioPack Centre of Excellence inaugurated

2026-08-26 | Other High-Yield General Awareness

Why in News: First CHEMCONNECT 2026 held at IIT Madras; BioPack Centre of Excellence inaugurated. **Key Exam Facts** - The inaugural CHEMCONNECT brought together 200+ leaders, researchers and entrepreneurs from industry, - academia, start-ups and R&D institutions. - The Centre of Excellence on Biodegradable Packaging Materials (BioPack) was inaugurated at IIT Madras. - CHEMCONNECT is planned as an annual July-August forum to benchmark progress across the Department's Centres - of Excellence.

[Primary / authoritative source ↗](#)

308. Study finds South Asian gut microbiomes distinct; SAMBAR resource covers 575 adults

2026-08-26 | Other High-Yield General Awareness

Why in News: Study finds South Asian gut microbiomes distinct; SAMBAR resource covers 575 adults. **Key Exam Facts** - Researchers analysed 575 healthy adults from 10 communities across India and Sri Lanka. - The South Asian MicroBiome ARray (SAMBAR) was used to study how culture, diet, geography and urbanisation - shape microbiome patterns. - The resource may support future precision-health research on diabetes, obesity and cardiovascular disorders. - Connection / **Exam Trap:** The study involved Birbal Sahni Institute of Palaeosciences (BSIP), a DST autonomous institute, with

[Primary / authoritative source ↗](#)

309. JNCASR team develops smartphone-enabled platform for amyloid-β detection

2026-08-26 | Other High-Yield General Awareness

Why in News: JNCASR team develops smartphone-enabled platform for amyloid-β detection. **Key Exam Facts** - The fluorescence-responsive probe TZ-48 changes signal when it interacts with amyloid-β, an Alzheimer's disease - biomarker. - The smartphone-integrated platform ADxFluor quantifies the fluorescence response and is designed as a portable, - lower-cost point-of-care approach. - The work was developed at Jawaharlal Nehru Centre for Advanced Scientific Research (JNCASR), an autonomous DST

[Primary / authoritative source ↗](#)

310. IPC launches seven nitrosamine impurity reference standards for the first time

2026-08-26 | Other High-Yield General Awareness

Why in News: IPC launches seven nitrosamine impurity reference standards for the first time. **Key Exam Facts** - The Indian Pharmacopoeia Commission held its first interactive meeting with Central Drugs Laboratory, Kolkata on - "IP 2026: Perspectives, Suggestions & Way Forward". - Seven Indian Pharmacopoeia nitrosamine impurity reference standards were launched to strengthen detection, - quality assurance and regulatory compliance. - Nitrosamines are genotoxic/carcinogenic impurities that can arise during manufacturing, storage or packaging.

[Primary / authoritative source](#) ➤

311. National workshop held on Samagra Shishu Bal Swasthya Karyakram (SSBSK)

2026-08-26 | Other High-Yield General Awareness

Why in News: National workshop held on Samagra Shishu Bal Swasthya Karyakram (SSBSK). **Key Exam Facts** - The Union Health Ministry convened a national workshop on SSBSK to strengthen an integrated approach to child- - health services. - For exam purposes, remember the programme name and the Health Ministry linkage; it is part of the broader - public-health focus on child screening and care pathways. - Connection / **Exam Trap:** Do not confuse SSBSK with school-education schemes; it is a health-sector programme.

[Primary / authoritative source](#) ➤

312. ICAT issues first compliance certificate for a 15-metre multi-axle sleeper bus

2026-08-27 | Other High-Yield General Awareness

Why in News: ICAT issues first compliance certificate for a 15-metre multi-axle sleeper bus. **Key Exam Facts** - The International Centre for Automotive Technology issued its first such certificate under AIS-119 and AIS-153 and - the applicable Central Motor Vehicles Rules. - The certificate was awarded to Synaty Automotive Pvt. Ltd. - The fully sleeper variant has 42 berths; the hybrid configuration can have 21 berths plus 42 seats. - Connection / **Exam Trap:** ICAT is based at Manesar and is an automotive testing/certification institution. The news is

[Primary / authoritative source](#) ➤

313. Aditya-L1 detects potential early warning signs before major solar flares

2026-08-29 | Other High-Yield General Awareness

Why in News: Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) reported new research using India's first dedicated solar observatory, Aditya-L1. Scientists found small short-lived brightenings in the Sun's atmosphere hours before some major solar flares. The study combined ultraviolet and X-ray observations from three payloads: Solar Ultraviolet Imaging Telescope (SUIT), Solar Low Energy X-ray Spectrometer (SoLEXS) and High Energy L1 Orbiting X-ray Spectrometer (HEL1OS). Aditya-L1 observes from the Sun-Earth Lagrange Point 1 (L1), enabling a near-continuous view of the Sun. **Exam Trap / What Changed:** L1 is a gravitationally useful observation point; Aditya-L1 is not orbiting the Sun at the same distance as Earth independently.

[Primary / authoritative source](#) ➤

314. Sanchar Saathi records 75,000+ handset recoveries in one month

2026-08-29 | Other High-Yield General Awareness

Why in News: The Department of Telecommunications (DoT) reported a new monthly recovery milestone for its Sanchar Saathi initiative. More than 75,000 lost/stolen mobile handsets were recovered in a month pan-India for the first time since the initiative began. Monthly handset recoveries rose 201% from April 2025 to July 2026, according to the release. The system links citizens, telecom service providers and State/Union Territory police for device traceability. **Exam Trap / What Changed:** Sanchar Saathi is a telecom citizen-safety platform; it is not a digital-payments platform.

[Primary / authoritative source](#) ➤

315. East Bengal beat Mohun Bagan 4-1 to win record-equalling 17th Durand Cup

2026-08-24 | Other High-Yield General Awareness

Why in News: East Bengal FC defeated Mohun Bagan Super Giant 4-1 in the Durand Cup final at Salt Lake Stadium, Kolkata, on 23 August. **Key Exam Facts** - East Bengal won a record-equalling 17th Durand Cup title. - The club ended a 22-year wait for the trophy. - Edmund Lalrindika scored a first-half hat-trick; Bipin Singh scored the other East Bengal goal. - Mohun Bagan's goal was scored by Manvir Singh. **Connection / Background:** The Durand Cup, first held in 1888, is one of the world's oldest football tournaments and a frequent static-GK link in Indian competitive exams. **Exam Trap / What Changed:** Winner: East Bengal; score: 4-1; title count: 17. Do not confuse this result with the separate AFC Women's Champions League qualification achieved by East Bengal's women's team the same day.

[Primary / authoritative source](#) ➤

316. Department of Administrative Reforms and Public Grievances (DARPG) selected for Rajbhasha Utkrishtta Sammaan 2025-26 The Department of Administrative Reforms and Public Grievances (DARPG) was selected for Rajbhasha Utkrishtta Sammaan 2025-26 in the category of ministries/departments with fewer than 300 personnel. Key points

2026-08-28 | Other High-Yield General Awareness

Why in News: Department of Administrative Reforms and Public Grievances (DARPG) selected for Rajbhasha Utkrishtta Sammaan 2025-26 The Department of Administrative Reforms and Public Grievances (DARPG) was selected for Rajbhasha Utkrishtta Sammaan 2025-26 in the category of ministries/departments with fewer than 300 personnel. Key points. **Key Exam Facts** - The selection was made by the Department of Official Language, Ministry of Home Affairs. - DARPG secured first position for its performance in implementation of the Official Language. - It had earlier received Rajbhasha Kirti Puraskar (First) for 2023-24 and 2024-25.

[Primary / authoritative source](#) ➤

317. KCC-MISS assessment: every Rs 1 invested contributes Rs 2.30 to net value addition

03 Aug | Other High-Yield General Awareness

Why in News: A third-party assessment of the Kisan Credit Card - Modified Interest Subvention Scheme (KCC-MISS) estimated Rs 2.30 of net value addition in agriculture and allied activities for every Rs 1 invested. **Connection:** KCC provides revolving farm credit while MISS reduces effective interest burden for eligible timely repayment/short-term agricultural credit under the notified framework. **Exam Trap:** Rs 2.30 is an assessment multiplier, not an interest rate.

[Primary / authoritative source](#) ➤

318. Legal Metrology Indian Standard Time Rules 2026 to come into force after 180 days

30 Aug | Other High-Yield General Awareness

Why in News: The Legal Metrology (Indian Standard Time) Rules, 2026 provide for mandatory Indian Standard Time traceability and come into force 180 days after Gazette publication. A White Rabbit Technology-based IST demonstration network was commissioned at RRSL Bengaluru. **Connection:** legal metrology + national time standardisation.

[Primary / authoritative source](#) ➤

Numbers Vault - August 2026

Repo

5.25%

SDF

5.00%

MSF / Bank Rate

5.50%

CRR

3.00%

SLR

18.00%

July CPI

4.45%

July CFPI

5.52%

July PLFS UR

5.1%

July LFPR

55.4%

July IIP

6.7%

Q1 FY27 real GDP

7.8%

Q1 FY27 nominal GDP

10.3%

Q1 FY27 real GVA

8.2%

Q1 FY27 nominal GVA

11.5%

PMJDY

59.09 crore accounts

RRB FY26 net profit

Rs 10,176 crore

RBI swap inflows

US\$72.848 bn

FCNR(B) component

US\$65.397 bn

PFRDA same-day cut-off

1:30 PM

Samudra Manthan

Rs 84,084 crore

PM-KISAN continuation

Rs 3.15 lakh crore

PM Surya Sarovar

Rs 5,070 crore

Village banking coverage

99.92%

KCC-MISS value addition

Rs 2.30 per Rs 1

India-Uzbekistan trade target

US\$5 bn by 2030

IST Rules commencement

180 days

NBA latest ABS release

Rs 5.68 crore

Union Govt expenditure to July

Rs 17.62 lakh crore

Weekly/Monthly Exam Traps

SDF, not fixed reverse repo, is the current LAF floor.

Current SLR 18% is not the same as the statutory ceiling.

UPI operator = NPCI; statutory payment-system regulator/oversight = RBI.

CPI base 2024=100; revised GDP/IIP base framework uses 2022-23.

GDP growth and GVA growth are separate numbers.

Temporary FCNR(B)/NRE relaxations ended on 31 August; do not treat them as permanent.

A consultation paper is not automatically a final rule.

PMJDY account count, deposit value and village banking coverage are three different figures.

NPS PoP, CRA, Pension Fund and ASP have different roles.

FPI equity inflow should not be mixed with debt-route flows.

A scheme outlay is not the same as beneficiary entitlement.

Latest month-end values supersede earlier August snapshots when the exam asks for the current/latest figure.

Practice - 200 Mains-Pattern MCQs

The set mixes direct current facts, numbers, regulator mapping, rules, mechanisms and current-to-static banking links.

Q1. In the August 2026 context, uPI is operated by:

- A. RBI directly
 - B. NPCI
 - C. SEBI
 - D. IBA
 - E. PFRDA
-

Q2. Which of the following statements about BRICS payment discussions is correct?

- A. A common BRICS CBDC has already launched
 - B. All UPI charges have been abolished internationally
 - C. Members are discussing links among fast-payment systems and CBDCs
 - D. RBI has replaced the rupee with CBDC for trade
 - E. The plan is a final binding treaty
-

Q3. In the August 2026 context, nPS is regulated by:

- A. SEBI
 - B. IRDAI
 - C. PFRDA
 - D. RBI
 - E. IFSCA
-

Q4. In the August 2026 context, an IDF-NBFC is primarily associated with channeling/refinancing long-term debt for:

- A. Foreign-exchange dealing
 - B. Infrastructure projects
 - C. Agricultural crop insurance only
 - D. Retail gold loans
 - E. Mutual fund distribution
-

Q5. What was the reported number of District Hospitals are targeted in Phase I of the emergency and trauma strengthening plan by March 2027?

- A. 160
 - B. 120
 - C. 203
 - D. 250
 - E. 613
-

Q6. In the August 2026 context, dRI reported seizure of how much methamphetamine in Assam and Mizoram operations?

- A. 26 kg
 - B. 46 kg
 - C. 56 kg
 - D. 76 kg
 - E. 96 kg
-

Q7. In the August 2026 context, 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
-

Q8. In the August 2026 context, the 26th SCO Summit in the week's late update also marks:

- A. 10 years
 - B. 15 years
 - C. 20 years
 - D. 25 years
 - E. 30 years
-

Q9. In the August 2026 context, adi Karmayogi Abhiyan aims to strengthen last-mile governance across approximately:

- A. 10,000 tribal villages
 - B. 25,000 tribal villages
 - C. 50,000 tribal villages
 - D. 75,000 tribal villages
 - E. 1 lakh tribal villages
-

Q10. In the August 2026 context, pNGRB authorised nearly how much new LPG pipeline infrastructure?

- A. 800 km
 - B. 1,200 km
 - C. 1,500 km
 - D. 1,800 km
 - E. 2,757 km
-

Q11. In the August 2026 context, the Department of Consumer Affairs monitors prices of 41 essential commodities across how many centres?

- A. 379
 - B. 579
 - C. 479
 - D. 679
 - E. 779
-

Q12. In the August 2026 context, total deposits in PMJDY accounts as of 19 August 2026 were:

- A. Rs 2,85,614 crore
 - B. Rs 2,96,514 crore
 - C. Rs 3,16,514 crore
 - D. Rs 3,26,514 crore
 - E. Rs 3,46,514 crore
-

Q13. Identify the maximum early-stage assistance per project under the PRIP call?

- A. Rs 1 crore
 - B. Rs 2 crore
 - C. Rs 5 crore
 - D. Rs 10 crore
 - E. Rs 25 crore
-

Q14. What was the reported amount of 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
-

Q15. In the August 2026 context, ketan Merchant received a three-month extension as Interim CEO of:

- A. Airtel Payments Bank
 - B. Fino Payments Bank
 - C. India Post Payments Bank
 - D. Jio Payments Bank
 - E. NSDL Payments Bank
-

Q16. In the August 2026 context, bank of America's initial equity interest in Jio Credit is:

- A. 20.0%
 - B. 24.9%
 - C. 26.5%
 - D. 39.9%
 - E. 49.9%
-

Q17. In the August 2026 context, which is the banking regulator among the following?

- A. RBI
 - B. BSE
 - C. AMFI
 - D. FICCI
 - E. CII
-

Q18. In the August 2026 context, in a free-float market-capitalisation methodology, the weight is based mainly on shares that are:

- A. Locked in employee trusts
 - B. Held permanently by promoters only
 - C. Available for public trading
 - D. Not listed on an exchange
 - E. Held only by the government
-

Q19. Who among the following did Rameshbabu Praggnanandhaa defeat 15-13 to win the 2026 Grand Chess Tour?

- A. Wesley So
 - B. Fabiano Caruana
 - C. Vincent Keymer
 - D. Hikaru Nakamura
 - E. Alireza Firouzja
-

Q20. In the August 2026 context, the sovereign AI stack "Gnani Artha" comprises:

- A. BharatGPT and Megh
 - B. Evon 3.3 and Plexus
 - C. Bhashini and Aadhaar AI
 - D. PARAM and Trinetra
 - E. Sarvam and Krutrim
-

Q21. In the August 2026 context, 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
-

Q22. In the August 2026 context, nABARD is primarily associated with:

- A. Securities regulation
 - B. Agriculture and rural development finance
 - C. Insurance regulation
 - D. Pension regulation
 - E. Telecom regulation
-

Q23. In the August 2026 context, pradhan Mantri Surya Sarovar Yojana targets how much floating solar PV capacity?

- A. 1,000 MW
 - B. 2,500 MW
 - C. 5,000 MW
 - D. 7,500 MW
 - E. 10,000 MW
-

Q24. In the August 2026 context, the foundational AI and cloud literacy target of the NSDC-Cultus-AWS initiative is:

- A. 50,000
 - B. 1 lakh
 - C. 1.5 lakh
 - D. 2 lakh
 - E. 2.5 lakh
-

Q25. In the August 2026 context, following flash floods in Nepal, which Indian force was placed on high alert in potentially affected border areas?

- A. NDRF
 - B. NSG
 - C. CRPF
 - D. ITBP only
 - E. CISF
-

Q26. In the August 2026 context, during 2025-26, the Kanda Express/onion logistics intervention used how many railway rakes?

- A. 54
 - B. 68
 - C. 72
 - D. 86
 - E. 96
-

Q27. In the August 2026 context, india-Kuwait relations were upgraded to a Strategic Partnership in:

- A. 2020
 - B. 2022
 - C. 2023
 - D. 2024
 - E. 2025
-

Q28. What was the reported number of development projects worth over Rs 100 crore had Bhoomi Pujan at Lucknow Cantonment?

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

Q29. In the August 2026 context, fAR and VRR in the FPI debt context are:

- A. Equity indices
 - B. Debt-market access routes
 - C. Insurance products
 - D. Payment systems
 - E. Pension schemes
-

Q30. What was the reported number of S&T Clusters operate under the Office of the Principal Scientific Adviser in the 2025-26 report?

- A. 5
 - B. 6
 - C. 7
 - D. 8
 - E. 10
-

Q31. In the August 2026 context, eEFC stands for:

- A. Exchange Earners Foreign Currency
 - B. External Export Finance Credit
 - C. Electronic Export Foreign Clearing
 - D. Exchange Eligible Forex Certificate
 - E. Export Earnings Funding Channel
-

Q32. In the August 2026 context, fCNR(B) stands for:

- A. Foreign Capital Non-Resident Banking Account
 - B. Foreign Credit Non-Resident Bond
 - C. Foreign Currency Non-Resident (Bank) Account
 - D. Financial Currency Non-Resident Bank
 - E. Foreign Currency National Reserve (Bank)
-

Q33. In the August 2026 context, the T-Series tank overhaul project at Vehicle Factory, Jabalpur is planned for an annual capacity of:

- A. 80 tanks
 - B. 50 tanks
 - C. 60 tanks
 - D. 100 tanks
 - E. 120 tanks
-

Q34. In the August 2026 context, sanchar Saathi crossed what monthly recovery milestone?

- A. 25,000 handsets
 - B. 50,000 handsets
 - C. 75,000 handsets
 - D. 1 lakh handsets
 - E. 2 lakh handsets
-

Q35. In the August 2026 context, 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
-

Q36. In the August 2026 context, poP in NPS stands for:

- A. Point of Presence
 - B. Pool of Pension
 - C. Place of Payment
 - D. Proof of Pension
 - E. Point of Portfolio
-

Q37. In the August 2026 context, mMDR stands for:

- A. Mineral Management and Development Rules
 - B. Mines and Minerals (Development and Regulation)
 - C. Mining Markets and Development Regulation
 - D. Minerals Management, Distribution and Resources
 - E. Mines Modernisation and Development Rules
-

Q38. In the August 2026 context, deposit insurance in India is provided by:

- A. SIDBI
 - B. DICGC
 - C. NHB
 - D. PFRDA
 - E. IFSCA
-

Q39. In the August 2026 context, which activity is not permitted as a core balance-sheet activity for a Payments Bank?

- A. Facilitating payments and remittances
 - B. Issuing debit cards
 - C. Accepting eligible deposits
 - D. Undertaking lending from its own balance sheet
 - E. Distributing permitted third-party products
-

Q40. In the August 2026 context, the New Development Bank proposes to raise how much through Maharajah INR Bonds over five years?

- A. Rs 25,000 crore
 - B. Rs 10,000 crore
 - C. Rs 15,000 crore
 - D. Rs 20,000 crore
 - E. Rs 30,000 crore
-

Q41. In the August 2026 context, pARIVARTAN aims to replace more than how many older trucks and buses in Delhi-NCR?

- A. 50,000
 - B. 1 lakh
 - C. 1.5 lakh
 - D. 2 lakh
 - E. 5 lakh
-

Q42. In the August 2026 context, the White Rabbit Technology-based IST demonstration network was commissioned at which RRSL?

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

Q43. In the August 2026 context, nABARD signed a rural-infrastructure financing MoU with:

- A. SIDBI
 - B. NaBFID
 - C. NHB
 - D. EXIM Bank
 - E. PFRDA
-

Q44. In the August 2026 context, the Sintered Rare Earth Permanent Magnet manufacturing scheme targets total integrated capacity of:

- A. 2,000 MTPA
 - B. 4,000 MTPA
 - C. 5,000 MTPA
 - D. 6,000 MTPA
 - E. 8,000 MTPA
-

Q45. In the August 2026 context, qBUSE estimated employment in the unincorporated non-agricultural sector at:

- A. 8.67 crore
 - B. 9.20 crore
 - C. 10.30 crore
 - D. 12.81 crore
 - E. 13.70 crore
-

Q46. In the August 2026 context, india's sugarcane production in 2025-26 was reported at:

- A. 500 MMT
 - B. 400 MMT
 - C. 550 MMT
 - D. 475 MMT
 - E. 450 MMT
-

Q47. In the August 2026 context, rBI's Rs 50,000 penalty on Jalna District Central Co-operative Bank related to non-compliance involving:

- A. Priority Sector Lending and CRR
 - B. Credit Information Companies and KYC
 - C. Statutory Liquidity Ratio and capital adequacy
 - D. Interest-rate derivatives and FEMA
 - E. Deposit pricing and branch licensing
-

Q48. Identify the base year of the current IIP series cited in the July 2026 release?

- A. 2011-12
 - B. 2015-16
 - C. 2017-18
 - D. 2020-21
 - E. 2022-23
-

Q49. In the August 2026 context, "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
-

Q50. In the August 2026 context, pRAN in NPS stands for:

- A. Permanent Retirement Account Number
 - B. Pension Regulatory Account Number
 - C. Primary Retirement Allocation Number
 - D. Permanent Rupee Account Number
 - E. Pension Record Authentication Number
-

Q51. In the August 2026 context, under the REPM scheme, the total financial outlay is:

- A. Rs 3,280 crore
 - B. Rs 5,070 crore
 - C. Rs 7,280 crore
 - D. Rs 7,453 crore
 - E. Rs 9,280 crore
-

Q52. In the August 2026 context, which sport had the largest share in the approved Indian Asian Games contingent, with 73 participants?

- A. Badminton
 - B. Boxing
 - C. Athletics
 - D. Hockey
 - E. Shooting
-

Q53. In the August 2026 context, the IICT-Netflix scholarships offer financial support of up to:

- A. 60%
 - B. 50%
 - C. 100%
 - D. 80%
 - E. 70%
-

Q54. In the August 2026 context, in SEBI's 27 August consultation, "small-value debt" uses a face value of:

- A. Rs 5,000
 - B. Rs 10,000
 - C. Rs 25,000
 - D. Rs 50,000
 - E. Rs 1,00,000
-

Q55. In the August 2026 context, SEBI's 28 August circular extended implementation timelines for norms primarily related to which instrument?

- A. REITs
 - B. InvITs
 - C. ETFs
 - D. Sovereign Gold Bonds
 - E. Commercial Paper
-

Q56. In the August 2026 context, 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
-

Q57. In the August 2026 context, a fully digital non-face-to-face NPS onboarding may attract a reduced PoP charge of:

- A. Rs 50
 - B. Rs 100
 - C. Rs 125
 - D. Rs 150
 - E. Rs 200
-

Q58. In the August 2026 context, gARUD high-resolution binoculars launched by India Optel offer:

- A. 6x magnification
 - B. 8x magnification
 - C. 10x magnification
 - D. 12x magnification
 - E. 16x magnification
-

Q59. In the August 2026 context, cRR is maintained by scheduled commercial banks primarily with:

- A. SEBI
 - B. RBI
 - C. NABARD
 - D. Government of India
 - E. DICGC
-

Q60. In the August 2026 context, the primary regulatory purpose of a Large Exposure Framework is to control:

- A. Concentration risk
 - B. Retail inflation
 - C. Deposit insurance premium
 - D. Foreign-exchange convertibility
 - E. Operational hours of branches
-

Q61. In the August 2026 context, world Lake Day is linked to which United Nations General Assembly resolution?

- A. A/RES/78/142
 - B. A/RES/79/124
 - C. A/RES/79/142
 - D. A/RES/80/142
 - E. A/RES/79/214
-

Q62. Who among the following chairs the High-Powered Task Force on public-examination reforms?

- A. Nandan Nilekani
 - B. Amitabh Kant
 - C. K. Radhakrishnan
 - D. T. V. Somanathan
 - E. Ajay Bhushan Pandey
-

Q63. In the August 2026 context, germany won the 2026 FIH Men's Hockey World Cup final by defeating:

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

Q64. In the August 2026 context, SIDBI primarily focuses on:

- A. MSME finance and development
 - B. Sovereign debt management
 - C. Insurance supervision
 - D. Pension payouts
 - E. Farm procurement
-

Q65. In the August 2026 context, SBI's proposed Credit Risk-o-Meter is an additional disclosure mechanism for:

- A. Equity shares
 - B. Debt securities
 - C. Savings deposits
 - D. Insurance policies
 - E. Currency derivatives only
-

Q66. In the August 2026 context, india largest-ever Japan business delegation announced on 23 August has:

- A. About 50 representatives
 - B. More than 100 representatives
 - C. More than 150 representatives
 - D. More than 200 representatives
 - E. More than 500 representatives
-

Q67. In the August 2026 context, ketan Merchant's extended interim-CEO tenure at Fino Payments Bank is effective from:

- A. 1 September 2026
 - B. 1 October 2026
 - C. 27 August 2026
 - D. 5 December 2026
 - E. 26 August 2026
-

Q68. What was the reported amount of was accepted in the RBI 1-day VRRR auction held on 27 August 2026?

- A. Rs 1,42,622 crore
 - B. Rs 1,25,000 crore
 - C. Rs 1,75,500 crore
 - D. Rs 2,00,000 crore
 - E. Rs 3,00,000 crore
-

Q69. In the August 2026 context, india's Index of Industrial Production grew by how much year-on-year in July 2026?

- A. 4.7%
 - B. 5.7%
 - C. 6.7%
 - D. 7.7%
 - E. 8.7%
-

Q70. In the August 2026 context, 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
-

Q71. In the August 2026 context, india and Morocco agreed to target doubling bilateral trade in:

- A. 3 years
 - B. 4 years
 - C. 5 years
 - D. 7 years
 - E. 10 years
-

Q72. In the August 2026 context, india's non-fossil installed power capacity as of 31 July 2026 was:

- A. 250.50 GW
 - B. 275.50 GW
 - C. 300.50 GW
 - D. 325.50 GW
 - E. 350.50 GW
-

Q73. In the August 2026 context, nCSK reported compensation provided to how many families out of 1,377 sewer/septic-tank death cases?

- A. 750
 - B. 900
 - C. 1,000
 - D. 1,223
 - E. 1,377
-

Q74. In the August 2026 context, india highlighted that nearly how many startups had been established over the last decade?

- A. 1,00,000
 - B. 2,50,000
 - C. 50,000
 - D. 2,00,000
 - E. 1,50,000
-

Q75. In the August 2026 context, india highlighted that domestic semiconductor demand could reach approximately what level by 2032?

- A. USD 75 billion
 - B. USD 100 billion
 - C. USD 125 billion
 - D. USD 140 billion
 - E. USD 150 billion
-

Q76. In the August 2026 context, the inaugural India-Kuwait Joint Defence Committee meeting was held in:

- A. Kuwait City
 - B. New Delhi
 - C. Mumbai
 - D. Abu Dhabi
 - E. Muscat
-

Q77. In the August 2026 context, 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
-

Q78. In the August 2026 context, the latest 3-day RBI VRRR auction accepted:

- A. Rs 1,12,537 cr
 - B. Rs 1,32,537 cr
 - C. Rs 1,42,537 cr
 - D. Rs 1,52,537 cr
 - E. Rs 1,62,537 cr
-

Q79. In the August 2026 context, the 80th Independence Day celebrations at Red Fort are set to commemorate:

- A. 100 years of Jana Gana Mana
 - B. 150 years of Vande Mataram
 - C. 75 years of the Constitution
 - D. 125 years of Swadeshi Movement
 - E. 100 years of Azad Hind Fauj
-

Q80. In the August 2026 context, national Space Day in India is observed on:

- A. 28 February
 - B. 18 May
 - C. 15 August
 - D. 23 August
 - E. 4 October
-

Q81. In the August 2026 context, the 8th India-Morocco Joint Commission is to be held in:

- A. Mumbai
 - B. Jaipur
 - C. Casablanca
 - D. New Delhi
 - E. Rabat
-

Q82. In the August 2026 context, s&P Global Ratings' 27 August 2026 action on India was:

- A. Upgrade to BBB+ / A-2
 - B. Affirmation at BBB/A-2 with stable outlook
 - C. Downgrade to BBB-/A-3
 - D. Affirmation at A-/A-2 with negative outlook
 - E. Upgrade to A-/A-1
-

Q83. Identify which of the following is an Aditya-L1 payload used in the reported solar-flare study?

- A. SARAL
 - B. SUIIT
 - C. SCATSAT
 - D. RISAT
 - E. INSAT-3D
-

Q84. In the August 2026 context, 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%
-

Q85. In the August 2026 context, an ETF is generally traded:

- A. Only at RBI
 - B. On a stock exchange
 - C. Only through post offices
 - D. Only in primary auctions
 - E. Only at bank branches
-

Q86. What was the reported number of fresh fellowships are provided every year under NFST?

- A. 250
 - B. 500
 - C. 750
 - D. 1,000
 - E. 1,250
-

Q87. In the August 2026 context, the proposed BRICS Sports Manufacturing Conclave is to be hosted in:

- A. Udaipur
 - B. Indore
 - C. Surat
 - D. Kochi
 - E. Lucknow
-

Q88. Who among the following received RBI approval for an extension as interim CEO of Fino Payments Bank?

- A. Shyam Srinivasan
 - B. V. Vaidyanathan
 - C. Ketan Merchant
 - D. Sanjay Agarwal
 - E. Rishi Gupta
-

Q89. In the August 2026 context, during the first year after PM SVANidhi restructuring, loans to new beneficiaries amounted to:

- A. Rs 4,294 crore
 - B. Rs 5,294 crore
 - C. Rs 6,294 crore
 - D. Rs 7,294 crore
 - E. Rs 8,294 crore
-

Q90. In the August 2026 context, aditya-L1 observes the Sun from which location?

- A. Earth-Moon L2
 - B. Sun-Earth L1
 - C. Sun-Earth L2
 - D. Low Earth Orbit
 - E. Geostationary orbit
-

Q91. In the August 2026 context, 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
-

Q92. In the August 2026 context, pAIMANA tracks central-sector infrastructure projects with a threshold of:

- A. Rs 50 crore
 - B. Rs 100 crore
 - C. Rs 150 crore
 - D. Rs 250 crore
 - E. Rs 500 crore
-

Q93. In the August 2026 context, public comments on RBI's draft Interest Rates on Loans and Advances Directions, 2026 are due by:

- A. 28 August 2026
 - B. 31 August 2026
 - C. 5 September 2026
 - D. 11 September 2026
 - E. 30 September 2026
-

Q94. In the August 2026 context, more than how many officers were expected at the 9th National Security Strategies Conference?

- A. 450
 - B. 650
 - C. 750
 - D. 850
 - E. 1,050
-

Q95. In the August 2026 context, what temporary stock limit was set for sugar dealers for 1 August-30 November 2026?

- A. 200 tonnes
 - B. 300 tonnes
 - C. 500 tonnes
 - D. 600 tonnes
 - E. 400 tonnes
-

Q96. In the August 2026 context, the final 27 August Khelo India Dialogue release reported participation from:

- A. More than 500 institutes
 - B. More than 1,000 institutes
 - C. More than 1,500 institutes
 - D. More than 3,000 institutes
 - E. More than 5,000 institutes
-

Q97. In the August 2026 context, india's national malaria-elimination target year is:

- A. 2027
 - B. 2028
 - C. 2029
 - D. 2030
 - E. 2035
-

Q98. In the August 2026 context, 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
-

Q99. In the August 2026 context, indian Railways plans four-laning across about how much of seven high-density routes?

- A. 5,000 km
 - B. 7,500 km
 - C. 9,000 km
 - D. 11,000 km
 - E. 13,500 km
-

Q100. In the August 2026 context, the Monsoon Session 2026 of Parliament had how many sittings?

- A. 15
 - B. 17
 - C. 19
 - D. 21
 - E. 25
-

Q101. In the August 2026 context, fPI regulation in India is primarily associated with:

- A. SEBI
 - B. IRDAI
 - C. PFRDA
 - D. DICGC
 - E. NABARD
-

Q102. In the August 2026 context, cash Reserve Ratio (CRR) is maintained by scheduled banks as cash balances with:

- A. NABARD
 - B. DICGC
 - C. SEBI
 - D. Ministry of Finance
 - E. Reserve Bank of India
-

Q103. In the August 2026 context, sEBI invited comments on its small-value debt merchant-banker exemption proposal up to:

- A. 7 September 2026
 - B. 10 September 2026
 - C. 14 September 2026
 - D. 17 September 2026
 - E. 30 September 2026
-

Q104. What was the reported number of banks/NBFCs were reported onboarded under PARIVARTAN?

- A. 22
 - B. 32
 - C. 42
 - D. 52
 - E. 62
-

Q105. In the August 2026 context, 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
-

Q106. In the August 2026 context, fPI differs from FDI mainly because FPI generally represents:

- A. Portfolio investment in financial securities
 - B. Only government grants
 - C. Only bank loans
 - D. Currency issuance
 - E. Direct tax collection
-

Q107. In the August 2026 context, which feature is NOT associated with the revamped India Code Portal?

- A. AI-assisted search
 - B. Semantic search
 - C. Speech-based search
 - D. Linkage with e-Gazette
 - E. UPI payment settlement
-

Q108. In the August 2026 context, east Bengal won the 2026 Durand Cup final by defeating Mohun Bagan:

- A. 2-0
 - B. 2-1
 - C. 3-1
 - D. 4-1
 - E. 5-1
-

Q109. In the August 2026 context, the first Kanda Express carrying onions departed from Nashik for:

- A. Lucknow
 - B. Ahmedabad
 - C. New Delhi
 - D. Mumbai
 - E. Kolkata
-

Q110. In the August 2026 context, as of 19 August 2026, the number of PMJDY accounts was:

- A. 55.70 crore
 - B. 57.78 crore
 - C. 58.90 crore
 - D. 59.09 crore
 - E. 61.29 crore
-

Q111. Identify the total outlay of the PRIP Scheme?

- A. Rs 1,000 crore
 - B. Rs 2,500 crore
 - C. Rs 5,000 crore
 - D. Rs 7,500 crore
 - E. Rs 10,000 crore
-

Q112. In the August 2026 context, 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
-

Q113. In the August 2026 context, fIRE in the SEBI cyber-reporting context stands for:

- A. Financial Incident Response Exchange
 - B. Format for Incident Reporting Exchange
 - C. Framework for Integrated Risk Evaluation
 - D. Financial Infrastructure Resilience Engine
 - E. Format for Intermediary Reporting Events
-

Q114. In the August 2026 context, india's merchandise trade deficit in July 2026 was:

- A. US\$21.98 billion
 - B. US\$26.98 billion
 - C. US\$31.98 billion
 - D. US\$36.98 billion
 - E. US\$41.98 billion
-

Q115. Who among the following won the men singles title at the BWF World Championships 2026?

- A. Shi Yuqi
 - B. Kodai Naraoka
 - C. Alex Lanier
 - D. Lakshya Sen
 - E. Kunlavut Vitidsarn
-

Q116. In the August 2026 context, under the onion-buffer intervention, onions are being sold through designated retail channels at:

- A. Rs 25/kg
 - B. Rs 45/kg
 - C. Rs 40/kg
 - D. Rs 35/kg
 - E. Rs 30/kg
-

Q117. In the August 2026 context, the manufacturing-sector interest coverage ratio in RBI's Q1 FY27 corporate data was:

- A. 2.6
 - B. 5.8
 - C. 8.4
 - D. 10.2
 - E. 12.6
-

Q118. Identify the correct the cut-off rate in RBI's 3-day VRRR auction of 28 August 2026?

- A. 4.75%
 - B. 5.00%
 - C. 5.24%
 - D. 5.50%
 - E. 5.75%
-

Q119. In the August 2026 context, 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
-

Q120. In the August 2026 context, the minimum NPS contribution at onboarding under the revised framework is:

- A. Rs 100
 - B. Rs 200
 - C. Rs 250
 - D. Rs 500
 - E. Rs 1,000
-

Q121. In the August 2026 context, which set contains all four sectors in NITI Aayog's first "Global Manufacturing Hub" report?

- A. Chemicals, textiles, telecom/network equipment, solar PV
 - B. Steel, chemicals, automobiles, pharma
 - C. Textiles, defence, aviation, semiconductors
 - D. Solar PV, shipbuilding, mining, cement
 - E. Chemicals, food processing, tourism, telecom
-

Q122. In the August 2026 context, the intensive job-ready layer of the NSDC-Cultus-AWS initiative targets:

- A. 5,000 participants
 - B. 10,000 participants
 - C. 25,000 participants
 - D. 50,000 participants
 - E. 1.5 lakh participants
-

Q123. In the August 2026 context, the Nifty500 Growth 50 Index selects how many stocks from the Nifty 500?

- A. 50
 - B. 75
 - C. 40
 - D. 30
 - E. 100
-

Q124. In the August 2026 context, under the RBI directions effective 27 August, the aggregate withdrawal ceiling for depositors of The Citizens Co-operative Bank Ltd., Jammu is:

- A. Rs 25,000
 - B. Rs 50,000
 - C. Rs 75,000
 - D. Rs 1,00,000
 - E. Rs 1,25,000
-

Q125. In the August 2026 context, which IIP sector contracted in July 2026?

- A. Manufacturing
 - B. Electricity & Gas Supply
 - C. Mining & Quarrying
 - D. Water Supply & Sewerage
 - E. Electrical equipment manufacturing
-

Q126. In the August 2026 context, 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
-

Q127. In the August 2026 context, per Drop More Crop had brought more than how much area under micro-irrigation by July 2026?

- A. 75 lakh ha
 - B. 95 lakh ha
 - C. 105 lakh ha
 - D. 115 lakh ha
 - E. 135 lakh ha
-

Q128. In the August 2026 context, as of July 2026, AI Kosh hosted more than:

- A. 5,000 datasets and 131 AI models
 - B. 8,000 datasets and 231 AI models
 - C. 10,000 datasets and 301 AI models
 - D. 14,000 datasets and 331 AI models
 - E. 20,000 datasets and 531 AI models
-

Q129. In the August 2026 context, the estimated investment in the newly authorised PNGRB LPG pipeline package is about:

- A. Rs 3,000 crore
 - B. Rs 5,000 crore
 - C. Rs 6,000 crore
 - D. Rs 7,000 crore
 - E. Rs 9,500 crore
-

Q130. In the August 2026 context, the newly developed Prehistoric Life Gallery was inaugurated at:

- A. Nehru Science Centre, Mumbai
 - B. Birla Industrial & Technological Museum, Kolkata
 - C. Regional Science Centre, Lucknow
 - D. Visvesvaraya Industrial & Technological Museum, Bengaluru
 - E. National Science Centre, Delhi
-

Q131. In the August 2026 context, samarthak, delivered to the Indian Navy on 27 August 2026, was built by:

- A. Cochin Shipyard Ltd.
 - B. Garden Reach Shipbuilders & Engineers
 - C. Goa Shipyard Ltd.
 - D. Mazagon Dock Shipbuilders Ltd.
 - E. Larsen & Toubro Ltd., Kattupalli
-

Q132. In the August 2026 context, oGEL in the defence-export framework stands for:

- A. Open General Export Licence
 - B. Official Goods Export Limit
 - C. Operational Global Export Ledger
 - D. Open Government Export List
 - E. Overseas General Equipment Licence
-

Q133. In the August 2026 context, 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
-

Q134. In the August 2026 context, india plans 100 new ships partly to reduce a foreign-freight bill estimated at:

- A. US\$25 bn
 - B. US\$50 bn
 - C. US\$75 bn
 - D. US\$100 bn
 - E. US\$125 bn
-

Q135. In the August 2026 context, india's total exports (merchandise + services) in July 2026 were estimated at:

- A. US\$70.14 billion
 - B. US\$75.14 billion
 - C. US\$80.14 billion
 - D. US\$85.14 billion
 - E. US\$90.14 billion
-

Q136. Identify the correct the theme of the 3rd National Space Day 2026?

- A. Space for Sustainable Earth
 - B. Towards Viksit Bharat: Innovating, Collaborating and Aspiring to Global Space Leadership
 - C. Moon to Mars: India Leads
 - D. One Nation One Orbit
 - E. Space Economy for All
-

Q137. In the August 2026 context, uNCCD COP17, where India called for community-led rangeland restoration, is being held in:

- A. Nairobi, Kenya
 - B. Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia
 - C. Baku, Azerbaijan
 - D. Geneva, Switzerland
 - E. Riyadh, Saudi Arabia
-

Q138. In the August 2026 context, according to RBI's Q1 FY27 listed private corporate data, aggregate sales grew year-on-year by:

- A. 13.9%
 - B. 17.2%
 - C. 19.4%
 - D. 21.4%
 - E. 24.1%
-

Q139. What was the reported amount of did RBI accept in the 3-day VRRR auction held on 28 August 2026?

- A. Rs 52,537 crore
 - B. Rs 1,02,537 crore
 - C. Rs 1,52,537 crore
 - D. Rs 2,52,537 crore
 - E. Rs 3,00,000 crore
-

Q140. In the August 2026 context, 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
-

Q141. Which set correctly gives the August 2026 RBI policy corridor?

- A. SDF 5.00% - Repo 5.25% - MSF 5.50%
 - B. SDF 5.25% - Repo 5.50% - MSF 5.75%
 - C. Reverse Repo 5.00% - Repo 5.25% - SDF 5.50%
 - D. CRR 5.00% - Repo 5.25% - SLR 5.50%
 - E. SDF 3.35% - Repo 5.25% - MSF 6.00%
-

Q142. Which statement about SDF is correct?

- A. RBI absorbs surplus liquidity without collateral
 - B. RBI lends only to NBFCs without collateral
 - C. SEBI uses it for mutual funds
 - D. It is the statutory SLR ceiling
 - E. It is a DICGC insurance facility
-

Q143. In August 2026, CRR and SLR were respectively:

- A. 3.00% and 18.00%
 - B. 4.00% and 18.00%
 - C. 3.00% and 20.00%
 - D. 5.25% and 18.00%
 - E. 18.00% and 3.00%
-

Q144. Which pairing correctly distinguishes CRR from SLR?

- A. CRR - cash with RBI; SLR - prescribed liquid assets held by bank
 - B. CRR - liquid assets with bank; SLR - cash with RBI
 - C. Both are capital ratios
 - D. Both are policy rates
 - E. Both are maintained only by NBFCs
-

Q145. July 2026 CPI inflation was released on which new base?

- A. 2024=100
 - B. 2012=100
 - C. 2022-23=100
 - D. 2011-12=100
 - E. 2025-26=100
-

Q146. Which set is correct for July 2026?

- A. CPI 4.45% - CFPI 5.52% - PLFS UR 5.1%
 - B. CPI 5.52% - CFPI 4.45% - UR 6.1%
 - C. CPI 4.45% - IIP 4.45% - UR 4.45%
 - D. CPI 6.7% - CFPI 5.1% - UR 7.8%
 - E. CPI 3.35% - CFPI 5.52% - UR 5.25%
-

Q147. July 2026 IIP growth on base 2022-23=100 was:

- A. 6.7%
 - B. 5.4%
 - C. 7.8%
 - D. 4.45%
 - E. 10.3%
-

Q148. Which pair is correctly matched for Q1 FY27?

- A. Real GDP 7.8% - Real GVA 8.2%
 - B. Real GDP 8.2% - Real GVA 7.8%
 - C. Nominal GDP 7.8% - Real GDP 10.3%
 - D. Real GDP 6.7% - Real GVA 5.1%
 - E. Nominal GVA 10.3% - Nominal GDP 11.5%
-

Q149. Nominal GDP growth in Q1 FY27 was:

- A. 10.3%
 - B. 7.8%
 - C. 8.2%
 - D. 11.5%
 - E. 6.7%
-

Q150. Which statement best explains nominal versus real GDP?

- A. Real GDP uses constant prices; nominal GDP uses current prices
 - B. Both always use current prices
 - C. Real GDP is calculated only by RBI
 - D. Nominal GDP excludes services
 - E. Real GDP is always higher than nominal GDP
-

Q151. The PFRDA same-day NPS investment cut-off highlighted in August was:

- A. 1:30 PM
 - B. 11:00 AM
 - C. 12:00 noon
 - D. 2:30 PM
 - E. 4:00 PM
-

Q152. Who actually invests NPS contributions?

- A. Registered Pension Fund
 - B. Point of Presence
 - C. CRA
 - D. DICGC
 - E. IRDAI
-

Q153. Which NPS role is correctly matched?

- A. CRA - central recordkeeping
 - B. PoP - invests pension corpus
 - C. Pension Fund - generates Aadhaar
 - D. ASP - regulates NPS
 - E. PFRDA - operates UPI
-

Q154. Which statement about UPI is correct?

- A. NPCI operates UPI; RBI provides statutory payment-system regulation/oversight
 - B. RBI operates UPI and NPCI sets repo rate
 - C. SEBI operates UPI
 - D. PFRDA regulates UPI transactions
 - E. DICGC issues UPI IDs
-

Q155. NIPL is best described as:

- A. NPCI International Payments Limited, NPCI international arm
 - B. RBI foreign-exchange department
 - C. SEBI investor-protection fund
 - D. NABARD export subsidiary
 - E. PFRDA pension trustee
-

Q156. Under the India-Uzbekistan arrangement, Indian UPI users can scan:

- A. UZQR
 - B. QRIS
 - C. PromptPay QR
 - D. SGQR
 - E. Bharat BillPay only
-

Q157. Which statement about the latest August PMJDY value is safest?

- A. Accounts crossed 59 crore; late-Aug deposits were above Rs 3.16 lakh crore
 - B. Accounts were below 20 crore
 - C. Deposits were below Rs 50,000 crore
 - D. PMJDY is a SEBI scheme
 - E. PMJDY gives compulsory Rs 1 lakh minimum balance
-

Q158. The 99.92% banking-coverage figure refers to:

- A. Inhabited villages with a banking outlet within 5 km
 - B. Share of UPI transactions
 - C. Share of insured deposits
 - D. RRB PSL target
 - E. Share of listed companies
-

Q159. Jan Dhan Darshak is primarily used for:

- A. GIS-based monitoring of banking infrastructure/access
 - B. Mutual fund NAV calculation
 - C. NPS annuity purchase
 - D. GST return filing
 - E. Stock-exchange surveillance
-

Q160. FY2025-26 combined RRB net profit highlighted in August was:

- A. Rs 10,176 crore
 - B. Rs 5,176 crore
 - C. Rs 15,176 crore
 - D. Rs 1,017.6 crore
 - E. Rs 20,176 crore
-

Q161. Priority Sector Lending is best understood as:

- A. Directed bank credit to identified priority sectors under RBI framework
 - B. A SEBI stock-market index
 - C. An insurance solvency ratio
 - D. A pension annuity rule
 - E. A forex reserve component
-

Q162. FCNR(B) stands for:

- A. Foreign Currency Non-Resident (Bank)
 - B. Foreign Credit National Reserve Bank
 - C. Fixed Currency Non-Resident Bond
 - D. Foreign Capital Non-Resident Banking
 - E. Foreign Currency National Repo Balance
-

Q163. Which was the largest component of the special RBI USD-INR swap inflows through 21 August?

- A. FCNR(B) deposits
 - B. ECB
 - C. OFCB
 - D. FDI
 - E. FPI equity
-

Q164. The total special USD-INR swap inflow reported through 21 August was:

- A. US\$72.848 billion
 - B. US\$65.397 billion
 - C. US\$4.860 billion
 - D. US\$2.591 billion
 - E. US\$27.5 billion
-

Q165. SEBI is the primary regulator for:

- A. Securities and capital markets
 - B. Commercial bank monetary policy
 - C. Insurance
 - D. Pensions
 - E. Agricultural refinance
-

Q166. IFSCA is the unified regulator for permitted financial services in:

- A. International Financial Services Centres
 - B. All cooperative banks
 - C. All state treasuries
 - D. Only payment banks
 - E. All pension funds
-

Q167. IRDAI regulates:

- A. Insurance
 - B. Pensions
 - C. Securities
 - D. UPI operations
 - E. RRB refinancing
-

Q168. PFRDA regulates the architecture of:

- A. NPS and APY pension framework
 - B. UPI and RuPay
 - C. Mutual funds
 - D. Commercial bank licensing
 - E. Deposit insurance
-

Q169. Which pair is correctly matched?

- A. NPCI - UPI operator; RBI - payment-system regulator/oversight
 - B. NPCI - repo rate; RBI - UPI app
 - C. SEBI - NPS regulator; PFRDA - stock exchange regulator
 - D. IRDAI - mutual funds; SEBI - insurance
 - E. DICGC - UPI operator; NPCI - deposit insurer
-

Q170. What did Samudra Manthan receive in August?

- A. Rs 84,084 crore National Offshore Exploration Scheme outlay
 - B. Rs 5,070 crore floating solar outlay
 - C. Rs 3.15 lakh crore PM-KISAN outlay
 - D. Rs 10,176 crore RRB profit
 - E. Rs 230 million ADB loan
-

Q171. Pradhan Mantri Surya Sarovar Yojana is linked to:

- A. Floating solar projects with energy storage
 - B. Offshore oil exploration
 - C. Urban metro finance
 - D. Crop insurance
 - E. Pension reform
-

Q172. The approved PM-KISAN continuation outlay for 2026-27 to 2030-31 is:

- A. Rs 3.15 lakh crore
 - B. Rs 84,084 crore
 - C. Rs 5,070 crore
 - D. Rs 1 lakh crore
 - E. Rs 10,176 crore
-

Q173. PM-KISAN provides eligible farmer families annual support of:

- A. Rs 6,000 in three equal instalments
 - B. Rs 12,000 in one instalment
 - C. Rs 5,000 monthly
 - D. Rs 10,000 quarterly
 - E. Rs 3,000 annual
-

Q174. The KCC-MISS assessment found every Rs 1 invested contributed about:

- A. Rs 2.30
 - B. Rs 1.10
 - C. Rs 3.50
 - D. Rs 5.25
 - E. Rs 10.00
-

Q175. Municipal debt securities fall primarily under which regulator?

- A. SEBI
 - B. RBI only
 - C. IRDAI
 - D. PFRDA
 - E. DICGC
-

Q176. Which statement is correct about a consultation paper?

- A. It seeks comments and is not automatically the final operative rule
 - B. It is always final law immediately
 - C. It is issued only by courts
 - D. It automatically cancels all old regulations
 - E. It can never change before finalisation
-

Q177. The Legal Metrology (Indian Standard Time) Rules, 2026 come into force after:

- A. 180 days from Gazette publication
 - B. 30 days
 - C. 60 days
 - D. 90 days
 - E. 365 days
-

Q178. The PM-SETU cluster model highlighted in August is:

- A. 1 Hub ITI + 4 Spoke ITIs
 - B. 1 Hub bank + 4 RRBs
 - C. 4 Hub ITIs + 1 Spoke ITI
 - D. 1 university + 10 colleges
 - E. 5 banks + 1 SIDBI office
-

Q179. In the PM-SETU SPV proposal, Anchor Industry Partners were associated with what share?

- A. 51%
 - B. 26%
 - C. 49%
 - D. 74%
 - E. 100%
-

Q180. Which fiscal figure is correctly matched for Union Government accounts to July 2026?

- A. Total expenditure about Rs 17.62 lakh crore
 - B. Total expenditure about Rs 7.62 lakh crore
 - C. Capital expenditure Rs 17.62 lakh crore
 - D. Total receipts Rs 30 lakh crore
 - E. Net tax revenue Rs 17.62 lakh crore
-

Q181. At the RBI-system level, which statement about RTGS is correct?

- A. Minimum Rs 2 lakh; no RBI-prescribed upper ceiling
 - B. No minimum and maximum Rs 2 lakh
 - C. Minimum Rs 50,000; maximum Rs 2 lakh
 - D. Only cash transfers are allowed
 - E. It settles in half-hourly batches
-

Q182. Which statement about NEFT amount limits is correct at the RBI-system level?

- A. RBI prescribes no general minimum or maximum; banks may set risk limits
 - B. Minimum Rs 2 lakh is compulsory
 - C. Maximum Rs 50,000 for all customers
 - D. Maximum Rs 1 lakh for all banks
 - E. NEFT has no amount transfer facility
-

Q183. A non-account-holder originating a cash NEFT remittance can send up to:

- A. Rs 50,000 per transaction
 - B. Rs 2 lakh
 - C. Rs 1 lakh
 - D. Rs 10,000
 - E. No limit
-

Q184. Which set correctly states the current UPI Lite limits used in the Banking Legends live layer?

- A. Rs 1,000 per transaction; Rs 5,000 balance
 - B. Rs 500 per transaction; Rs 1,000 balance
 - C. Rs 2,000 per transaction; Rs 10,000 balance
 - D. Rs 5,000 per transaction; Rs 1,000 balance
 - E. No transaction or balance limit
-

Q185. UPI Lite X is distinguished in the current layer mainly by:

- A. Offline payment capability with Rs 500 per-transaction limit in the cited framework
 - B. A Rs 2 lakh RTGS minimum
 - C. International forex trading
 - D. Credit-card issuance
 - E. Deposit insurance
-

Q186. Which statement about retail eRupee is correct?

- A. It is digital central-bank money issued by RBI and does not earn interest
 - B. It is a mutual fund unit issued by SEBI
 - C. It is a bank FD that earns repo-linked interest
 - D. It is operated by PFRDA
 - E. It is a private cryptocurrency
-

Q187. Under the current NPS All Citizen model, the eligible age band is:

- A. 18-85 years
 - B. 18-40 years
 - C. 18-60 years
 - D. 21-70 years
 - E. Below 18 only
-

Q188. Which pairing is correct for current NPS All Citizen common-scheme contributions?

- A. Rs 250 onboarding; Rs 10 subsequent
 - B. Rs 1,000 onboarding; Rs 500 subsequent
 - C. Rs 500 onboarding; Rs 250 subsequent
 - D. Rs 10 onboarding; Rs 1,000 subsequent
 - E. No minimum at any stage
-

Q189. Which statement reflects the current NPS All Citizen normal-exit architecture?

- A. Up to 80% lump sum and at least 20% annuity, subject to exceptions
 - B. Only 40% lump sum and 60% annuity in every case
 - C. 100% compulsory annuity
 - D. No annuity is ever required
 - E. Exactly 50:50 in every case
-

Q190. Which person is barred from opening a new APY account under the post-1 October 2022 rule?

- A. A person who is or has been an income-tax payer as on the application date
 - B. Any non-taxpayer aged 25
 - C. Any savings-account holder
 - D. Any citizen aged 30
 - E. Any eligible NPS subscriber
-

Q191. NPS Vatsalya is designed primarily for:

- A. Minors below 18, operated through a guardian
 - B. Only senior citizens above 60
 - C. Only government employees
 - D. Only corporate treasuries
 - E. Only foreign banks
-

Q192. Under the current Scale-Based Regulation live layer, the NBFC Upper Layer asset-size threshold is:

- A. Rs 1,00,000 crore
 - B. Rs 1,000 crore
 - C. Rs 20 crore
 - D. Rs 10,000 crore
 - E. Rs 5 lakh crore
-

Q193. Which set correctly describes the current HFC quantitative tests?

- A. Minimum NOF Rs 20 crore; at least 60% housing-finance assets; at least 50% individual housing finance
 - B. NOF Rs 2 crore; housing assets 20%
 - C. NOF Rs 100 crore; housing assets 100%
 - D. No minimum NOF and no asset test
 - E. Only 50% total housing assets and no individual condition
-

Q194. Which institution is the unified regulator for permitted financial services in International Financial Services Centres?

- A. IFSCA
 - B. RBI alone
 - C. SEBI alone
 - D. IRDAI alone
 - E. NABARD
-

Q195. NABARD is best described as:

- A. Apex agriculture and rural development-finance institution
 - B. Securities-market regulator
 - C. Retail payment operator
 - D. Deposit insurer
 - E. Pension regulator
-

Q196. SIDBI is principally associated with:

- A. MSME promotion, financing and development
 - B. Monetary policy voting
 - C. Deposit insurance
 - D. Pension annuity
 - E. Insurance regulation
-

Q197. Which statement about NBFC public deposits is correct?

- A. They do not receive DICGC deposit insurance
 - B. All are insured up to the same limit as bank deposits
 - C. SEBI insures them
 - D. PFRDA insures them
 - E. NPCI guarantees repayment
-

Q198. Which pair correctly distinguishes the current SLR from its statutory ceiling?

- A. Current SLR 18%; statutory ceiling 40%
 - B. Current SLR 40%; statutory ceiling 18%
 - C. Both 18%
 - D. Both 40%
 - E. Current SLR 3%; statutory ceiling 18%
-

Q199. Which statement about the fixed reverse repo rate is correct in the current corridor framework?

- A. It remains in RBI toolkit, but SDF is the current LAF floor
 - B. It is the current LAF floor instead of SDF
 - C. It has replaced the repo rate
 - D. It is fixed by SEBI
 - E. It is a capital ratio
-

Q200. All else equal, what is the typical liquidity effect of an RBI outright OMO purchase?

- A. It injects liquidity
 - B. It absorbs liquidity
 - C. It automatically raises CRR
 - D. It cancels SLR
 - E. It changes only bank capital
-

Answer Key + Concise Explanations

Q1. B - NPCI

Unified Payments Interface is operated by National Payments Corporation of India (NPCI).

Q2. C - Members are discussing links among fast-payment systems and CBDCs

RBI Governor Sanjay Malhotra said possible linkages are being discussed; the plan is not final.

Q3. C - PFRDA

Pension Fund Regulatory and Development Authority regulates NPS.

Q4. B - Infrastructure projects

Infrastructure Debt Fund-NBFCs are designed to facilitate long-term debt financing/refinancing for infrastructure.

Q5. A - 160

Of 613 categorised hospitals, 160 are in Phase I and targeted by March 2027.

Q6. D - 76 kg

DRI seized 76 kg of methamphetamine tablets.

Q7. 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.

Q8. D - 25 years

The summit coincides with 25 years of the Shanghai Cooperation Organisation.

Q9. E - 1 lakh tribal villages

The programme aims at approximately one lakh tribal villages across 30 States/UTs.

Q10. D - 1,800 km

The newly authorised pipeline package totals about 1,800 km.

Q11. B - 579

The official release states 579 monitoring centres nationwide.

Q12. C - Rs 3,16,514 crore

The official 12-year update put PMJDY deposits at Rs 3,16,514 crore.

Q13. C - Rs 5 crore

Eligible early-stage projects can receive up to Rs 5 crore.

Q14. C - Rs 5.68 crore

The fresh ABS disbursement was Rs 5.68 crore.

Q15. B - Fino Payments Bank

RBI approved a three-month extension for Ketan Merchant at Fino Payments Bank.

Q16. C - 26.5%

The initial interest is 26.5%; it may later rise to 49.9% after warrant exercise.

Q17. A - RBI

The Reserve Bank of India is the central bank and principal banking regulator.

Q18. C - Available for public trading

Free-float market capitalisation focuses on shares readily available for public trading rather than strategic/promoter holdings.

Q19. B - Fabiano Caruana

FIDE confirmed Praggnanandhaa defeated Fabiano Caruana 15-13 in the final.

Q20. B - Evon 3.3 and Plexus

The official release describes Gnani Artha as comprising Evon 3.3 and Plexus.

Q21. D - 94 runs

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

Q22. B - Agriculture and rural development finance

National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development is the apex rural-development finance institution.

Q23. C - 5,000 MW

PM-SSY targets 5,000 MW of floating solar PV with at least two-hour storage.

Q24. C - 1.5 lakh

The foundational learning target is 150,000 learners, i.e. 1.5 lakh.

Q25. A - NDRF

NDRF, along with local administration and rescue teams, was placed on high alert in border areas.

Q26. D - 86

The 2025-26 intervention moved around 88,000 MT through 86 railway rakes to 16 cities.

Q27. D - 2024

The upgrade took place during the Prime Minister's Kuwait visit in December 2024.

Q28. C - 14

The Defence Ministry reported 14 development projects.

Q29. B - Debt-market access routes

Fully Accessible Route and Voluntary Retention Route are debt-market access routes.

Q30. D - 8

The report covers eight S&T Clusters.

Q31. A - Exchange Earners Foreign Currency

EEFC stands for Exchange Earners Foreign Currency.

Q32. C - Foreign Currency Non-Resident (Bank) Account

FCNR(B) means Foreign Currency Non-Resident (Bank) Account/Deposit.

Q33. A - 80 tanks

The Rs 472 crore project is planned to overhaul 80 T-72/T-90 tanks per annum.

Q34. C - 75,000 handsets

The platform helped recover more than 75,000 handsets in one month.

Q35. D - 108

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

Q36. A - Point of Presence

Point of Presence is an NPS intermediary/distribution interface.

Q37. B - Mines and Minerals (Development and Regulation)

MMDR = Mines and Minerals (Development and Regulation).

Q38. B - DICGC

DICGC provides deposit insurance in India.

Q39. D - Undertaking lending from its own balance sheet

Payments Banks may accept permitted deposits and provide payment services, but they cannot undertake lending from their own balance sheet.

Q40. A - Rs 25,000 crore

IRDAI's circular context states that NDB proposes Rs 25,000 crore over five years.

Q41. D - 2 lakh

The scheme targets replacement of over 2 lakh BS-IV or older trucks and buses.

Q42. B - Bengaluru

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

Q43. B - NaBFID

NABARD and NaBFID signed the MoU.

Q44. D - 6,000 MTPA

The first-of-its-kind scheme targets 6,000 MTPA.

Q45. E - 13.70 crore

QBUSE estimated employment at 13.70 crore for April-June 2026.

Q46. A - 500 MMT

The Third Advance Estimate cited 500 MMT of sugarcane production in 2025-26.

Q47. B - Credit Information Companies and KYC

The penalty cited RBI directions on CIC membership/reporting and Know Your Customer compliance.

Q48. E - 2022-23

The release uses base 2022-23=100.

Q49. B - Uzbekistan

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

Q50. A - Permanent Retirement Account Number

PRAN stands for Permanent Retirement Account Number.

Q51. C - Rs 7,280 crore

The Union Cabinet approved an outlay of Rs 7,280 crore.

Q52. C - Athletics

Athletics had the largest share with 73 participants.

Q53. D - 80%

The announced support is up to 80% across six professional programmes.

Q54. B - Rs 10,000

The consultation defines the relevant small-value debt securities/private placements around a Rs 10,000 face value.

Q55. C - ETFs

The circular concerns Exchange Traded Funds.

Q56. C - End of 2026

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

Q57. B - Rs 100

PFRDA allows a reduced Rs 100 onboarding charge as determined by the Authority.

Q58. B - 8x magnification

GARUD offers 8x magnification and a 7.6-degree field of view.

Q59. B - RBI

Cash Reserve Ratio balances are maintained with RBI.

Q60. A - Concentration risk

Large-exposure limits reduce concentration risk arising from excessive exposure to a single counterparty or connected group.

Q61. C - A/RES/79/142

The UN General Assembly created the observance through Resolution A/RES/79/142.

Q62. A - Nandan Nilekani

The government constituted the HPTF with Nandan Nilekani as Chairman.

Q63. D - Spain

Germany defeated Spain 1-0 in the final.

Q64. A - MSME finance and development

Small Industries Development Bank of India focuses on MSME promotion, financing and development.

Q65. B - Debt securities

The 13 August consultation paper concerns debt securities.

Q66. D - More than 200 representatives

The delegation comprises more than 200 business representatives.

Q67. C - 27 August 2026

The extension is effective from 27 August 2026 for three months or until a regular MD & CEO takes charge, whichever is earlier.

Q68. A - Rs 1,42,622 crore

Offers worth Rs 1,42,622 crore were received and fully accepted.

Q69. C - 6.7%

MoSPI reported 6.7% IIP growth for July 2026.

Q70. C - US\$5 billion

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

Q71. C - 5 years

The target is to double bilateral trade in five years.

Q72. C - 300.50 GW

Non-fossil capacity reached 300.50 GW, over 54% of total installed capacity.

Q73. D - 1,223

Compensation had been provided to 1,223 families.

Q74. B - 2,50,000

The official release cited nearly 250,000 startups over the last decade.

Q75. E - USD 150 billion

The final Japan-visit release projected India's semiconductor demand at about USD 150 billion by 2032.

Q76. B - New Delhi

The inaugural JDC met in New Delhi on 28 August.

Q77. B - Centre for Joint Warfare Studies

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

Q78. D - Rs 1,52,537 cr

The 28-August 3-day VRRR accepted Rs 1,52,537 crore at 5.24%.

Q79. B - 150 years of Vande Mataram

The celebrations highlight 150 Years of Vande Mataram and Yuva Shakti for Viksit Bharat@2047.

Q80. D - 23 August

23 August commemorates the Chandrayaan-3 soft landing of 2023.

Q81. D - New Delhi

The 8th Joint Commission is to be held in New Delhi.

Q82. B - Affirmation at BBB/A-2 with stable outlook

S&P affirmed, rather than upgraded, India at BBB/A-2 and kept the outlook stable.

Q83. B - SUIT

SUIT is the Solar Ultraviolet Imaging Telescope.

Q84. E - 51%

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

Q85. B - On a stock exchange

Exchange Traded Funds are investment funds whose units trade on exchanges.

Q86. C - 750

The National Fellowship Scheme for Scheduled Tribes provides 750 fresh fellowships every year.

Q87. A - Udaipur

Udaipur, Rajasthan, is proposed to host the conclave in November 2026.

Q88. C - Ketan Merchant

Ketan Merchant received the extension as interim CEO.

Q89. C - Rs 6,294 crore

The update reported 21.86 lakh loans to 10.56 lakh new beneficiaries worth Rs 6,294 crore.

Q90. B - Sun-Earth L1

Aditya-L1 operates around the Sun-Earth Lagrange Point 1.

Q91. C - 1 Hub ITI + 4 Spoke ITIs

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

Q92. C - Rs 150 crore

PAIMANA tracks projects of Rs 150 crore and above; 1,775 projects were highlighted.

Q93. D - 11 September 2026

RBI invited comments up to 11 September 2026.

Q94. D - 850

The announcement said more than 850 officers would participate.

Q95. E - 400 tonnes

The factsheet states a dealer stock limit of 400 tonnes for the specified period.

Q96. E - More than 5,000 institutes

The authoritative final release said youth and athletes connected from over 5,000 institutes.

Q97. D - 2030

The Health Ministry review reiterated the 2030 target.

Q98. C - Fourth

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

Q99. D - 11,000 km

The plan covers about 11,000 km.

Q100. C - 19

The session had 19 sittings spread over 25 days.

Q101. A - SEBI

SEBI is the securities-market regulator and frames the FPI regulatory framework.

Q102. E - Reserve Bank of India

CRR is the prescribed cash reserve maintained with the RBI.

Q103. D - 17 September 2026

The consultation window runs up to 17 September 2026.

Q104. C - 42

The 28-Aug update reported 42 participating banks/NBFCs.

Q105. D - 180 days

The rules provide a 180-day transition period.

Q106. A - Portfolio investment in financial securities

FPI is portfolio capital in financial securities, while FDI generally implies a more lasting ownership/management interest.

Q107. E - UPI payment settlement

The portal provides intelligent legal-information access; UPI settlement is unrelated.

Q108. D - 4-1

East Bengal won 4-1 and lifted a record-equalling 17th title.

Q109. C - New Delhi

The first Kanda Express departed Nashik for New Delhi.

Q110. D - 59.09 crore

The Finance Ministry reported 59.09 crore PMJDY accounts.

Q111. C - Rs 5,000 crore

PRIP has an outlay of Rs 5,000 crore.

Q112. D - 14 crore

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

Q113. B - Format for Incident Reporting Exchange

FIRE stands for Format for Incident Reporting Exchange, an FSB format.

Q114. C - US\$31.98 billion

Merchandise exports were US\$44.24 billion and imports US\$76.22 billion, producing a US\$31.98 billion deficit.

Q115. C - Alex Lanier

France Alex Lanier won the men singles world title.

Q116. D - Rs 35/kg

The intervention retail price is Rs 35 per kg.

Q117. D - 10.2

The manufacturing interest coverage ratio was 10.2; non-IT services recorded 2.6.

Q118. C - 5.24%

Both cut-off and weighted average rates were 5.24%.

Q119. B - National Payments Corporation of India

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

Q120. C - Rs 250

Minimum contribution at onboarding is Rs 250; subsequent minimum contribution is Rs 10.

Q121. A - Chemicals, textiles, telecom/network equipment, solar PV

The first edition focuses on chemicals, textiles, telecom & network equipment and solar photovoltaic manufacturing.

Q122. B - 10,000 participants

10,000 participants are targeted for intensive AWS re/Start training.

Q123. A - 50

The index selects the top 50 Nifty 500 stocks based on growth scores.

Q124. E - Rs 1,25,000

The bank-specific withdrawal ceiling is Rs 1.25 lakh, subject to detailed RBI conditions.

Q125. C - Mining & Quarrying

Mining & Quarrying growth was -0.9%.

Q126. B - Comprehensive Strategic Partnership

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

Q127. D - 115 lakh ha

More than 115 lakh hectares were under micro-irrigation.

Q128. D - 14,000 datasets and 331 AI models

PIB reported more than 14,000 datasets and 331 AI models in AI Kosh.

Q129. D - Rs 7,000 crore

The package involves an estimated investment of about Rs 7,000 crore.

Q130. E - National Science Centre, Delhi

The gallery was inaugurated at the National Science Centre, Delhi, a unit of NCSM.

Q131. E - Larsen & Toubro Ltd., Kattupalli

The first indigenous Multi-Purpose Vessel Samarthak was built by L&T at Kattupalli.

Q132. A - Open General Export Licence

OGEL is Open General Export Licence.

Q133. E - 25,000 locations

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

Q134. C - US\$75 bn

The reported foreign-freight bill was about US\$75 billion.

Q135. C - US\$80.14 billion

The Commerce Ministry estimated July 2026 total exports at US\$80.14 billion.

Q136. B - Towards Viksit Bharat: Innovating, Collaborating and Aspiring to Global Space Leadership

ISRO listed the 2026 theme as Towards Viksit Bharat: Innovating, Collaborating and Aspiring to Global Space Leadership.

Q137. B - Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia

UNCCD COP17 is being held in Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia.

Q138. C - 19.4%

RBI reported aggregate sales growth of 19.4% year-on-year for the 3,247-company sample.

Q139. C - Rs 1,52,537 crore

RBI accepted the entire Rs 1,52,537 crore offered.

Q140. A - UZQR

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

Q141. A - SDF 5.00% - Repo 5.25% - MSF 5.50%

SDF is the current floor, repo the policy anchor and MSF the upper standing facility.

Q142. A - RBI absorbs surplus liquidity without collateral

SDF allows RBI to absorb surplus banking-system liquidity without providing collateral.

Q143. A - 3.00% and 18.00%

CRR was 3.00% and SLR 18.00%.

Q144. A - CRR - cash with RBI; SLR - prescribed liquid assets held by bank

CRR is cash reserve with RBI; SLR is prescribed liquid assets maintained by the bank.

Q145. A - 2024=100

The revised CPI series uses base year 2024=100.

Q146. A - CPI 4.45% - CFPI 5.52% - PLFS UR 5.1%

These are the July inflation and labour-market anchors released during August.

Q147. A - 6.7%

IIP grew 6.7% year-on-year in July 2026.

Q148. A - Real GDP 7.8% - Real GVA 8.2%

MoSPI reported real GDP growth 7.8% and real GVA growth 8.2%.

Q149. A - 10.3%

Nominal GDP grew 10.3%; nominal GVA grew 11.5%.

Q150. A - Real GDP uses constant prices; nominal GDP uses current prices

Constant-price GDP is used for real volume growth; current-price GDP includes price effects.

Q151. A - 1:30 PM

Trustee Bank receipts up to 1:30 PM became eligible for same-day investment under the circular.

Q152. A - Registered Pension Fund

Pension Funds invest; CRA keeps records and PoP is the subscriber-facing service point.

Q153. A - CRA - central recordkeeping

CRA maintains subscriber records/accounts.

Q154. A - NPCI operates UPI; RBI provides statutory payment-system regulation/oversight

Operator and regulator are different roles: NPCI operates the rail; RBI regulates/oversees payment systems.

Q155. A - NPCI International Payments Limited, NPCI international arm

NIPL is NPCI International Payments Limited.

Q156. A - UZQR

UZQR is Uzbekistan national interoperable QR infrastructure.

Q157. A - Accounts crossed 59 crore; late-Aug deposits were above Rs 3.16 lakh crore

Late-August data placed PMJDY above 59 crore accounts with deposits above Rs 3.16 lakh crore.

Q158. A - Inhabited villages with a banking outlet within 5 km

The Jan Dhan Darshak data measure inhabited-village coverage within 5 km.

Q159. A - GIS-based monitoring of banking infrastructure/access

It is a GIS-based banking-access monitoring application.

Q160. A - Rs 10,176 crore

RRBs reported a record combined net profit of Rs 10,176 crore.

Q161. A - Directed bank credit to identified priority sectors under RBI framework

PSL directs bank credit toward identified priority sectors under RBI rules.

Q162. A - Foreign Currency Non-Resident (Bank)

FCNR(B) = Foreign Currency Non-Resident (Bank).

Q163. A - FCNR(B) deposits

FCNR(B) deposits formed the largest share of the reported US\$72.848 billion inflows.

Q164. A - US\$72.848 billion

The total was US\$72.848 billion.

Q165. A - Securities and capital markets

SEBI regulates securities/capital markets.

Q166. A - International Financial Services Centres

IFSCA regulates permitted financial services in IFSCs.

Q167. A - Insurance

IRDAI is the insurance regulator.

Q168. A - NPS and APY pension framework

PFRDA is the pension-sector regulator for NPS/APY architecture.

Q169. A - NPCI - UPI operator; RBI - payment-system regulator/oversight

This distinction between operator and regulator is a frequent banking-exam trap.

Q170. A - Rs 84,084 crore National Offshore Exploration Scheme outlay

Samudra Manthan is the National Offshore Exploration Scheme with Rs 84,084 crore outlay.

Q171. A - Floating solar projects with energy storage

PM-SSY supports floating solar photovoltaic projects with storage.

Q172. A - Rs 3.15 lakh crore

The five-year continuation outlay is Rs 3.15 lakh crore.

Q173. A - Rs 6,000 in three equal instalments

The scheme provides Rs 6,000 a year through three equal DBT instalments.

Q174. A - Rs 2.30

The third-party assessment reported Rs 2.30 net value addition per rupee invested.

Q175. A - SEBI

Municipal debt securities are securities-market instruments under SEBI framework.

Q176. A - It seeks comments and is not automatically the final operative rule

Consultation papers are proposals for comments; final rules may differ.

Q177. A - 180 days from Gazette publication

The notified commencement is after 180 days.

Q178. A - 1 Hub ITI + 4 Spoke ITIs

The discussed cluster consists of one Hub ITI and four Spoke ITIs.

Q179. A - 51%

The proposal highlighted 51% ownership for Anchor Industry Partners.

Q180. A - Total expenditure about Rs 17.62 lakh crore

Total expenditure was Rs 17,61,853 crore, about Rs 17.62 lakh crore.

Q181. A - Minimum Rs 2 lakh; no RBI-prescribed upper ceiling

RTGS has a minimum transaction amount of Rs 2 lakh and no RBI-prescribed upper ceiling.

Q182. A - RBI prescribes no general minimum or maximum; banks may set risk limits

RBI does not prescribe a general NEFT minimum/maximum, though member banks may set their own limits.

Q183. A - Rs 50,000 per transaction

RBI caps cash NEFT remittance by a non-account-holder at Rs 50,000 per transaction.

Q184. A - Rs 1,000 per transaction; Rs 5,000 balance

The current live layer uses Rs 1,000 per transaction and Rs 5,000 maximum UPI Lite balance.

Q185. A - Offline payment capability with Rs 500 per-transaction limit in the cited framework

UPI Lite X adds offline capability; the cited current framework uses Rs 500 per transaction.

Q186. A - It is digital central-bank money issued by RBI and does not earn interest

Retail eRupee is the digital form of the Rupee issued by RBI; the RBI FAQ states it does not earn interest.

Q187. A - 18-85 years

The current All Citizen model uses the 18-85 age band, subject to eligibility/KYC conditions.

Q188. A - Rs 250 onboarding; Rs 10 subsequent

The current common-scheme/PoP framework uses Rs 250 at onboarding and Rs 10 for subsequent contributions.

Q189. A - Up to 80% lump sum and at least 20% annuity, subject to exceptions

The current general architecture permits up to 80% lump sum and requires at least 20% annuity, subject to exceptions.

Q190. A - A person who is or has been an income-tax payer as on the application date

A citizen who is or has been an income-tax payer as on the application date cannot open a new APY account.

Q191. A - Minors below 18, operated through a guardian

NPS Vatsalya is the NPS account architecture for minors, operated by a guardian until transition.

Q192. A - Rs 1,00,000 crore

The current Directions use Rs 1,00,000 crore asset size as the operative Upper-Layer threshold.

Q193. A - Minimum NOF Rs 20 crore; at least 60% housing-finance assets; at least 50% individual housing finance

The current HFC framework uses Rs 20 crore minimum NOF, 60% housing-finance assets and 50% individual housing finance.

Q194. A - IFSCA

International Financial Services Centres Authority is the unified IFSC regulator.

Q195. A - Apex agriculture and rural development-finance institution

NABARD is the apex institution for agriculture and rural development finance, with refinance/development/supervision roles.

Q196. A - MSME promotion, financing and development

SIDBI is the principal financial institution for MSME promotion, financing and development.

Q197. A - They do not receive DICGC deposit insurance

Even authorised NBFC public deposits are not covered by DICGC deposit insurance.

Q198. A - Current SLR 18%; statutory ceiling 40%

The live SLR is 18%, while the Banking Regulation Act statutory ceiling is 40%.

Q199. A - It remains in RBI toolkit, but SDF is the current LAF floor

The fixed reverse repo remains in the toolkit, but SDF is the current corridor floor.

Q200. A - It injects liquidity

RBI pays for securities bought through an OMO purchase, injecting money into the system.

Rapid Revision - Final 60 Recall Lines

- Digital Rupee enters food-subsidy delivery through PMGKAY
- Financial Inclusion 2026: accounts, DBT, insurance, pension, credit and UPI in one chain
- July 2026 CPI inflation at 4.45%; food inflation at 5.52%
- Manufacturing GVA records 10.88% CAGR in revised national-accounts series
- SEBI reviews historical scenarios in commodity-derivatives stress testing
- India and SACU sign Terms of Reference for preferential-trade negotiations
- Bank of America to acquire up to 49.9% of Jio Credit
- PLFS April-June 2026: unemployment rate at 5.4%
- NABL launches first accreditation scheme for mobile food-testing laboratories
- RBI advances the FCNR(B) concessional swap cut-off to 31 August
- India's foreign-exchange reserves rise above US\$700 billion
- July 2026 Wholesale Price Index inflation eases slightly to 9.78%
- DFS explains the 14-day insurance grievance route and Bima Bharosa
- Logistics Data Bank crosses 10 crore EXIM containers tracked
- DRI detects more than Rs 2,500 crore customs-duty evasion in areca-nut imports
- NIELIT launches CYBER KUSHTI 2026, a national cybersecurity and AI hackathon
- Department of Fisheries reiterates fisher empowerment and Blue Economy focus
- Foreign portfolio investors turn net buyers in August; Rs 16,621 crore equity inflow reported for first half
- Qatar-India PostTransfer remittance corridor goes live through Qatar Post, powered by UPI
- Shabnam Sinha named incoming Chairperson of Airtel Payments Bank
- PFRDA releases Pension Bulletin for April-June 2026
- July 2026 PLFS: unemployment rate falls to 5.1%; labour-force participation improves
- SEBI cautions investors over display of live trading strategies on social-media platforms
- SEBI releases Handbook of Statistics 2025-26
- SEBI revises application form for mutual fund registration
- Public Sector Bank (PSB) Confluence 2026 concludes with youth-banking campaign and common digital platform proposal
- Regional Rural Banks (RRBs) report 10.3% credit growth; Priority Sector Lending achievement reaches 91.7%
- Unique Identification Authority of India (UIDAI) crosses 2 crore Mandatory Biometric Updates for school children
- India-Japan bilateral trade reaches about US\$27.5 billion in financial year 2025-26

- Official trade-agreement review puts financial year 2025-26 combined exports at record US\$863.1 billion
- Competition Commission of India (CCI) clears Tata Steel acquisition of 23% in TM International Logistics
- Competition Commission of India approves Prudential Corporation Holdings investment in Bharti Life Insurance
- Connected Current Affairs Notes RBI MPC minutes: repo held at 5.25%; neutral stance retained
- international affairs, science, defence, sports and important days - connected for retention and exam use. RBI Central Board: S. Somanath appointed; Anand Mahindra reappointed
- RBI absorbs surplus liquidity through two overnight VRRR auctions
- SEBI permits digitally signed Power of Attorney from Foreign Portfolio Investors
- SEBI circular ■ SEBI enables KRA data sharing with IFSCA-regulated entities
- SEBI studies: 87.7% of individual equity-derivatives traders lost money in FY26
- IRDAI action: Acko and Niva Bupa barred from opening new places of business for six months
- Duty-free raw-sugar import quota of 10 lakh tonnes allowed till 31 October
- FTP amended: eligible export receipts in Indian Rupees get parity with foreign-currency earnings
- DPIIT expands startup support through separate partnerships with PhonePe and Shell India
- Aadhaar App crosses 5 crore downloads; update usage rises sharply
- UPDATE: Digital BRICS Forum & Expo held in Pune; cyber trust and resilient ICT ecosystems in focus
- RBI special USD-INR swap facility draws US\$72.848 billion through 21 August 2026
- FPIs invest Rs 23,544 crore in Indian equities in August so far
- Razorpay launches direct multi-currency settlements into EEFC accounts
- RBI appoints three part-time non-official Directors to its Central Board
- All-India House Price Index rises to 117.5 in Q1 FY27
- GoI to re-issue Rs 34,000 crore of 6.94% GS 2036
- RBI penalises three Karnataka urban co-operative banks
- UPI completes 10 years; FY26 volume crosses 24,162 crore transactions
- SEBI aligns cyber-incident reporting portal with FSB FIRE format
- SEBI introduces IT Resilience Index for Market Infrastructure Institutions
- SEBI launches Cyber Suraksha Portal
- SEBI, RRU and NISM announce cybersecurity capacity-building MoU
- India-Cambodia trade grows over 36%; UPI-KHQR linkage advances
- RBI releases August 2026 Bulletin with State of the Economy assessment
- Regional Rural Banks post record Rs 10,176 crore net profit in FY 2025-26

- Upper-Layer IDF-NBFCs brought under NBFC-IFC large-exposure limits
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Revision order: Dashboard -> What Changed -> Numbers Vault -> 200 MCQs -> only then return to missed connected cards.