

Date : 2026-09-06

Monthly Current Affairs -august-2026

English

National

Cabinet Clears Samudra Manthan National Offshore Exploration Scheme with an Outlay of Rupees Eighty Four Thousand Eighty Four Crore

The Union Cabinet approved the ambitious Samudra Manthan National Offshore Exploration Scheme with a massive financial outlay of 84084 crore to strengthen domestic energy security. Aiming to tap into the country's vast offshore energy potential, the target implementation period for this centrally funded scheme is designated up to financial year 2030-31. The scheme, managed by the Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas, will drive seismic data collection, deepwater exploratory drilling, and infrastructure building across the hydrocarbon value chain. This large-scale initiative expects to add substantial domestic oil and gas reserves, reduce major import dependencies, and create substantial manufacturing employment opportunities.



101 Crore Indians Now Covered Under Social Security Network, Says International Labour Organization

During the high-profile 4th Global Industrial Relations Summit held in New Delhi, the International Labour Organization formally acknowledged India's monumental achievement in expanding its social protection framework. The global body lauded the country for successfully extending its vital social security net to cover over 101 crore individuals,

representing more than 68 percent of the national population. Union Minister Mansukh Mandaviya highlighted this global recognition, noting that the milestone underscores India's dedication to balanced development models that safeguard workers' welfare while boosting economic growth. This massive expansion sets a significant global benchmark for inclusive and sustainable economic development frameworks.

Centre releases advance tax devolution of Rupees 1.09 lakh crore to states to boost development spending

The Central Government released an advance installment of tax devolution to state governments totaling 1.09 lakh crore rupees in June 2026 to boost capital and development spending. This critical fiscal distribution was fast-tracked by the Ministry of Finance to provide states with substantial financial resources, enabling them to significantly accelerate infrastructure programs and state welfare initiatives ahead of regular schedules. The strategic move heavily empowers regional administrations to finance essential public works and execute critical local governance projects, directly strengthening state-level fiscal health and enhancing long-term capital investments across various sectors nationwide.



Date : 2026-09-06

Monthly Current Affairs -august-2026

English

NHAI launched a multi-lane free flow tolling system at Shahjahanpur Toll Plaza on the Delhi-Jaipur section of National Highway 48

The Ministry of Road Transport and Highways officially launched a barrierless multi-lane free-flow tolling system at the Shahjahanpur Toll Plaza on NH-48, specifically designed to seamlessly connect Delhi and Jaipur. This cutting-edge infrastructure upgrade eliminates traditional physical booths, allowing vehicles to pass through at highway speeds without stopping. Utilizing advanced automatic number plate recognition and satellite technology, the initiative drastically reduces traffic congestion, slashes travel times, and minimizes fuel consumption for daily commuters. Officials state this pioneering project serves as a model for modernizing national highways, transforming interstate transit between the two major urban centers into a highly efficient and completely seamless travel experience.



India Records More Than Seven Percent Growth in Coal Output During July 2026

India achieved a significant milestone as overall coal production surged by 7.51 percent during July 2026 compared to the same month in the previous fiscal year. According to official data released by the Ministry of Coal, this performance comfortably

exceeds the growth threshold of more than seven percent. The total output reached 69.75 million tonnes, up from 64.88 million tonnes recorded in the corresponding period last year. This momentum was largely driven by state-run miner Coal India Limited, which expanded its individual output by 8.42 percent. The surge reflects sustained efforts to ensure consistent domestic energy supply and reduce overall import dependence.



Government Reports No Fresh Cases of Manual Scavenging in Latest Nationwide Survey

A comprehensive nationwide performance audit updated by the union government in 2026 confirms that zero fresh cases of manual scavenging have been officially verified across India. The Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment reiterated in parliament that sustained legislative enforcement, digital tracking, and extensive rehabilitation efforts have effectively eliminated the traditional practice of manual scavenging from all districts. Authorities emphasized that while hazardous sewer cleaning remains an active target for total mechanization under the current national safety schemes, no new instances of manual lifting of human waste were reported. This milestone underscores a decisive shift toward technological interventions and stricter municipal accountability across states.

Date : 2026-09-06

Monthly Current Affairs -august-2026

English

India Expands Banking Access to Nearly All Inhabited Villages Across the Country

The Reserve Bank of India introduced a comprehensive regulatory overhaul to strengthen the last mile delivery of financial services across remote rural regions lacking physical branches. Under this framework, Business Correspondents and Bank Mitras serve as the primary delivery agents to drive deep financial inclusion. Ground level operations are structured into fixed location banking outlets and flexible banking touchpoints to offer crucial doorstep cash transactions, remittances, and basic credit products. Operating under tightly regulated bank boards, these agents rely on fully integrated core banking technology to process secure, real time deposits and withdrawals for underserved rural communities.



AI Supercomputer Launch at IIT Delhi Campus

Prime Minister Narendra Modi inaugurated the state of the art artificial intelligence based supercomputing facility named Param Pragya at the Sonapat Campus of IIT Delhi. Established as an advanced high performance computing center, the infrastructure significantly strengthens the institute's research capabilities in cutting edge domains like artificial intelligence, data science, deep learning, and interdisciplinary computational science. The new facility at the Sonapat satellite campus provides powerful computational resources to scholars and

researchers, playing a critical role in accelerating scientific discoveries, training complex machine learning models, and bolstering India's broader digital ecosystem and indigenous technological capabilities.



Artisan Honors at National Handloom Day

On National Handloom Day 2026, the Ministry of Textiles highlighted the Shilp Guru Award and Sant Kabir Award as the highest national honors conferred upon master weavers and craftspersons. These prestigious awards celebrate exceptional skill, innovation, and dedication in preserving India's rich handloom heritage and traditional textile art forms. The Shilp Guru Award honors veteran craftspersons who have demonstrated master craftsmanship and contributed significantly to training younger generations, while the Sant Kabir Award specifically recognizes outstanding master weavers for keeping traditional weaving techniques alive. By bestowing these top national honors, the government continues to support artisan communities, promote sustainable craft preservation, and encourage economic empowerment across the country.

Date : 2026-09-06

Monthly Current Affairs -august-2026

English



Human Rights Body Intervenes in Student River Crossing Safety Issue

In August 2026, the National Human Rights Commission issued a notice to the government of Madhya Pradesh after taking suo motu cognizance of reports that school children in Vidisha district are risking their lives by hopping across exposed check dam pillars to cross the Betwa River. Students from Kakraua village undertake this hazardous route daily because it drastically reduces their travel distance from thirteen kilometers by road to just one and a half kilometers. Observing that the absence of safe transport infrastructure violates Article 21A and negates the fundamental right to education with dignity, the Commission requested a detailed status report from the state Chief Secretary within two weeks.



APEDA Enables First Sea Shipment of GI-Tagged Mithila Makhana from Bihar to Australia

The Agricultural and Processed Food Products Export Development Authority facilitated the first sea shipment of Geographical Indication tagged Mithila Makhana from Bihar to Australia. This initiative marks a significant advancement in boosting agricultural exports from India, particularly for traditional local produce. By utilizing sea freight instead of air transport, the effort substantially reduces logistics costs, making the nutritious fox nuts more competitive in international markets. Derived from Bihar, Mithila Makhana enjoys GI status, which guarantees its unique origin and quality. This milestone export opening to Australia aims to strengthen the global supply chain for indigenous Indian superfoods while directly empowering rural farmers and local producers across Bihar.

Indian Railways Approves Merger of Two Express Services to Improve Direct Connectivity to Chitrakoot

Indian Railways has approved the merger of two express train services to significantly enhance direct regional travel connectivity to the prominent pilgrimage destination of Chitrakoot. The rail authority combined the Chitrakutdham Karwi Kanpur Central and Pratapgarh Kanpur Central express services into one continuous single route operation. This integrated rail service establishes seamless direct travel between Pratapgarh and Chitrakoot while successfully eliminating the inconvenience of mandatory passenger train transfers at Kanpur Central. Furthermore, to accommodate growing passenger demand and effectively prevent overcrowding, the coach composition was doubled from twelve to twenty four coaches, ensuring a safer and more comfortable journey for pilgrims and regular commuters alike.

Date : 2026-09-06

Monthly Current Affairs -august-2026

English

Vice President Launches Har Ghar Tiranga Campaign in Andaman and Nicobar

Vice President C.P. Radhakrishnan launched the nationwide Har Ghar Tiranga campaign at Flag Point in Sri Vijaya Puram, Andaman and Nicobar Islands. The event marked a significant patriotic initiative aimed at encouraging citizens to display the national flag at their homes. Addressing the gathering, the Vice President highlighted the historical importance of the location and urged people to celebrate India's journey of independence and unity. Local officials, dignitaries, and citizens participated in the event, reflecting widespread enthusiasm. The campaign serves as a powerful reminder of the sacrifices made during the freedom struggle while fostering national pride and solidarity across every corner of the country.

Sahkar Nav-Kranti; Modernisation of Urban Cooperative Banks

The Union Minister of Cooperation Amit Shah inaugurated the new premises of the National Urban Cooperative Finance and Development Corporation (NUCFDC) in Mumbai and launched key modernisation initiatives under 'Sahkar Nav-Kranti' on 9 August. These tech-driven measures include a specialized Security Operations Centre (SOC) for Urban Cooperative Banks (UCBs) and 'Bank in a Box'—a comprehensive suite offering core banking, digital payments, cloud hosting, and regulatory compliance. Additionally, NUCFDC partnered with the National Forensic Sciences University (NFSU) through an MoU to enhance cybersecurity, digital forensics, and training. With Rs. 306 crore mobilised in capital, over 650 of India's 1,400 UCBs have already joined this umbrella organization, laying a strong technological foundation for rural and urban cooperative banking.

Rajya Sabha passes Bankers' Books Evidence Bill, 2026

The Rajya Sabha on Monday, 10 August, passed the Bankers' Books Evidence Bill, 2026, following its earlier clearance by the Lok Sabha on August 5, 2026. Moving the legislation, Union Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman highlighted that the bill establishes a modern, technology-neutral legal framework, replacing the colonial-era Bankers' Books Evidence Act, 1891. Under the new law, electronic and digital records of bankers' books—including cloud-based data—are explicitly recognized as admissible, valid, and legally enforceable evidence in judicial proceedings, provided integrity safeguards are met. The reform streamlines evidence certification with digital signatures while reducing the procedural burden on bank personnel, keeping pace with India's rapidly digitizing economy.

CPGRAMS records 1.99 lakh grievance disposals in June 2026

The Centralised Public Grievance Redress and Monitoring System (CPGRAMS) registered 1,99,968 public grievance disposals across Central Ministries and Departments in June 2026, marking the 46th consecutive month with over 1 lakh resolutions. Data released by the Department of Administrative Reforms and Public Grievances (DARPG) on August 10, the performance report highlighted a sharp reduction in average disposal time to 14 days, supported by a revised 21-day resolution mandate. To further enhance citizen accessibility and speed, CPGRAMS integrated AI-driven tools, including multilingual support through BHASHINI and the voice chatbot 'Samadhan Didi' launched in May 2026. The platform achieved a 76 percent citizen satisfaction rate from January to June 2026.

Date : 2026-09-06

Monthly Current Affairs -august-2026

English



Lok Sabha passes NCDC Amendment Bill, Kerala Name Change Bill amid Opposition protests

The Lok Sabha on Tuesday 11 August passed the National Co-operative Development Corporation (Amendment) Bill, 2026, and the Kerala (Alteration of Name) Bill, 2026, by voice vote amid Opposition protests. Introduced on behalf of Union Minister Amit Shah, the NCDC Bill amends the NCDC Act, 1962, to make co-operative society funding faster and more flexible while expanding NCDC's financing role. Meanwhile, the Kerala (Alteration of Name) Bill changes the state's official name from 'Kerala' to 'Keralam'. This follows a unanimous resolution passed by the Kerala Legislative Assembly in June 2024 requesting the change under Article 3 of the Constitution. Both bills passed without discussion due to continuous opposition sloganeering.



TBM 'Divya' begins tunnelling from Victoria in Joka-Esplanade Metro corridor

Tunnel Boring Machine (TBM) 'Divya' commenced tunnelling from Kolkata Metro's Victoria station as part of the Joka-Esplanade corridor (Purple Line) from Tuesday 11th August. Designed to connect southwestern Kolkata with central areas, the project utilizes two Chennai-manufactured TBMs, 'Durga' and 'Divya', to construct a 2.65-km twin-tube tunnel between Kidderpore and Park Street. Operating nearly 17 meters underground, these 95-meter-long, 600-ton machines can excavate up to 80 mm per minute. 'Durga' is tunnelling towards Park Street with completion targeted for December 2026, while 'Divya' handles the Joka-bound line, with its breakthrough expected by March 2027. Both next-generation TBMs incorporate advanced safety features suited to local geology.



Jal Jeevan Mission Records Major Expansion in Rural Tap Water Coverage After Seven Years

The Jal Jeevan Mission has reached a major milestone, completing seven years of active implementation across India. First launched in August 2019, the flagship scheme was designed to deliver safe and adequate drinking water through individual household tap connections to every rural home. Over this period, the program has driven a massive expansion in national coverage, transforming living standards and

Date : 2026-09-06**Monthly Current Affairs -august-2026****English**

public health by connecting tens of millions of previously unserved rural households. As the mission transitions into its expanded next phase, the focus shifts toward long-term water quality surveillance, digital infrastructure monitoring, and sustainable service delivery for all rural communities nationwide.

Railway Minister Reviews Passenger Holding Facilities at Anand Vihar and Udhna Railway Stations

In August 2026, the Union Minister for Railways reviewed the progress of upgraded passenger holding areas, known as Yatri Suvidha Kendras, at Anand Vihar Terminal and Udhna Railway Station. Designed to streamline heavy passenger traffic and manage upcoming festival rushes safely, these specialized facilities aim to significantly decongest main platforms and waiting areas. The new infrastructure offers covered waiting zones, dedicated ticket counters, drinking water facilities, enhanced security, and clear digital information displays. Once fully operational, the Udhna facility alone will accommodate up to fifteen thousand passengers simultaneously, ensuring smoother connectivity between waiting zones and train platforms during peak travel seasons.

Vice President C. P. Radhakrishnan Highlights the Sacrifices of Freedom Fighters and Reaffirms the Vision of Viksit Bharat by 2047

Vice President C. P. Radhakrishnan recently highlighted the invaluable sacrifices made by freedom fighters while emphasizing the nation's ongoing march toward progress. During his address, he strongly reaffirmed India's national development goal of achieving Viksit Bharat by the target year of 2047. This vision encapsulates a fully developed nation, focusing on economic growth, social empowerment, infrastructure expansion, and technological self-reliance.

By honoring the legacy of those who fought for independence, leadership continues to rally citizens toward building a prosperous, modern, and self-reliant country that stands strong on the global stage as it approaches its centenary of freedom.

Prime Minister Narendra Modi Pays Homage to Mahatma Gandhi at Rajghat on Independence Day

On the historic occasion of India's Independence Day on 15th August 2026, Prime Minister Narendra Modi paid solemn floral tributes at Rajghat before delivering his national address from the ramparts of the Red Fort. Rajghat is the sacred memorial dedicated to Mahatma Gandhi, the Father of the Nation, whose principles of non-violence and truth guided India to freedom. This annual tribute serves as a profound reflection on the enduring values of self-reliance, unity, and moral leadership championed by Mahatma Gandhi. The ceremony underscored the commitment of the leadership to honor the foundational vision of the nation while steering the country toward a bright future.

Prime Minister Narendra Modi Extends Greetings to the Parsi Community on the Occasion of Parsi New Year

Prime Minister Narendra Modi recently extended warm festive greetings to the Parsi community on the occasion of Navroz, celebrating peace, harmony, and prosperity across the nation. In his message, he praised the community for its exceptional and enduring contributions to Indian society, particularly in trade, science, industry, and social welfare over several centuries. The festival of Navroz, celebrated by the Indian Parsi community in mid-August 2026, marks the beginning of the new year according to the traditional Shahenshahi Calendar. Reaffirming a shared commitment to inclusive progress, the leadership expressed hope that the new year brings vibrant health, happiness, and unity to all citizens.

Date : 2026-09-06

Monthly Current Affairs -august-2026

English



International

India and Maldives Launch Favara Unified Payments Interface Cross Border Payment Corridor

In late July 2026, the Maldives Monetary Authority successfully operationalized a real-time cross-border payment corridor by integrating its domestic instant payment system, Favara, with India's Unified Payments Interface. This significant financial development enables individuals residing in the Maldives to initiate instant person-to-person fund transfers directly via their existing mobile banking applications. The transactions are seamlessly processed in Maldivian Rufiyaa or US Dollars and instantly credited to UPI-enabled bank accounts in India in Indian Rupees. Developed through close cooperation between central banks and payment corporations, this integration marks a major milestone in strengthening digital connectivity and economic cooperation between the two neighboring nations.



APEDA Enables First Air Export of Karnataka Neelam and Totapuri Mangoes to the Maldives

The Agricultural and Processed Food Products Export Development Authority successfully facilitated the first-ever air export shipment of premium Neelam and Totapuri mango varieties from Karnataka to the Maldives. Sourced directly from local agricultural producers in the Kolar district, this landmark commercial consignment consisted of one metric tonne of high-quality, late-season fruits. Flagged off by senior trade officials, the milestone shipment achieved over fifty percent higher financial returns for local cultivation communities compared to traditional domestic sales routes. This successful trade integration significantly expands the geographic reach of regional horticultural products, extends the active national fruit export calendar, and highlights the growing global market footprint of domestic agricultural groups.



India and Rwanda hold their first Joint Trade Committee meeting to strengthen bilateral trade and investment

The Ministry of Commerce and Industry announced that India and Rwanda successfully held their first-ever Joint Trade Committee meeting in New Delhi to significantly deepen bilateral commercial ties and economic cooperation. The landmark inaugural session established a permanent, structured

Date : 2026-09-06

Monthly Current Affairs -august-2026

English

institutional framework aimed at diversifying the trade basket, facilitating robust business-to-business engagement, and systematically addressing market access barriers. Both delegations identified key focus areas for enhanced investment, prioritizing critical minerals, pharmaceuticals, digital public infrastructure, agriculture, and renewable energy. Officials highlighted Rwanda as a strategic gateway to larger African markets, committing to time-bound implementation of the signed agreements to elevate long-term economic partnerships between the two nations.

Government-backed venture capital support helps a Scheduled Caste entrepreneur build an advanced electronics manufacturing enterprise

The Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment highlighted a major entrepreneurship success story where the Venture Capital Fund for Scheduled Castes enabled a promoter to establish a state-of-the-art electronics manufacturing unit. The apex financial institution, IFCI Limited, operates this transformative fund on behalf of the government as its Sponsor, Settler, and Nodal Agency. By providing critical equity funding, concessional financial assistance, and institutional handholding, the entity empowers first-generation entrepreneurs from marginalized communities to scale high-tech ventures. This dedicated financial ecosystem successfully drives socioeconomic inclusion, fosters manufacturing self-reliance, and transforms qualified beneficiaries into job creators, rapidly boosting industrial growth and technological innovation across India.

Commercial Coal Mining Strengthens India's Push for Self-Reliance in the Energy Sector

The continuous expansion of commercial coal mine auctions in 2026 aligns closely with the flagship Atmanirbhar Bharat Abhiyan initiative focused on national self-reliance. By introducing transparency and private sector participation in the energy sector,

the government aims to boost domestic production capabilities and minimize reliance on expensive foreign fuel imports. The Ministry of Coal successfully auctioned multiple resource blocks under this framework to enhance energy security and drive industrial growth. This strategy ensures that local industries gain uninterrupted access to raw materials while fostering significant regional economic development. The program remains a pillar for generating employment and building robust, self-sustaining core infrastructure across mineral-rich states.



New Delhi to Host GI and Beyond 2.0 Summit to Promote Geographical Indication Products

The Ministry of Textiles is organizing the GI and Beyond 2.0 Summit in New Delhi on August 5, 2026, to celebrate and promote India's rich Geographical Indication tagged handloom and handicraft products. Spearheaded by the Office of the Development Commissioner for Handlooms in collaboration with the Handloom Export Promotion Council, the event aims to consolidate the domestic and international market presence of indigenous crafts. The summit will feature global buyers from ten countries alongside industry experts, showcasing over one hundred distinct products. Key highlights include launching a comprehensive Digital Handloom Atlas to seamlessly link local weavers with global consumer bases.

Date : 2026-09-06

Monthly Current Affairs -august-2026

English



India to Organise the Second BRICS Anti-Corruption Working Group Meeting in Hyderabad

The Department of Personnel and Training is organizing the Second Meeting of the BRICS Anti-Corruption Working Group in Hyderabad, Telangana, on August 4 and 5, 2026. Held under India's BRICS Presidency, the prestigious event aligns with the core theme of building resilience, innovation, cooperation, and sustainability. Approximately 40 high level delegates and policy experts from the eleven member nations are gathering to deliberate on critical global governance issues. The core agenda centers on strengthening international asset recovery, combating cross border corruption, tracing illicit financial flows, and exchanging actionable strategies for technology driven transparent public procurement systems.

India and Uzbekistan Explore Greater Trade and Manufacturing Partnerships at Business Forum

India and Uzbekistan have significantly expanded their strategic manufacturing partnerships, placing heavy emphasis on deep collaboration within the pharmaceuticals and textiles sectors to leverage India's global strengths. During the bilateral business forums, both nations prioritized establishing robust joint ventures, contract manufacturing hubs, and

advanced vaccine production facilities in Uzbekistan's free economic zones. In the textile domain, partnerships focus on combining Uzbekistan's rich cotton production with India's sophisticated manufacturing expertise to build globally competitive value chains. This targeted industrial cooperation aims to double bilateral trade volumes within three years through enhanced investment frameworks and mutual technology transfers.

India Expands Global Recognition of Traditional Products Through Geographical Indication Tags

In an effort to promote rural entrepreneurship and safeguard cultural heritage, India continues to strengthen its intellectual property framework for traditional products through Geographical Indication tags. Under the updated guidelines issued by the Geographical Indications Registry, a registered GI tag remains valid for an initial period of ten years from the date of application. To maintain continuous legal protection against counterfeiting and unauthorized usage, authorized users and registered proprietors must file for renewal after every ten years. This robust legal framework ensures that native artisans, farmers, and traditional producers maintain exclusive commercial rights, enhance global product valuation, and protect authentic regional specialties effectively.

India and Sri Lanka Power Sector Engagement

In bilateral energy reviews conducted in August 2026, India and Sri Lanka reaffirmed their commitment to strengthening regional energy security by expediting cross-border electricity trade. A central component of this cooperative strategy is the proposed Madurai – Anuradhapura Overhead/Subsea Transmission Link, designed to physically interconnect the national electrical grids of both nations through high-voltage direct current technology. By establishing this high-capacity transmission line across the Palk Strait,

Date : 2026-09-06

Monthly Current Affairs -august-2026

English

the project facilitates seamless bilateral power transfers, allows both countries to optimize seasonal power surpluses, enhances renewable energy integration, and serves as a major milestone in advancing South Asian regional energy grid integration.



DigiLocker and AAERI Join Hands to Simplify Document Verification for Indian Students Travelling to Australia

In August 2026, the National e-Governance Division partnered with the Association of Australian Education Representatives in India to launch AAERI Verify, a digital platform integrated directly with DigiLocker. This flagship initiative simplifies document verification for Indian students pursuing higher education opportunities in Australia. Through this consent-based digital system, students can securely share their academic, identity, and financial records directly with Australian universities from trusted issuing authorities. The platform introduces a streamlined two-stage verification process consisting of a pre-application student check and a post-offer sponsor check. By replacing manual paperwork with digital public infrastructure, this partnership eliminates fraud risks, ensures complete data privacy, and drastically reduces application processing times for prospective students.



China Issues Red Alert as Typhoon Dolphin Makes Landfall on Eastern Coast

China issued its highest meteorological warning as Typhoon Dolphin made landfall on the eastern coast, prompting widespread safety measures and evacuations. The China Meteorological Administration activated a Red Alert, which represents the most severe emergency level in the country's four-tier color-coded weather warning system. As the typhoon approached the eastern provinces, strong winds and severe rainfall threatened coastal regions, disrupting transportation, damaging infrastructure, and forcing maritime operations to suspend. Emergency response teams and local authorities were deployed across affected areas to manage rescue operations and minimize potential damage. The Red Alert classification underscores the serious threat posed by Typhoon Dolphin to lives, property, and coastal economic activities.



Date : 2026-09-06

Monthly Current Affairs -august-2026

English

Mount Bromo Wildfire Spreads in Indonesia

A severe wildfire broke out inside Bromo Tengger Semeru National Park in East Java, Indonesia, on 9 August threatening the region around the active volcano Mount Bromo. Suspected to have been caused by human carelessness along a visitor route, the blaze spread rapidly toward the volcano's caldera, prompting park authorities to close all visitor access gates indefinitely. Fighting the fire has proven difficult due to steep cliffside terrain and strong winds. Despite initial containment efforts by emergency agencies, new hotspots covering around 20 hectares emerged. Over 120 emergency personnel, alongside water-bombing helicopters, fire trucks, and water-spraying drones, have been deployed to extinguish the remaining fire zones completely.

Saudi Arabia-Türkiye-Pakistan Trilateral Defence Pact

Saudi Arabia, Türkiye, and Pakistan signed the historic 'Mecca Joint Defence Agreement' in Mecca to significantly strengthen their collective security architecture amid rising regional conflicts in West Asia. The summit was led by Saudi Crown Prince Mohammed bin Salman, Turkish President Recep Tayyip Erdoğan, and Pakistani Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif. The pact includes a collective defense clause stipulating that an armed attack against any one of the three signatory nations will be treated as an attack against all three, mirroring NATO's Article 5. This agreement merges Saudi financial resources, Türkiye's advanced defense-industrial technology, and Pakistan's military manpower into a unified strategic bloc, marking a major shift in regional defense dynamics.



Indian Naval Ship Sudarshini Reaches Portugal During LOKAYAN 2026 Deployment

Indian Naval Ship Sudarshini, a sail training vessel of the First Training Squadron of the Indian Navy, has docked in Portugal as part of its ongoing international deployment under LOKAYAN 2026. The three-masted barque, built indigenously by Goa Shipyard Limited, is undertaking a multi-nation oceanic voyage designed to train officer cadets in fundamental seamanship, astro-navigation, and traditional sail-handling skills. Beyond its primary training mission, the deployment serves as a flag-showing initiative aimed at fostering maritime cooperation, enhancing diplomatic bridges, and strengthening cultural ties with friendly foreign nations along its route across international waters and key global ports.

Suryapath Tiranga Global Relay Takes India's Independence Day Message Across 40 Countries

As part of the nationwide Har Ghar Tiranga celebrations for India's Independence Day, the Ministry of Culture launched a unique international initiative known as the Suryapath Tiranga Global Relay. Designed to trace the journey of the rising sun across different time zones, the campaign coordinates sequential flag-hoisting ceremonies across Indian Missions and Posts around the world, beginning in the East and moving westward. By carrying the national flag across dozens of countries and multiple

Date : 2026-09-06

Monthly Current Affairs -august-2026

English

continents, this cultural relay highlights national pride, unity, and the vision of Viksit Bharat on a global platform, demonstrating how the tricolor transcends geographical boundaries to connect the global Indian diaspora.



Thousands evacuate after Indonesia quake kills 53, aftershocks hamper rescue efforts

A powerful 7.7-magnitude earthquake struck eastern Indonesia in the late hours of Sunday 16th August, killing at least 53 people and injuring more than 130 others. The tremor caused widespread destruction, triggering landslides, blocking critical roads, and forcing around 5,000 residents to evacuate, particularly in the severely impacted Sikka region of East Nusa Tenggara province. Rescue operations led by over 3,500 deployed military and police personnel faced major disruptions due to nearly 1,000 recorded aftershocks. The East Nusa Tenggara provincial government declared a state of emergency to mobilize resources. Indonesia's vulnerability to such frequent seismic activity stems from its geographical location on the seismically active 'Pacific Ring of Fire,' where tectonic plates frequently collide.

US Sanctions ICC President and Senior Trial Lawyer

The United States on Tuesday 18th August imposed sanctions on International Criminal Court (ICC) President Tomoko Akane (Japan) and Senior Trial Lawyer Abdoulaye Seye (Senegal) under a presidential executive order announced by US Secretary of State Marco Rubio. The measures freeze their US assets, block access to the US financial system, and restrict entry into the country. Washington cited ICC actions involving officials from non-member states, specifically the US and Israel, as the reason. The ICC, headquartered in The Hague, condemned the move and affirmed its commitment to international justice. Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu backed the sanctions, whereas Dutch Foreign Minister Tom Berendsen opposed them, emphasizing the need to uphold the tribunal's independent mandate.

BRICS Oppose EU Carbon Border Adjustment Mechanism

At the 12th BRICS Environment Ministers' Meeting held in New Delhi under India's chairship on 18th August, BRICS nations adopted a joint statement opposing the European Union's Carbon Border Adjustment Mechanism (CBAM). Led by Union Minister Bhupender Yadav, the grouping criticized CBAM as a unilateral trade barrier targeting carbon-intensive imports such as steel, aluminum, cement, fertilizers, and electricity. Entering its definitive phase in 2026, CBAM requires importers to purchase emission certificates, directly impacting developing nations' exports. Additionally, BRICS ministers urged wealthy countries to expand climate finance by tripling adaptation funding by 2035 through grants and concessional support. Representatives from expanded BRICS member nations, including Brazil, Russia, India, China, South Africa, UAE, Iran, Saudi Arabia, Egypt, Ethiopia, and Indonesia, supported the joint declaration.

Date : 2026-09-06

Monthly Current Affairs -august-2026

English

Ranks/Reports/Indices

Indian Railways recommends premature retirement for five Group A officers after a performance review

The Ministry of Railways invoked periodic performance reviews to prematurely retire five senior Group A officers in the public interest, leveraging provisions aimed at maintaining administrative efficiency and integrity. Under Fundamental Rule 56(j) and Rule 48 of the CCS Pension Rules, the appropriate authority holds the absolute right to evaluate the service records of government employees. The statutory criteria typically checked for such periodic reviews require an officer to have attained the age of 50 or 55 years, or to have completed 30 years of qualifying service. These mandatory evaluations systematically filter out underperforming or corrupt officials, ensuring robust public service standards nationwide.



Assessment Finds Kisan Credit Card Interest Support Scheme Significantly Boosts Agricultural Value Creation

An impact assessment published in mid-2026 revealed that the Kisan Credit Card Interest Subvention Scheme significantly boosts agricultural value creation and empowers grassroots farmers. Under the government's flagship Modified Interest Subvention Scheme, the standard short-term crop loan limit up to which farmers receive interest relief is set at three lakh rupees.

The central framework provides a one point five percent interest subvention to lending institutions, enabling the delivery of credit at a concessional seven percent interest rate. Furthermore, farmers practicing prompt repayment receive an additional three percent incentive, effectively lowering their short-term borrowing cost to four percent per annum.



Projections for Indian Medical Device Sector

According to 2026 industry growth assessments, India currently holds the 4th rank in Asia's medical devices market and stands among the top twenty destinations globally. Supported by strategic government initiatives such as the National Medical Devices Policy and the Production Linked Incentive scheme, the nation's medical technology sector is undergoing rapid structural transformation. Driven by rising domestic healthcare demand, expanding hospital infrastructure, increased health insurance penetration, and growing medical tourism, the market is projected to reach fifty billion dollars by 2030. Ongoing efforts focus on boosting indigenous manufacturing capabilities, reducing heavy import reliance, and expanding high-value exports to establish India as a competitive global MedTech manufacturing hub.

Date : 2026-09-06

Monthly Current Affairs -august-2026

English



Urban Housing Scheme Crosses Target with Over One Crore Homes Delivered

The flagship Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana Urban achieved a significant milestone by successfully completing and delivering over one crore homes to beneficiaries across urban local bodies. Designed to address urban housing shortages, the initiative has seen steady progress, with recent approvals by sanctioning committees expanding its total footprint to over one point two five crore approved housing units nationwide. Under the scheme, eligible beneficiaries receive central financial assistance of up to two point five lakh rupees through models like beneficiary-led construction and public-private partnerships. This achievement highlights ongoing national efforts to ensure dignified living conditions, modern civic amenities, and equitable urban infrastructure development across Indian cities.

Logistics Data Bank Records Tracking of 10 Crore EXIM Containers Across the Supply Chain

The Logistics Data Bank has achieved a major milestone by successfully tracking ten crore export import containers across India since its launch in 2016. Operated under NICDC Logistics Data Services Limited, the digital platform provides complete visibility covering national container movement. Using radio frequency identification, Internet of Things, and cloud technology, the system monitors cargo across major maritime ports, inland container depots, railway stations, and toll plazas. Recent upgrades have

expanded its tracking capabilities to include high seas monitoring and detailed analytics on dwell times. By improving transparency and operational efficiency, the platform strengthens domestic manufacturing competitiveness and supports global trade corridor expansion.



Summits/MoUs/Conferences/Agreement

TRAI Organises National Workshop to Enhance Audit Standards in the Digital Addressable Systems Ecosystem

During a detailed National Workshop conducted by the regulatory body, the Telecom Regulatory Authority of India heavily emphasized the operationalization of the Employed Audit Framework for Systems. This specialized technical system framework aims to comprehensively standardize the annual verification of subscriber management architectures and conditional access systems deployed across the country. Senior regulatory authorities noted that the unified framework provides clear, rigorous benchmarks to streamline multi-platform auditing processes, enhance data security, and successfully prevent subscriber under-reporting or revenue leakage.

Date : 2026-09-06

Monthly Current Affairs -august-2026

English

This critical system integration establishes a transparent baseline for all distribution platform operators, significantly reducing commercial friction and strengthening structural accountability within the Indian digital television ecosystem.

National Workshop on Manuscript Digitization Reinforces India's Preservation and Digital Conservation Efforts

The Ministry of Culture successfully convened the high-level National Digitization Drive Workshop at The Ashok in New Delhi under the aegis of the flagship Gyan Bharatam Mission. Attended by over 200 state representatives, technology partners, and cultural scholars, the interactive workshop focused on building unified technical protocols to efficiently protect and catalog the country's vast, centuries-old manuscript heritage. Union Culture Minister Gajendra Singh Shekhawat stated that more than 1.2 crore historical manuscripts have been reported nationally under the extensive mission framework. The ongoing workshop emphasizes establishing systematic, time-bound quality benchmarks, advanced imaging standards, and seamless metadata integration into the dedicated national digital repository.



Union Environment Minister Bhupender Yadav presides over the convocation ceremony of the 2024 batch of Indian Forest Service probationers

Union Environment Minister Bhupender Yadav presided over the convocation ceremony of the 2024 batch of Indian Forest Service probationers at the premier Indira Gandhi National Forest Academy in Dehradun. The high-profile event marked the successful graduation of 111 officer trainees, including 21 women officers and two international trainees from Bhutan, who completed their extensive professional training course. Addressing the gathering, the Union Minister emphasized that the passing-out officers would play a pivotal role in achieving the vision of Viksit Bharat 2047. He further urged them to effectively leverage advanced technologies like artificial intelligence alongside human sensitivity to successfully tackle emerging ecological challenges such as climate change, desertification, and biodiversity loss.

Handloom Hackathon 2.0 Concludes with Technology Driven Solutions for India's Weaving Sector

National Handloom Day is celebrated annually across India on August 7 to honor the weaver community and commemorate the historic Swadeshi Movement. Originally launched on this day in 1905 at the Calcutta Town Hall, the movement focused on reviving domestic products and indigenous industry, a spirit that directly aligns with the core objectives of the National Handloom Hackathon 2026. Organized by the Ministry of Textiles, the current initiative leverages modern technological solutions to address contemporary challenges faced by weavers. The government aims to encourage tech driven innovations, enhance global market visibility for local artisans, and significantly boost the overall income levels of rural handloom clusters.

Date : 2026-09-06

Monthly Current Affairs -august-2026

English

Fourth Tri Services Future Warfare Course to Begin in New Delhi with Focus on Modern Military Challenges

The fourth edition of the Tri-Services Future Warfare Course commences at the Manekshaw Centre in New Delhi on August 3, 2026, to equip military leadership with skills for next-generation combat. The month-long program is organized under the aegis of the Headquarters Integrated Defence Staff and coordinated by the Centre for Joint Warfare Studies. It features an intensive curriculum designed to foster joint operational synergy across the Army, Navy, and Air Force while incorporating representatives from the defense industry, academia, and think tanks. Key areas of focus include multi-domain operations, artificial intelligence, quantum technologies, cyber defense, and space warfare to shape future battleground strategies.



Bharat Tex 2026 Set to Showcase India's Expanding Textile and Apparel Ecosystem

Bharat Tex 2026, held at Bharat Mandapam in New Delhi, showcases India's expanding textile and apparel ecosystem. The mega event aligns with the strategic vision of Farm to Fibre, Fibre to Factory, Factory to Fashion, and Fashion to Foreign. This integrated 5F framework seeks to connect raw agricultural produce directly with advanced industrial processing, modern garment manufacturing, and international consumer markets. By unifying the entire value chain on a single platform, the government aims to position the nation

as a reliable global sourcing hub, enhance export competitiveness, drive sustainable innovations, and generate substantial employment across both rural and urban manufacturing sectors.



India Russia Industrial Cooperation Talks

In bilateral economic talks held in August 2026, India and Russia reviewed progress on achieving an ambitious target of one hundred billion dollars in bilateral trade before the target year 2030. Both nations emphasized expanding cooperation beyond traditional sectors like energy and defense into high-tech manufacturing, industrial infrastructure, and supply chain integration. To reach this target, officials discussed eliminating non-tariff barriers, expanding bilateral settlement systems using national currencies, and accelerating physical connectivity along key routes like the International North South Transport Corridor. These ongoing efforts highlight a shared commitment to strengthening long-term economic ties, promoting balanced commercial trade growth, and broadening mutual engagement across diverse strategic emerging industries.

Date : 2026-09-06

Monthly Current Affairs -august-2026

English



National Sports Federation Conclave Reforms

Key structural reforms discussed during the 2026 National Sports Federation Conclave established that a minimum of 25% active or retired sportspersons must be included in governance bodies. Organized by the Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports, the conclave focused on modernizing administrative frameworks across national sports bodies, ensuring greater athlete-centric decision making, and improving overall operational transparency. By mandating that one-fourth of executive committee positions be reserved for athletes, the new guidelines empower experienced sportspersons to actively shape elite training programs, selection policies, and grassroots sports development initiatives, ultimately aligning national sports governance with international Olympic charter standards and best practices.



Government Enters into Strategic MoUs with Industry Partners to Strengthen India's Startup Ecosystem

In August 2026, the Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade under the Ministry of Commerce and Industry signed five strategic Memoranda of Understanding with key industry partners to significantly bolster India's startup ecosystem. The collaborations involve major enablers including Cashfree Payments, Darwin Dynamics, Vultr India, Cars24, and the Council for Startup India. These strategic partnerships aim to enhance digital payment infrastructure, expand cloud computing access, foster regional entrepreneurship in tier-two and tier-three regions, and promote innovation in artificial intelligence and mobility. By combining government institutional reach with private sector expertise, this comprehensive initiative empowers recognized startups with crucial technology, mentorship, investment access, and global market expansion opportunities.

Tamil Nadu Signs 97 MoUs

Tamil Nadu, on Thursday 13th August, signed 97 fresh Memoranda of Understanding (MoUs) worth Rs 67,452 crore at the Vettri Tamil Nadu Investors Conclave 2026 in Chennai. The agreements cover greenfield and brownfield projects spanning automotive, renewable energy, life sciences, electronics, data centers, and R and D across 20 districts. Companies from over 15 countries, including the US, Germany, Japan, South Korea, and the UK, participated, with foreign investments contributing Rs 15,050 crore. These initiatives are expected to generate between 1.07 lakh and 1.20 lakh jobs. With this, the state's total attracted investment reached Rs 1,02,514 crore via 104 MoUs within 100 days of the new administration, advancing Tamil Nadu's long-term economic target of becoming a USD 1.5 trillion economy by 2035.

Date : 2026-09-06

Monthly Current Affairs -august-2026

English

CCRAS-NIIMH and Sevadhi Museum Sign Agreement to Digitise Historical Medical Manuscripts

The Central Council for Research in Ayurvedic Sciences National Institute of Indian Medical Heritage has signed a memorandum of understanding with the Sevadhi Museum to digitize rare historical medical manuscripts. This collaboration focuses on preserving ancient medical knowledge, rare texts, and palm-leaf manuscripts related to Ayurveda and traditional health systems. By leveraging advanced digital scanning and archival technologies, the project aims to safeguard fragile historical documents from deterioration while creating an accessible digital library for researchers and scholars globally. The initiative marks a significant step toward modernizing traditional medical heritage, promoting interdisciplinary academic research, and ensuring the long-term preservation of invaluable historical medical literature for future generations.

India to Host BRICS Environment Working Group Meetings in New Delhi

India is hosting the 12th BRICS Environment Ministers' Meeting and Senior Officers' Meeting at Bharat Mandapam in New Delhi under the overarching theme of Building for Resilience, Innovation, Cooperation and Sustainability. Presided over by the Union Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change, the high-level event brings together ministers, senior officials, and policymakers to advance global environmental governance. India's chairship focuses on four priority areas: promoting sustainable lifestyles, enhancing afforestation and disaster resilience, transitioning to a circular economy, and strengthening climate adaptation through community knowledge. The summit underscores collective efforts to bolster resource efficiency and foster long-term sustainable development across member countries.

Ministry of Mines to Hold Roadshow on Eighth Tranche of Critical and Strategic Mineral Auctions

The Ministry of Mines, Government of India, organised an investor roadshow on the eighth tranche of critical and strategic mineral block auctions along with a workshop on the National Mineral Exploration and Development Trust. The eighth tranche comprises 20 critical and strategic mineral blocks spread across nine states, featuring key commodities such as graphite, lithium, rare earth elements, vanadium, and titanium. Chaired by Union Minister of State for Coal and Mines Satish Chandra Dubey, the event highlights government efforts to streamline the bidding framework, promote domestic exploration, accelerate private sector participation, and secure critical mineral supply chains essential for emerging technologies and clean energy.

India and Armenia Sign MoU on Defence Innovation

India and Armenia signed a landmark Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) in Yerevan on 17 August to bolster cooperation in defence research, development, innovation, and joint production. The agreement was signed by Indian Defence Secretary Rajesh Kumar Singh and Armenia's Minister of High-Tech Industry Davit Tadevosyan during an official two-day visit. The pact marks a strategic transition from direct arms sales toward collaborative manufacturing and technological integration. Expanding ties have brought the cumulative value of defence contracts between the two nations close to USD 2 billion since 2020. Armenia's military inventory already includes advanced Indian platforms such as the Akash surface-to-air missile system, Pinaka multi-barrel rocket launchers, Swathi weapon locating radars, and Advanced Towed Artillery Gun Systems (ATAGS).

Date : 2026-09-06

Monthly Current Affairs -august-2026

English



Science and tech/Space/Defence

Army Chief Unveils Indigenous Xtreme Weather Grade Diesel for Military Operations

Chief of the Army Staff General Dhiraj Seth formally launched the indigenously developed Xtreme Weather Grade Diesel in New Delhi to ensure seamless military operations. Jointly engineered by the Indian Army and domestic oil marketing companies within a single year, this specialized fuel represents a massive strategic advancement for combat and logistics vehicles deployed across high-altitude and snow-bound border regions. Unlike conventional diesel that thickens and clogs vehicle filters in sub-zero environments, this advanced innovation remains perfectly functional and prevents freezing at temperatures as low as minus 42 degrees Celsius. The new fuel fully complies with BS-VI standards and requires absolutely no engine modifications for the existing fleet.



National Informatics Centre Develops Artificial Intelligence Based Legal Research Analysis Assistant for eCourts System

The National Informatics Centre, in close collaboration with the eCommittee of the Supreme Court of India, has officially launched an advanced artificial intelligence software application named LegRAA. Standing for Legal Research Analysis Assistant, this innovative digital tool is specifically designed to aid judges across the country with intensive legal research, judicial document analysis, and comprehensive decision support. Operating within the secure framework of the ongoing national eCourts Project Phase-III, the application leverages cutting-edge natural language processing to extract metadata and find relevant case precedents safely without compromising data privacy. This indigenous platform marks a significant technological stride in enhancing court efficiency and administrative operations across the Indian judiciary.

Air Marshal Tejpal Singh takes charge as the Deputy Chief of the Air Staff

Air Marshal Tejpal Singh officially assumed charge as the Deputy Chief of the Air Staff of the Indian Air Force on August 1, 2026, succeeding Air Marshal Awadhesh Kumar Bharti following his superannuation.

Date : 2026-09-06

Monthly Current Affairs -august-2026

English

Upon taking over the high-level appointment, the new Deputy Chief visited the National War Memorial in New Delhi to pay tribute to fallen personnel. Commissioned as a fighter pilot in June 1990, the senior officer brings over 3500 hours of rich flying experience, alongside credentials as a qualified flying instructor and experimental test pilot. Previously honored with the Vayu Sena Medal and Ati Vishisht Seva Medal, his leadership comes at a pivotal time focused on advancing indigenisation and force modernization.

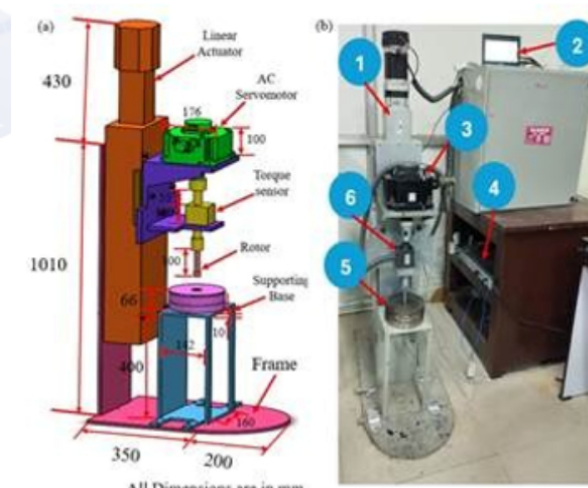
Alka Nangia Arora assumes office as the Controller General of Defence Accounts

Senior Indian Defence Accounts Service officer Alka Nangia Arora officially assumed charge as the Controller General of Defence Accounts on August 1, 2026, succeeding A. N. Das following his superannuation. The 1991-batch officer brings more than three decades of extensive expertise in defence financial management and public administration to the apex post. Prior to this high-level appointment, she served in various key leadership positions across multiple central ministries, including Defence, Agriculture, Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises, and Textiles. Her extensive experience encompasses key financial advisory roles across all three wings of the armed forces, directly strengthening public financial systems and institutional governance.



Researchers Develop Advanced Hybrid Magneto Rheometer for Next-Generation Smart Fluid Applications

A research team led by scientists from the Indian Institute of Technology Patna successfully developed a breakthrough Hybrid Magneto Rheometer to advance nano-smart fluid technologies in August 2026. This indigenously engineered instrument enables precise measurement and characterization of smart fluids that change their flow properties instantly under magnetic fields. The innovation integrates complex mechanical and electronic systems to overcome major data constraints found in imported testing models. By facilitating deep analysis of magnetic field intensities on nanoparticles, the technology will directly benefit critical industrial sectors, including advanced automotive braking systems, aerospace engineering components, protective defense armor, and specialized biomedical precision damping devices.



Indigenously Developed Equipment for Global Mega Science Project

In August 2026, Indian research institutions reached a major milestone by delivering indigenously developed sub-systems for the International Thermonuclear Experimental Reactor project, located in Cadarache, France.

Date : 2026-09-06

Monthly Current Affairs -august-2026

English

Functioning under the Institute for Plasma Research, ITER-India successfully dispatched key technical components and cryo-system hardware to the world's largest tokamak nuclear fusion facility. This global mega-science initiative unites international partners to demonstrate the commercial, technological, and scientific feasibility of clean, carbon-free fusion energy. India's continued delivery of high-precision equipment highlights its advanced domestic engineering capabilities, skilled manufacturing workforce, and strong commitment to driving frontier scientific research and sustainable power solutions on the global stage.



Strict Merit Framework for RDI Fund Evaluation

Under the Research, Development and Innovation Scheme evaluated in August 2026, the Empowered Investment Committee comprising domain experts conducts merit-based technical and commercial appraisals of deep-tech projects. Adopted by the Department of Science and Technology, this specialized evaluation and risk assessment framework moves away from conventional commercial lending norms. Comprising senior domain experts, technologists, and investment professionals, the committee evaluates high-impact projects at advanced technology readiness levels based on innovation depth, market opportunity, management capability,

and strategic national impact. This rigorous framework ensures transparent allocation of patient capital to drive private sector research, foster technological self-reliance, and accelerate commercialization across strategic sunrise sectors.



CSIR-NBRI Establishes Eco-Educational Hub in Lucknow to Promote Environmental Awareness and Learning

In August 2026, Union Minister Dr Jitendra Singh dedicated the first-of-its-kind Eco-Educational Hub, named Prakriti Gyan Dham, developed by the Council of Scientific and Industrial Research National Botanical Research Institute at Lucknow. Established at the Maharishi Parashar Bioresource Centre in Banthra, this dedicated facility aims to foster environmental awareness, plant diversity conservation, and botanical heritage learning among students, researchers, and the general public. The hub features interactive learning spaces, an Indian Heritage Garden, and PAaVan Path, an interpretive heritage trail designed for experiential environmental education. By bridging scientific research with public engagement, the initiative strengthens societal connection with nature while promoting biodiversity conservation and sustainable plant science awareness nationwide.

Government Advances Semiconductor Design Ecosystem Through Chips to Start-ups Programme

The Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology is actively advancing India's domestic semiconductor design ecosystem through the Chips to Start-ups initiative. Implemented by the Centre for

Date : 2026-09-06

Monthly Current Affairs -august-2026

English

Development of Advanced Computing, the flagship national program seeks to build specialized industry talent by training eighty-five thousand professionals across undergraduate, postgraduate, and doctoral levels in microelectronics and VLSI design. Under this capacity building framework, more than three hundred academic institutions have received remote access to state-of-the-art Electronic Design Automation tools through the ChipIN platform. By supporting indigenous prototyping, chip tape-outs, and startup incubation, the initiative aims to reduce technological dependency and position the country as a competitive global semiconductor hub.

Defence Minister Highlights Self-Reliance and Future-Readiness as Key Priorities for India's Military Modernisation

Addressing soldiers on the eve of Independence Day in August 2026, Union Defence Minister Rajnath Singh emphasized that military modernization driven by a self-reliant and future-ready defense sector remains the government's highest priority. Highlighting a transformative shift over the past twelve years through key national initiatives like Aatmanirbhar Bharat, he noted that India is now effectively catering to its own security needs while emerging as a global manufacturing hub and net defense exporter. Domestic defense production reached record highs in the recent fiscal year, supported by both public and private sector participation. Strategic procurement reforms, expanded research funding, and advanced technological testing continue positioning the nation for evolving warfare challenges.



SHANTI Rules 2026 on Nuclear Liability

The Department of Atomic Energy issued the draft Sustainable Harnessing and Advancement of Nuclear Energy (SHANTI) Rules, 2026, setting a legal and financial framework to expand nuclear power and boost private sector participation in August 2026. The rules establish a strict 'no-fault liability' principle for nuclear installation operators, making them liable for nuclear damage, including during the transport of material. Operators must maintain an irrevocable insurance policy or financial security until all spent fuel is removed from storage pools. If financial instruments are pledged to the Central Government, a 1:1.33 security margin is mandatory. Additionally, the rules expand nuclear applications to captive power, hydrogen generation, and data centers, while establishing a five-year review of liability limits by an expert panel.

All India Girls High Altitude Long Trek 'Aparajita – Parang La 2026' flagged off

Defence Minister Rajnath Singh flagged off the National Cadet Corps (NCC) flagship adventure expedition, 'Aparajita – Parang La 2026,' in New Delhi on Tuesday August 18. The 30-day trek covers 250 kilometers across the challenging Parang La Pass, connecting Himachal Pradesh's Spiti Valley with Ladakh's Changthang region. A contingent of 28 girl cadets, led by three women officers from the tri-services, is participating in this high-altitude trek. Commending the cadets' physical and mental preparation, the Defence Minister highlighted that participation in such expeditions reflects the courage and growing capabilities of Indian women, while fostering leadership, mental resilience, discipline, and self-confidence. He advised the team to prioritize safety, environmental preservation, and community engagement throughout the journey.

Date : 2026-09-06

Monthly Current Affairs -august-2026

English

India inks Rs 1,943 crore deal to lease two MQ-9B sea guardian unmanned aircraft systems

The Ministry of Defence (MoD) signed a Rs 1,943 crore contract on 17th August with US-based General Atomics Aeronautical Systems, Inc. (GA-ASI) to lease two MQ-9B Sea Guardian High-Altitude Long-Endurance (HALE) Remotely Piloted Aircraft Systems for the Indian Navy. Signed at Kartavya Bhawan-2 in New Delhi, the agreement spans a tenure of 30 months. Equipped with advanced sensors and state-of-the-art payloads, these unmanned aircraft systems will significantly enhance India's Maritime Domain Awareness (MDA). By providing persistent Intelligence, Surveillance, and Reconnaissance (ISR) coverage over vast oceanic stretches, the induction will strengthen the Indian Navy's ability to monitor developments and respond effectively to emerging security challenges across the Indian Ocean Region.

Sports

Union Ayush Minister Prataprao Jadhav Recommends Mirabai Chanu for the Arjuna Award

Union Minister Prataprao Jadhav formally recommended celebrated Indian weightlifter and Olympic medalist Mirabai Chanu for the prestigious Arjuna Award to fulfill her long-standing childhood dream. The initiative directly follows her exceptional, record-breaking performance at the Glasgow Commonwealth Games, where she completed an historic hat-trick of consecutive gold medals and secured India's opening gold. The iconic athlete has already been decorated with several of the nation's highest sports and civilian honors, including the prestigious Major Dhyan Chand Khel Ratna Award and the Padma Shri in recognition of her global achievements. This recommended honor highlights her enduring excellence and massive contributions to lifting the stature of Indian sports internationally.



Indian Railways Carries Nation's First Live Donor Heart by Train Using Vande Bharat Express

Indian Railways achieved a significant medical milestone by successfully conducting the country's first-ever transit of a live donor heart via train logistics. The highly critical medical asset was transported swiftly between Surat and Ahmedabad onboard the dynamic Mumbai Central to Gandhinagar Capital Vande Bharat Express corridor. To facilitate the highly time-sensitive operation, meticulous inter-agency coordination was structured seamlessly between regional medical authorities, the Railway Protection Force, and local state police personnel. Upon the high-speed train's final arrival at the terminal platform, officials immediately established an uninterrupted green corridor to ensure rapid transit directly to the hospital intensive care unit. This operational success vividly illustrates the expandability of state rail transit infrastructure for emergency healthcare needs.

Prime Minister Applauds Gulveer Singh for Securing Bronze in the Men's Five Thousand Metres

Indian long-distance runner Gulveer Singh etched his name into the history books by securing a historic bronze medal in the men's 5,000-metre event at the Commonwealth Games 2026 held in Glasgow. Clocking a remarkable time of 13 minutes 24.95 seconds,

Date : 2026-09-06

Monthly Current Affairs -august-2026

English

he produced a brilliant tactical sprint in the final lap to outpace his competitors. This spectacular performance completes an exceptional double for the athlete, who had previously clinched a silver medal in the 10,000-metre race earlier in the tournament. With this achievement, he stands as the first Indian track and field athlete to win two individual medals in a single edition of the prestigious multisport event.



Ashmita Chaliha Wins Korea Masters Title

Indian shuttler Ashmita Chaliha clinched her maiden BWF World Tour Super 300 title by winning the women's singles event at the Korea Masters in Asan, South Korea. In a thrilling final at the Yi Sun-sin Gymnasium, the 26-year-old left-hander from Guwahati staged a remarkable comeback to defeat China's fourth seed, Han Qian Xi, 14–21, 21–14, 21–14 in 53 minutes. Training under coach Park Tae-sang at the National Centre of Excellence in Guwahati, Chaliha overcame a severe medial meniscus knee injury sustained in 2024 to achieve this landmark career milestone, becoming the first Indian player to win the Korea Masters title.



Indian Army Team Secures 16 Medals, Including Eight Gold, at Commonwealth Games 2026

The Indian Army contingent delivered a stellar performance at the 2026 Commonwealth Games held in Glasgow, securing a total of sixteen medals. The impressive tally comprised eight gold, seven silver, and one bronze medal, accounting for over forty percent of India's overall medal count at the international event. Army athletes excelled across multiple sporting disciplines including boxing, athletics, para-athletics, judo, and weightlifting. Senior leadership commended the sportspersons for their dedication, discipline, and outstanding contribution toward enhancing the country's global athletic reputation, emphasizing how their achievements inspire youth across the nation while exemplifying a perfect blend of military discipline and elite sporting excellence.



Date : 2026-09-06

Monthly Current Affairs -august-2026

English

Ngah's double leads Cameroon to maiden Women's Cup of Nations title

Cameroon secured their maiden Women's Africa Cup of Nations (WAFCON) title with a dominant 3–0 victory over debutants Malawi in the final on Sunday 16 August. Marie Ngah starred with a first-half brace, scoring in the 20th minute and adding another in first-half stoppage time, while Naomi Eto scored in the 30th minute to complete a 3–0 lead before halftime. Having previously lost three finals, Cameroon ended their runner-up streak on their fourth attempt to become only the fourth distinct country to win the tournament. Additionally, both finalists (Cameroon and Malawi), along with semi-finalists Morocco and Algeria, earned qualification for the upcoming Women's World Cup in Brazil

BWF Badminton World Championships to Begin in New Delhi

The BWF Badminton World Championships commenced on Monday 17th August at the Indira Gandhi Indoor Stadium in New Delhi, featuring top Indian shuttlers in action. In Women's Singles, former world champion and ninth seed P. V. Sindhu faces Ireland's Sophia Noble, while Treesa Jolly and Gayatri Gopichand open their Women's Doubles campaign against Spain's Paula Lopez and Lucia Rodriguez. In Men's Singles, Indian debutant Ayush Shetty takes on top seed and defending champion Shi Yu Qi of China. Meanwhile, fifth-seeded Men's Doubles pair Satwiksairaj Rankireddy and Chirag Shetty, alongside fifteenth-seeded Mixed Doubles duo Dhruv Kapila and Tanisha Crasto, received first-round byes to automatically advance directly to the round of 32.



National Sports Awards 2025

The Government announced the National Sports Awards 2025 to recognize and reward athletic excellence on 18th August. Premier women's badminton doubles pair Treesa Jolly and Pullela Gayatri Gopichand, along with 15 other sportspersons across various disciplines, will receive the Arjuna Award for outstanding performance. Veteran Indian footballer Isaiah Arumainayagam is set to be honored with the Arjuna Award (Lifetime). In coaching, the Dronacharya Award will be presented to Parveer Singh (Athletics), Chhote Lal Yadav (Boxing), and Neha Nandkumar Chavan (Shooting). Additionally, the Army Paralympic Node in Pune will receive the Rashtriya Khel Protsahan Puruskar for its significant contributions toward sports promotion and development.

Miscellaneous

Amit Shah presents the Lokmanya Tilak National Award 2026 to National Security Advisor Ajit Doval

Union Home Minister Amit Shah presented the prestigious Lokmanya Tilak National Award for the year 2026 to National Security Advisor Ajit Doval during a high-profile ceremony in Pune. The award, instituted by the Lokmanya Tilak Smarak Trust, was conferred on the 106th death anniversary of the iconic

Date : 2026-09-06

Monthly Current Affairs -august-2026

English

freedom fighter to recognize exceptional service to the nation. Addressing the gathering, the Union Home Minister lauded the National Security Advisor's outstanding contributions to strengthening India's internal and external security framework, noting that his efforts have earned a golden page in the country's history. Accepting the honor, the recipient urged the younger generation to imbibe patriotic values and always place national interest above personal gains.

Directorate of Revenue Intelligence conducts nationwide operation, seizing gold, narcotics, electronic cigarettes and other contraband while arresting 20 people

The Directorate of Revenue Intelligence executed extensive nationwide crackdowns in July 2026, successfully intercepting sophisticated illicit syndicates operating across major international transit hubs, including Mumbai and Delhi airports. The massive enforcement operations led to the neutralisation of several smuggling rings and resulted in the seizure of large quantities of contraband gold and electronic cigarettes. Furthermore, enforcement teams recovered significant quantities of psychotropic substances, leading to multiple arrests under the Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Act. Officials stated that these coordinated multi-city operations effectively disrupt critical international smuggling routes and demonstrate the agency's commitment to systematically dismantling economic and drug trafficking networks.



National Crafts Museum to Launch Exhibition Showcasing Contemporary Traditions in Handwoven Textiles

The National Crafts Museum and Hastkala Academy in New Delhi is hosting a specialized exhibition to highlight the evolution of contemporary traditions in handwoven textiles. Organized in collaboration with the Ministry of Textiles, the prominent event is designed to bridge centuries-old craftsmanship with expanding global markets. Curated carefully by the National Institute of Fashion Technology, the showcase presents regional artistry alongside design-led handloom brands pioneered by young alumni. The exhibition features iconic weaving styles, live artisan demonstrations, and strategic interactive sessions intended to support rural craft clusters. This initiative significantly boosts international market access while promoting self-reliant growth and cultural preservation.

National Biodiversity Authority Releases Eight Crore Twenty Two Lakh Rupees to Support Rice Research and Cultivation

The National Biodiversity Authority has released eight crore twenty-two lakh rupees to support the conservation, research, and cultivation of Indian rice varieties. Marking one of the largest single access and benefit-sharing disbursements for the crop, the statutory body allocated these funds to three prominent research institutions and thirty-three state and union territory biodiversity bodies. The capital, accumulated from an international corporation for utilizing indigenous rice germplasm, will strengthen germplasm conservation, maintain vital seed collections, and fund comprehensive agricultural training. Among the recipient entities, the Indian Institute of Rice Research in Hyderabad received the highest institutional share to expand its technological operations.

Date : 2026-09-06

Monthly Current Affairs -august-2026

English



Gyan Bharatam Mission Strengthens Preservation and Documentation of India's Manuscript Heritage

The Ministry of Culture launched the pan-Indian National Manuscript Survey under its flagship Gyan Bharatam Mission to identify, preserve, and digitize the nation's vast manuscript heritage. During this extensive mapping exercise, authorities successfully documented more than 1.19 crore ancient manuscripts representing diverse historical languages and scripts. To provide seamless, intelligent access to these rare texts, the dedicated Gyan Bharatam Web Portal utilizes cutting edge technological interfaces. Specifically, Gyan Mitram serves as the mission's central AI-powered knowledge interface, integrating advanced Large Language Script Models, optical character recognition, and semantic search to let scholars textually explore, interpret, and translate integrated manuscript transcriptions.

PM Surya Ghar Scheme Crosses 50 Lakh Rooftop Solar Installations Across India

The PM Surya Ghar Muft Bijli Yojana has reached a major milestone by exceeding fifty lakh residential rooftop solar installations across India. Under this flagship national initiative launched to promote clean energy adoption and reduce household utility expenses, eligible families receive direct central financial assistance to install rooftop solar panels. The core benefit framework of the scheme targets

providing up to three hundred units of free electricity per month to participating households. Beyond lowering monthly power bills, the program enables consumers to generate green energy, sell surplus power back to local electricity distribution companies, decrease national reliance on fossil fuels, and significantly lower carbon emissions nationwide.

India Strengthens Rural Women Empowerment Through Socio Economic Development Initiatives

Under ongoing rural women empowerment drives, the government has scaled up socio-economic development initiatives across India to foster self-reliance among women in rural communities. Implemented under the Deendayal Antyodaya Yojana National Rural Livelihoods Mission, the flagship Lakhpati Didi scheme sets an ambitious target of enabling three crore women in Self-Help Groups to earn a sustainable annual income of at least one lakh rupees. By providing financial support, skill development, digital literacy, and direct market access through e-commerce platforms, the initiative transforms group members into successful micro-entrepreneurs. These integrated efforts significantly boost household incomes, strengthen financial inclusion, and accelerate female-led economic growth across rural regions.



Date : 2026-09-06

Monthly Current Affairs -august-2026

English

Prime Minister Narendra Modi Addresses 57th Convocation Ceremony of IIT Delhi

Prime Minister Narendra Modi addressed graduating students as chief guest at the 57th Convocation Ceremony of IIT Delhi in August 2026. During the event, over three thousand graduating students and nearly six hundred doctorate scholars were conferred their degrees. Recognizing academic distinction, the Prime Minister presented prestigious honors, including the President's Gold Medal. Highlighting India's technological advancements, Prime Minister Modi remotely inaugurated Param Pragma, an artificial intelligence supercomputing facility established at the Sonipat campus. Emphasizing innovation, self-reliance, and research, he urged the youth to maintain lifelong curiosity, adapt to rapid global technological shifts, and contribute actively towards building a strong, self-reliant, developed nation.



CSIR-NIScPR Organises Training Programme to Develop Popular Science Writing Skills

In August 2026, the Council of Scientific and Industrial Research National Institute of Science Communication and Policy Research organized a two-day national skill training program focused on popular science writing. Held under Phase III of the CSIR Integrated Skill Initiative, the capacity-building workshop aimed to enhance science communication capabilities among researchers, academicians, scientists, and students.

Inaugurated by CSIR NIScPR Director Dr. Geetha Vani Rayasam, the program emphasized simplifying complex research into engaging content to foster scientific temper and bridge gaps between scientific communities and the general public. Interactive sessions covered creative formats, media press releases, social media engagement, and AI tools for impactful digital science storytelling.

Autobiography of Former President Ram Nath Kovind Released

Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Wednesday 12 August released the autobiography of former Indian President Ram Nath Kovind, titled '*Triumph of the Indian Republic: My Life, My Struggles*', at Vigyan Bhavan in New Delhi. Describing the book as a significant contribution to Indian democracy, PM Modi noted that while the struggles belonged personally to Kovind, the resulting triumph belonged to the Republic of India. The Prime Minister highlighted Kovind's inspiring trajectory, from overcoming childhood hardships in Kanpur Dehat to serving as Parliamentarian, Governor, and ultimately India's 14th President. PM Modi praised Kovind's alignment with the social equality visions of leaders like Ambedkar and Gandhi, as well as his ongoing national contributions, including leading the High-Level Committee on 'One Nation, One Election'.

President of India Opens the 2026 Summer Annuals Edition of Amrit Udyan

President Droupadi Murmu officially inaugurated the Summer Annuals Edition 2026 of Amrit Udyan at Rashtrapati Bhavan in New Delhi. The expansive fifteen acre gardens will open to the general public from mid August through mid September. This edition showcases a rich collection of indigenous flowering plants, native species, and vibrant summer annuals designed to highlight national biodiversity and floral heritage. Public entry remains completely free through

Date : 2026-09-06

Monthly Current Affairs -august-2026

English

mandatory advance online booking. The government has arranged shuttle bus facilities, drinking water, and first aid support along the visiting route. Special dedicated access days have also been scheduled for sportspersons on National Sports Day and teachers on Teachers Day.

National Anubhav Awards 2026

The Department of Pension and Pensioners' Welfare organized the 9th National Anubhav Awards Ceremony and the 60th Pre-Retirement Counselling Workshop at Vigyan Bhawan, New Delhi on Monday 17th August. Minister of State Dr. Jitendra Singh conferred the 2026 awards on 15 selected retirees from Central Government ministries, Central Public Sector Enterprises, and 12 Public Sector Banks. Chosen from 2,141 published write-ups on the Anubhav Portal (launched in 2015), the awardees were recognized for documented contributions in areas such as Passport Seva Kendras, rule reforms, administrative tech adoption, and energy conservation. The event also featured the release of the 'Pension Mitra' handbook, guidelines for the Digital Life Certificate Campaign 5, and a pension bank exhibition.

Three Indians Join Guinness World Record Skydive in Libya

Three UAE-based Indian skydivers, Jamsheer Thanalot, Abhishek Rawat, and Isha Raj, participated in a Guinness World Record-setting jump over Benghazi, Libya. The historic aerial feat involved 65 international skydivers hailing from 38 nationalities, who exited a single Ilyushin Il-76TD military aircraft at an altitude of 13,000 feet. Flying mid-air while carrying their respective national flags, the participants successfully unfurled 35 different flags during freefall without canopy entanglements. The attempt set a new world record for the most skydivers jumping simultaneously with national flags from a single aircraft. Officially verified by Guinness World Records on August 14, the accomplishment highlighted global camaraderie, technical precision, and athletic skill.



India Launches First Guide to Grasslands

India launched its first-ever 'Guide to Grasslands and Other Open Natural Ecosystems (ONEs) of India' during the 17th Session of the Conference of the Parties (COP17) to the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD) in Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia on 17th August. The comprehensive guide details India's diverse open natural landscapes, including the Himalayan and Terai grasslands, Thar and Banni landscapes, Deccan savannas, rocky plateaus, and scrublands. These ecosystems play a vital role in supporting wildlife biodiversity, carbon storage, soil and water conservation, and climate resilience, while sustaining pastoral and rural livelihoods. The publication provides a science-based framework to guide national efforts toward conserving, restoring, and sustainably managing these ecologically sensitive biomes.