

**Current Affairs • 7 August 2026****14 min**
READING TIME**8**
KEY STORIES**24**
IN BRIEF**1**
MAINS QUESTIONGS1 • 3 GS2 • 14
GS3 • 21
PAPER MIX

01 – TODAY IN 2 MINUTES

The 5 stories you can't skip

- 1 India Supreme Court Declares Right to Safe Footpaths a Fundamental Right**
Why it matters: The Supreme Court declared the right to safe footpaths as a fundamental right to address pedestrian safety and urban planning failures.
GS2 • POLITY & CONSTITUTION P M
- 2 Scientists at Stanford and Arc Institute Create 16 New Viruses Using AI**
Why it matters: Scientists at Stanford and Arc Institute used AI models (Evo 1 and Evo 2) to design 16 new, functional bacteriophages to combat antibiotic resistance.
GS3 • SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY P M
- 3 Saudi Arabia, Pakistan, Turkiye Sign Mutual Defence Pact in Mecca**
Why it matters: Saudi Arabia, Pakistan, and Turkiye signed a mutual defence pact in Mecca, establishing a collective security framework where an attack on one is considered an attack on all.
GS2 • INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS P
- 4 India Maps 27 Places in Arunachal Pradesh, Counters China's Naming Claims**
Why it matters: India formally identified 27 locations in Arunachal Pradesh on the Survey of India map to counter China's renaming efforts and assert territorial sovereignty.
GS2 • INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS P M
- 5 Lok Sabha passes bill exempting Foreign Institutional Investors from tax on Indian bonds**
Why it matters: The Lok Sabha passed the Taxation and Other Laws (Amendment) Bill, 2026, to exempt Foreign Institutional Investors (FIIs) from tax on Indian government securities to boost capital inflows.
GS3 • ECONOMY P M

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

P = PRELIMS • M = MAINS

What to know, in 60 seconds each

8 of 38 notes · picked for exam value

GS2 · POLITY & CONSTITUTION

P

M

India Supreme Court Declares Right to Safe Footpaths a Fundamental Right

Why in news: The Supreme Court declared the right to safe footpaths as a fundamental right to address pedestrian safety and urban planning failures.

REMEMBER

- Fundamental Rights are enshrined in Part III of the Indian Constitution
- Pedestrians account for up to 40% of road deaths in India
- Approximately 45 million Indians walk to work daily

MAINS ANGLE *Examine how the judicial recognition of pedestrian rights can reshape urban planning and infrastructure development in rapidly urbanizing Indian cities.*

USE: Right to Life Urban Governance Judicial Activism

Pedestrian Safety

Full note → satyadheesh.in/news/97909

GS2 · INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS

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Saudi Arabia, Pakistan, Turkiye Sign Mutual Defence Pact in Mecca

Why in news: Saudi Arabia, Pakistan, and Turkiye signed a mutual defence pact in Mecca, establishing a collective security framework where an attack on one is considered an attack on all.

REMEMBER

- The pact establishes a collective defence mechanism: an attack on one member is an attack on all.
- Mecca is a holy city in Saudi Arabia, significant for both religious and geopolitical reasons.
- Mohammed bin Salman is the Crown Prince of Saudi Arabia.

MAINS ANGLE *Analyze the implications of the Saudi-Pakistan-Turkiye mutual defence pact on regional security dynamics and India's strategic interests in the Middle East.*

USE: collective security strategic alignment

regional hegemony

geopolitical shift

Full note → satyadheesh.in/news/98219

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Scientists at Stanford and Arc Institute Create 16 New Viruses Using AI

Why in news: Scientists at Stanford and Arc Institute used AI models (Evo 1 and Evo 2) to design 16 new, functional bacteriophages to combat antibiotic resistance.

REMEMBER

- Bacteriophages: Viruses that specifically infect and replicate within bacteria.
- Evo 1 and Evo 2: AI models developed for computational biology to identify evolutionary patterns.
- The study involved the creation of 16 new functional viruses based on genetic sequences from millions of organisms.

MAINS ANGLE *Discuss the dual-use dilemma of AI in biotechnology, focusing on its potential to revolutionize healthcare and the risks of biological weaponization.*

USE: dual-use technology antibiotic resistance

computational biology

biosecurity

Full note → satyadheesh.in/news/98317

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India Maps 27 Places in Arunachal Pradesh, Counters China's Naming Claims

Why in news: India formally identified 27 locations in Arunachal Pradesh on the Survey of India map to counter China's renaming efforts and assert territorial sovereignty.

REMEMBER

- Long Ju: A strategic location along the Line of Actual Control (LAC) and a flashpoint since 1959.
- Thag La: A high-altitude mountain pass where opening battles between Indian and Chinese forces occurred in 1962.
- Jairampur: A logistics hub in Changlang district serving as a gateway to the eastern border and Myanmar frontier.

MAINS ANGLE *Discuss the significance of cartographic sovereignty and official mapping in asserting territorial integrity and countering revisionist claims in border disputes.*

USE: territorial integrity cartographic sovereignty

strategic depth

border management

Full note → satyadheesh.in/news/98448

Lok Sabha passes bill exempting Foreign Institutional Investors from tax on Indian bonds

Why in news: The Lok Sabha passed the Taxation and Other Laws (Amendment) Bill, 2026, to exempt Foreign Institutional Investors (FIIs) from tax on Indian government securities to boost capital inflows.

REMEMBER

- Taxation and Other Laws (Amendment) Bill, 2026
- Exemption applies to investments made on or after April 1, 2026
- Exemption covers both interest earnings and capital gains from Indian government securities

MAINS ANGLE Discuss how fiscal policy measures like tax exemptions for Foreign Institutional Investors can influence India's capital market depth and long-term investment stability.

USE : Capital Inflow Fiscal Policy Tax Neutrality

Market Liberalization

Full note → satyadheesh.in/news/98410

US now India's largest LPG supplier at 67% imports: Oil Minister Puri

Why in news: Union Minister Hardeep Singh Puri announced the US as India's largest LPG supplier (67% of imports) amidst Middle East disruptions and a new ₹84,000 crore deepwater exploration program.

REMEMBER

- The United States provides 67% of India's total LPG imports.
- India has expanded its crude oil supply sources from 27 to 41 countries.
- The government approved a ₹84,000 crore programme for deepwater oil and gas exploration.

MAINS ANGLE Discuss the significance of diversifying energy import sources and enhancing domestic exploration for India's energy security in the face of geopolitical volatility.

USE : Energy Security Strategic Autonomy

Supply Chain Resilience

Diversification

Full note → satyadheesh.in/news/98388

82.2% of Indian teens use smartphones, but only 57% for education: ASER 2024

Why in news: ASER 2024 report highlights a significant gap between smartphone usage for entertainment/social media versus educational purposes among Indian teens.

REMEMBER

- ASER: Annual Status of Education Report, a key indicator of learning outcomes in India.
- 82.2% of Indian teens (14-16 years) use smartphones according to ASER 2024.
- Only 57% of Indian teens use smartphones for educational purposes.

MAINS ANGLE Discuss the challenges of the digital divide and the necessity of digital literacy in ensuring equitable educational outcomes for Indian adolescents.

USE : Digital Divide Digital Literacy Learning Outcomes

Cyberbullying

Full note → satyadheesh.in/news/98266

Myanmar, Thailand Pledge to Boost Trade with Key Highway and Maritime Links

Why in news: Myanmar and Thailand reaffirmed commitment to the India-Myanmar-Thailand Trilateral Highway and maritime links during a high-level visit by Myanmar's President.

REMEMBER

- Moreh is a key border town in Manipur, India, serving as a starting point for the Trilateral Highway.
- Mae Sot is a major border town in Thailand, serving as the terminus for the Trilateral Highway.
- The Trilateral Highway was first conceptualized in 2002.

MAINS ANGLE Discuss the significance of the India-Myanmar-Thailand Trilateral Highway in achieving the objectives of India's Act East Policy.

USE : Act East Policy regional integration

multimodal connectivity

strategic infrastructure

Full note → satyadheesh.in/news/98260

Everything else, one line each

24 more notes · full versions online

GS1 · HISTORY · SOCIETY · GEOGRAPHY

Karnataka plans to restructure the Bengaluru City Police (BCP) into five commissionerates

Water crisis in cities needs new strategies, not just better management: report

GS2 · POLITY · GOVERNANCE · SOCIAL JUSTICE · IR

The Bombay High Court criticized the Maharashtra Food and Drug Administration (FDA)

Delhi Cabinet Approves Bill for Private Universities, Reserving 25% Seats for Local Students

Vaishnav Outlines Status of Three Rail Projects in J&K

Indian Seafarers Advised Against Gulf Voyages Amid Attack Risks

MEA Spokesperson dismisses US concerns over India's FCRA Bill

Tamil Nadu proposes cess on liquor to fund recycling, de-addiction programs

Farhan Haq, Deputy Spokesperson for the UN Secretary-General, reaffirmed that Kashmir

Punjab Cabinet Approves 19 Draftsman Posts, New Digital Universities

GS3 · ECONOMY · S&T · ENVIRONMENT · SECURITY

RBI Restricts Loan Recovery Calls to 8 am–7 pm, Bans Threats and Online Harassment

Bajaj Finance, Bajaj Finserv shares fall up to 5% on RBI's new proposal for NBFCs

India's Defence Exports Soar 62.66% to Rs 38,424 Crore in FY26

Meta Faces IT Minister's Pressure: Details Plans to Tackle Deepfakes, Child Abuse Material

Modi urges Indians to share handloom videos using #NationalHandloomDay

Watch: Nasa astronauts conduct 6.5-hour spacewalk outside ISS

Alluri Sitarama Raju International Airport begins operations, plans commercial flights from August 17

Telangana gets ₹4,000-crore boost for urban jobs and climate resilience from World Bank

Telangana Introduces QR Code System for Handloom Products During National Handloom Day Celebrations

IT Giants Slash 9,100 Jobs as AI Efficiency Cuts Collide with Growing Revenue

India Leads Asia in AI Hiring, Creating 83,100 Jobs While 32,000 Lose Support Roles

Telangana Tops Nation in Cybercrime Fight, Leads in Setting Up State Centres

WhatsApp Tests Age Verification for Over 600 Million Indian Users Amid Government Tensions

Karnataka Adds 3 EV Charging Stations, Still Trails Rajasthan's 20

Write one answer today

GS2 · POLITY & CONSTITUTION

Examine how the judicial recognition of pedestrian rights can reshape urban planning and infrastructure development in rapidly urbanizing Indian cities.

USE :

Right to Life

Urban Governance

Judicial Activism

Pedestrian Safety

Infrastructure Development



TELEGRAM



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