

**Current Affairs • 16 August 2026****13 min**

READING TIME

8

KEY STORIES

18

IN BRIEF

1

MAINS QUESTION

GS1 • 1

GS2 • 8

GS3 • 17

PAPER MIX

01 — TODAY IN 2 MINUTES

The 5 stories you can't skip**1****NASA Invites ISRO to Join 'Moon Base' Program Near South Pole**

Why it matters: NASA invited ISRO to join the 'Moon Base' program near the lunar south pole as part of the Artemis Accords partnership.

GS3 • SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY

P

M

2**India Navy nears Rs 70,000 crore deal with Germany for six advanced submarines**

Why it matters: The Indian Navy is nearing a ₹70,000 crore deal with Germany's ThyssenKrupp Marine Systems to build six advanced submarines under Project 75(I).

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3**The CAG report, tabled in Parliament on August 12, found widespread non-compliance**

Why it matters: The CAG tabled a report highlighting widespread non-compliance with passenger amenities and hygiene standards at Indian railway stations between 2019-20 and 2023-24.

GS2 • GOVERNANCE

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M

4**Bangladesh's foreign ministry spokesperson AKM Shahidul Karim stated on Sunday that Tarique**

Why it matters: Bangladesh's foreign ministry stated that Tarique Rahman's visit to India is contingent on the extradition of former PM Sheikh Hasina and other fugitives.

GS2 • INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS

P

5**Kerala CM V.D. Satheesan to Flag Off Vizhinjam Seaport on August 18**

Why it matters: Kerala CM to flag off the first export container at Vizhinjam International Seaport, transitioning it into a full EXIM port and a key commercial gateway.

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

P = PRELIMS • M = MAINS

What to know, in 60 seconds each

8 of 26 notes · picked for exam value

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NASA Invites ISRO to Join 'Moon Base' Program Near South Pole

Why in news: NASA invited ISRO to join the 'Moon Base' program near the lunar south pole as part of the Artemis Accords partnership.

REMEMBER

- Artemis Accords: A multilateral agreement for cooperation in civil space exploration.
- Lunar South Pole: Targeted for exploration due to the presence of water-ice deposits in permanently shadowed craters.
- ISRO: Indian Space Research Organisation, the national space agency of India.

MAINS ANGLE Discuss the significance of international cooperation in space exploration and the strategic importance of lunar south pole resources for future human habitation.

USE : Space Diplomacy Lunar Exploration Artemis Accords
Technological Collaboration

Full note → satyadheesh.in/news/105373

GS3 · SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY

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India Navy nears Rs 70,000 crore deal with Germany for six advanced submarines

Why in news: The Indian Navy is nearing a ₹70,000 crore deal with Germany's ThyssenKrupp Marine Systems to build six advanced submarines under Project 75(I).

REMEMBER

- Project 75(I): A major submarine procurement programme by the Indian Navy.
- Estimated deal value: ₹70,000 crore.
- Mazagon Dock Shipbuilders Ltd (MDL): A prominent public sector shipyard in Mumbai.

MAINS ANGLE Discuss the significance of the 'Make in India' initiative in the defence sector and its role in enhancing India's maritime security and self-reliance.

USE : Strategic Autonomy Indigenization Maritime Security
Technology Transfer

Full note → satyadheesh.in/news/105435

GS2 · GOVERNANCE

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The CAG report, tabled in Parliament on August 12, found widespread non-compliance

Why in news: The CAG tabled a report highlighting widespread non-compliance with passenger amenities and hygiene standards at Indian railway stations between 2019-20 and 2023-24.

REMEMBER

- CAG: Constitutional body established under Article 148 to audit the accounts of the Union and State governments.
- Audit Period: The report covers the period from 2019-20 to 2023-24.
- Non-compliance: Over 89% of the 512 selected non-suburban grade stations were found deficient.

MAINS ANGLE Discuss the role of the CAG in ensuring public accountability and infrastructure quality in public service delivery. How can the findings be used to improve railway amenities?

USE : public accountability audit findings
infrastructure deficit sanitation standards

Full note → satyadheesh.in/news/105229

GS2 · INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS

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Bangladesh's foreign ministry spokesperson AKM Shahidul Karim stated on Sunday that Tarique

Why in news: Bangladesh's foreign ministry stated that Tarique Rahman's visit to India is contingent on the extradition of former PM Sheikh Hasina and other fugitives.

REMEMBER

- Bangladesh's 'Bangladesh First' policy is the current guiding principle for its foreign relations.
- Sheikh Hasina is the former Prime Minister of Bangladesh.
- Extradition treaties are bilateral agreements between countries to return fugitives.

MAINS ANGLE Analyze how bilateral extradition treaties and diplomatic friction can impact regional security and cooperation between India and its neighbors.

USE : extradition treaty bilateral relations diplomatic friction
regional security

Full note → satyadheesh.in/news/105718

Kerala CM V.D. Satheesan to Flag Off Vizhinjam Seaport on August 18

Why in news: Kerala CM to flag off the first export container at Vizhinjam International Seaport, transitioning it into a full EXIM port and a key commercial gateway.

REMEMBER

- Vizhinjam International Seaport is located in the state of Kerala.
- Mission Samudra aims to develop the maritime region along Kerala's 600-km coastline.
- Sarbananda Sonowal is the Union Minister for Ports, Shipping and Waterways.

MAINS ANGLE Discuss the significance of developing deep-water seaports like Vizhinjam in enhancing India's maritime trade and regional economic integration.

USE: EXIM port Maritime Economic Region Blue Economy
Logistics infrastructure

Full note → satyadheesh.in/news/105985

Census 2027: RG&CCI Adds 13 New Data Fields Including Spouse's Name, Digital Literacy

Why in news: The Registrar General & Census Commissioner of India (RG&CCI) introduced 13 new data fields, including digital literacy and spouse's name, for the Census 2027 enumeration in specific hilly and snow-bound regions.

REMEMBER

- RG&CCI: Registrar General and Census Commissioner of India is the nodal body for conducting the national census.
- Census 2027: The upcoming decadal census of India.
- Digital Literacy: One of the 13 new data fields added to the census questionnaire.

MAINS ANGLE Discuss the significance of incorporating digital literacy and identity documents in the national census for effective policy formulation and governance.

USE: Demographic profile Data-driven policy Digital literacy
Enumeration

Full note → satyadheesh.in/news/105946

NMDC Surpasses 50 MT Iron Ore Production, Aims for 100 MT by 2030

Why in news: NMDC Limited became India's first mining company to surpass 50 MT of iron ore production, signaling a boost in domestic mineral security.

REMEMBER

- NMDC production in FY2026: 53.15 MT iron ore
- NMDC target: 100 MT iron ore production by 2030
- Nagarnar Steel Plant: Crossed 7 MT cumulative hot metal production

MAINS ANGLE Discuss the significance of strengthening domestic mineral security and the role of Public Sector Undertakings (PSUs) in achieving India's industrial growth targets.

USE: mineral security industrial growth strategic minerals
infrastructure development

Full note → satyadheesh.in/news/105972

Indian Researchers Develop 3D Model to Predict Sun's Deadly Eruptions

Why in news: Researchers at the Indian Institute of Astrophysics (IIA) developed a 3D simulation model to predict Coronal Mass Ejections (CMEs) to protect satellite infrastructure and power grids.

REMEMBER

- CMEs (Coronal Mass Ejections) are eruptions of magnetized plasma from the sun's corona.
- Indian Institute of Astrophysics (IIA) is a premier research institute in India.
- NASA's HMI (Helioseismic and Magnetic Imager) and AIA (Atmospheric Imaging Assembly) are instruments used for solar observation.

MAINS ANGLE Discuss the significance of space weather monitoring in ensuring the security of critical infrastructure and satellite communication systems in the modern era.

USE: Space Weather Coronal Mass Ejections
Critical Infrastructure Predictive Modeling

Full note → satyadheesh.in/news/105930

Everything else, one line each

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GS2 · POLITY · GOVERNANCE · SOCIAL JUSTICE · IR

Karnataka's Kidney Exchange Plan Stalls: No Transplants
Despite 4 Months, 1 Approved Request

CM D.K. Shivakumar: Separate Rules for Water Scarcity to Avoid
Central Control

Telangana merges Food Safety and Drugs departments under
new authority TG SAFE

The Standing Committee on Finance has flagged a "crippling"
43% vacancy

Punjab's MMSY Provides Over 6 Lakh Treatments Since Launch
Seven Months Ago

Chitra Core Launches: India's New Stent Aims to Revolutionize
Heart Health

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Why the Visakhapatnam airport shut, and what still flies from
INS Dega

Andhra Pradesh Plans 120 GW Renewable Projects to Tackle
Climate Change

Six firms pull misleading labels as FSSAI cracks down on false
claims

Telangana Launches Unprecedented Rural Road Plan, Covering
7,448 km

In a new Nature paper, scientists using the James Webb Space
Telescope

Forest Department Evicts Thousands in Theni Over Alleged
Encroachments

Tamil Nadu launches ₹507.92 crore project to rejuvenate 10,185
irrigation channels and 809 ponds

Telangana launches ₹200 crore plan to convert 18,766 autos
into EVs

Inside the Experimental Traps Scientists Set for Ghostly
Neutrinos

Exotic Animal Backlog Hits 2,000 in Tamil Nadu; Vikram's Video
Adds Heat

CAG Audit Reveals 458 Out of 512 Rail Stations Lacking Basic
Amenities

Kudankulam Plant Sets Record: Reactor 2 Operates
Continuously for 638 Days

Write one answer today

GS3 · SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY

Discuss the significance of international cooperation in space exploration and the strategic importance of lunar south pole resources for future human habitation.

USE :

Space Diplomacy

Lunar Exploration

Artemis Accords

Technological Collaboration



TELEGRAM



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