

**Current Affairs • 21 August 2026****14 min**
READING TIME**8**
KEY STORIES**24**
IN BRIEF**1**
MAINS QUESTION

GS1 • 1 GS2 • 25

GS3 • 16

PAPER MIX

01 – TODAY IN 2 MINUTES

The 5 stories you can't skip**1 India Allows 10 Lakh Tonnes Duty-Free Raw Sugar Imports to Curb Prices**

Why it matters: The Government of India allowed duty-free imports of 10 lakh tonnes of raw sugar to stabilize rising retail prices and manage supply-side shocks.

GS3 • ECONOMY

P

2 Apple could expand MacBook, iPad manufacturing in India under Rs 62,500-crore scheme

Why it matters: Union Minister Ashwini Vaishnaw announced the Mobile Phone Manufacturing Scheme (MPMS) to encourage global giants like Apple to expand high-end electronics manufacturing in India.

GS3 • ECONOMY

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M

3 Supreme Court: Gangsters Act misused in social media mob attack case

Why it matters: The Supreme Court ruled that the Uttar Pradesh Gangsters Act was misused to prosecute individuals involved in a mob attack triggered by a social media post.

GS2 • POLITY & CONSTITUTION

P

M

4 Supreme Court Creates Clean Slate for Future Labour Law Disputes Under New IRC

Why it matters: The Supreme Court ruled that the historical definition of 'industry' will not automatically apply to the new Industrial Relations Code (IRC) 2020, ensuring a fresh legal framework for labour disputes.

GS2 • GOVERNANCE

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5 The United States has imposed new sanctions against the International Criminal Court

Why it matters: The US imposed sanctions on the International Criminal Court (ICC) following the issuance of an arrest warrant for Benjamin Netanyahu, sparking a diplomatic rift with the UN and EU.

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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 42 notes · picked for exam value

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India Allows 10 Lakh Tonnes Duty-Free Raw Sugar Imports to Curb Prices

Why in news: The Government of India allowed duty-free imports of 10 lakh tonnes of raw sugar to stabilize rising retail prices and manage supply-side shocks.

REMEMBER

- Import quota: 10 lakh tonnes of raw sugar.
- Retail sugar prices increased by approximately 13% year-on-year.
- Stockholding limit: Capped at 15 days' consumption for bulk consumers.

MAINS ANGLE Discuss the role of import-export policies and stockholding regulations in ensuring food security and price stability in the Indian agricultural market.

USE: Tariff Rate Quota Price Stabilization

Stockholding Limits Supply-side Management

Full note → satyadheesh.in/news/109536

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Supreme Court: Gangsters Act misused in social media mob attack case

Why in news: The Supreme Court ruled that the Uttar Pradesh Gangsters Act was misused to prosecute individuals involved in a mob attack triggered by a social media post.

REMEMBER

- Supreme Court of India: The highest judicial body in India.
- Uttar Pradesh Gangsters Act: A state-specific law designed to curb organized crime.
- Judgment Date: June 21, 2025.

MAINS ANGLE Discuss the implications of using stringent anti-organized crime laws to address communal disturbances and the role of the judiciary in preventing the misuse of penal statutes.

USE: misuse of power judicial review organized crime

communal harmony

Full note → satyadheesh.in/news/110004

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Apple could expand MacBook, iPad manufacturing in India under Rs 62,500-crore scheme

Why in news: Union Minister Ashwini Vaishnaw announced the Mobile Phone Manufacturing Scheme (MPMS) to encourage global giants like Apple to expand high-end electronics manufacturing in India.

REMEMBER

- Mobile Phone Manufacturing Scheme (MPMS) has a budget of Rs 62,500 crore
- The scheme targets the development of three Indian smartphone brands within 14 months
- Ashwini Vaishnaw is the Union Minister for Electronics and IT

MAINS ANGLE Discuss how the Mobile Phone Manufacturing Scheme can transform India into a global electronics manufacturing hub and enhance domestic supply chain resilience.

USE: Electronics ecosystem Supply chain resilience

Design and R&D Global competitiveness

Full note → satyadheesh.in/news/110275

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Supreme Court Creates Clean Slate for Future Labour Law Disputes Under New IRC

Why in news: The Supreme Court ruled that the historical definition of 'industry' will not automatically apply to the new Industrial Relations Code (IRC) 2020, ensuring a fresh legal framework for labour disputes.

REMEMBER

- Industrial Relations Code (IRC) 2020 replaces the Industrial Disputes Act, 1947
- The Supreme Court's ruling provides a 'clean slate' for interpreting labour laws under the new code
- The IRC 2020 is scheduled to be implemented/effective by November 2025

MAINS ANGLE Discuss the significance of the Supreme Court's ruling on the Industrial Relations Code 2020 in balancing industrial harmony with legal certainty for employers and workers.

USE: judicial interpretation industrial relations

legal certainty

labour reforms

Full note → satyadheesh.in/news/109846

The United States has imposed new sanctions against the International Criminal Court

Why in news: The US imposed sanctions on the International Criminal Court (ICC) following the issuance of an arrest warrant for Benjamin Netanyahu, sparking a diplomatic rift with the UN and EU.

REMEMBER

- ICC: An intergovernmental organization and treaty-based body responsible for prosecuting individuals for genocide, crimes against humanity, and war crimes.
- The ICC is headquartered in The Hague, Netherlands.
- The UN and EU have officially condemned the US sanctions against the ICC.

MAINS ANGLE Discuss the implications of unilateral sanctions by major powers on the independence and functionality of international judicial bodies like the ICC.

USE: sovereignty multilateralism judicial independence

international law

Full note → satyadheesh.in/news/109550

'Most Intense' In Over A Century: How This Year's El Nino May Impact World

Why in news: Climate scientists warn that the current El Niño cycle may be the strongest on record, potentially making 2027 the hottest year ever recorded.

REMEMBER

- ENSO: El Niño–Southern Oscillation is a natural climate cycle involving the warming of surface waters in the tropical Pacific.
- Nino 3.4 region: An imaginary box in the Pacific used to monitor sea surface temperatures for El Niño tracking.
- El Niño mechanism: Occurs when trade winds ease, allowing warm water to move eastward and rise to the surface.

MAINS ANGLE Discuss how extreme climatic phenomena like El Niño exacerbate the impacts of anthropogenic climate change on global biodiversity and food security.

USE: ENSO anthropogenic climate change thermal anomaly

climate resilience

Full note → satyadheesh.in/news/110311

Government Requests Surge, 2.44 Lakh Social Posts Removed in Five Months

Why in news: The Press Information Bureau reported that government departments requested the removal of 2.44 lakh social media posts in five months under the amended IT Intermediaries Rules.

REMEMBER

- IT Intermediaries Rules: Governs the obligations of social media intermediaries regarding content removal.
- Takedown time reduction: From 36 hours to 3 hours under amended rules.
- Source of requests: 82% of content removal requests came from state governments.

MAINS ANGLE Discuss the challenges and implications of balancing freedom of speech with the government's power to mandate content removal under the IT Intermediaries Rules.

USE: Freedom of Speech Digital Governance

Intermediary Liability

Content Moderation

Full note → satyadheesh.in/news/109513

Supreme Court Slams Union Government for Delay in Honoring Police Officer Chouhan

Why in news: The Supreme Court expressed displeasure over the Union Government's delay in conferring a President's Gallantry Award on a police officer for an encounter over two decades ago.

REMEMBER

- Supreme Court of India: The highest judicial body in India, exercising judicial review.
- Union Home Secretary: A senior civil servant responsible for internal security and home affairs.
- President's Gallantry Awards: Honors conferred by the President of India for bravery in the face of danger.

MAINS ANGLE Discuss the role of the judiciary in ensuring administrative accountability and the timely execution of government honors and awards.

USE: judicial review administrative accountability

executive delay

gallantry awards

Full note → satyadheesh.in/news/110051

Everything else, one line each

24 more notes · full versions online

GS1 · HISTORY · SOCIETY · GEOGRAPHY

Gandhi's 688 Notes Sell for \$1.69m, Setting Record at Mumbai Auction

GS2 · POLITY · GOVERNANCE · SOCIAL JUSTICE · IR

Supreme Court Declares UP Gangsters Act "Stillborn," Quashes Case Against Two Advocates

Delhi Master Plan 2047 Proposes Air Taxis and Rooftop Helipads

Bangladesh's 78-Year-Old President Sworn In as India Congratulates and Ties Deepen

Cabinet Secretary unveils 23-point plan to boost sports, tech, and skills by 2047

Karnataka invests ₹2,500 crore with ADB to transform 500 government schools

Pakistan protests US envoy's J&K remarks; India stands firm

Bengaluru bans parking at junctions, mandates bus stops 75 meters from crossings

Bangladesh, led by Prime Minister Tarique Rahman's aide, expresses interest

On August 22 and 23, Visakhapatnam will host the BRICS Youth Ministers'

High Court Halts Cancellations in Jharkhand Recruitment Row Amid 25-Day Agitation

Solicitor General Tushar Mehta told the Supreme Court that the Union government

The IC3 Institute's Student Well-Being Pulse Report, launched at the 10th Annual

Karnataka IDs 1.08 crore voters for potential exclusion in electoral roll update

Karnataka Sends 43.80 Lakh Voter Discrepancy Notices, Mostly in Bengaluru

Old Video Shows Moment When Ship With 21 Indian Sailors Came Under Iran's Attack In Hormuz

In April 2026, the Governor of Punjab gave assent to the Jaagat

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AERA slashes Bengaluru airport passenger fees by 33% to ₹300

Digital Divide: 40,552 Women Struggle with India's Payment System Due to Trust Issues

AI tax model nets ₹743.43 crore in six months, draws national interest

Mumbai Police Seek Interpol Help to Serve Orders on 26/11 Accused Including Saeed, Lakhvi

AI reshapes India's IT services sector contracts as clients demand more for less

ISRO's Former Chief S Somnath Appointed To RBI Board

Telecoms ordered to limit new SIMs to nine per subscriber by November 30

Write one answer today

GS3 · ECONOMY

Discuss the role of import-export policies and stockholding regulations in ensuring food security and price stability in the Indian agricultural market.

USE :

Tariff Rate Quota

Price Stabilization

Stockholding Limits

Supply-side Management

Inflationary Pressure



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