

**Current Affairs • 22 August 2026****14 min**

READING TIME

8

KEY STORIES

24

IN BRIEF

1

MAINS QUESTION

GS2 • 14

GS3 • 34

PAPER MIX

01 – TODAY IN 2 MINUTES

The 5 stories you can't skip**1 Justice B.V. Nagarathna: Overturning 1978 Judgment Could Empower Corporations, Hurt Workers**

Why it matters: Justice B.V.

GS2 • GOVERNANCE

M

2 World's Oldest Commercial Nuclear Reactors Keep Humming at Tarapur at Rs 3.31 per Unit

Why it matters: The Tarapur Atomic Power Station, India's first large-scale commercial nuclear plant, continues to operate as the world's oldest commercial reactor while undergoing life extension.

GS3 • SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY

P

M

3 India's Dr S Jaishankar to visit Russia for 27th IRIGC-TEC session on Aug 23

Why it matters: External Affairs Minister S.

GS2 • INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS

P

4 Supreme Court Upholds Hanging as Constitutional Execution Method

Why it matters: The Supreme Court upheld hanging as a constitutional method of execution, rejecting a PIL challenging its validity under the Code of Criminal Procedure.

GS2 • POLITY & CONSTITUTION

P

M

5 India-U.K. Defence Consultative Group meets to review cooperation in New Delhi

Why it matters: The 25th India-U.K.

GS2 • INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS

P

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

P = PRELIMS • M = MAINS

What to know, in 60 seconds each

8 of 48 notes · picked for exam value

GS2 · GOVERNANCE M

Justice B.V. Nagarathna: Overturning 1978 Judgment Could Empower Corporations, Hurt Workers

Why in news: Justice B.V. Nagarathna issued a dissent in a nine-judge bench ruling regarding the definition of 'industry' under the Industrial Relations Code 2020, warning of potential erosion of labor rights.

REMEMBER

- Industrial Relations Code (IRC) 2020: A consolidated labor law replacing older statutes like the Industrial Disputes Act 1947.
- Supreme Court of India: The nine-judge bench is interpreting the scope of 'industry' for labor protections.
- 1978 Bangalore Water Supply Judgment: Established a broad definition of 'industry' to protect worker welfare.

MAINS ANGLE Critically analyze the impact of redefining 'industry' on the bargaining power between corporations and workers in the era of liberalization.

USE: bargaining power labor welfare judicial precedent

industrial relations

Full note → satyadheesh.in/news/111262

GS2 · INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS P

India's Dr S Jaishankar to visit Russia for 27th IRIGC-TEC session on Aug 23

Why in news: External Affairs Minister S. Jaishankar is visiting Russia to co-chair the 27th IRIGC-TEC session to bolster bilateral cooperation in trade, science, and technology.

REMEMBER

- IRIGC-TEC: A bilateral body for cooperation in trade, economic, scientific, technological, and cultural sectors between India and Russia.
- S. Jaishankar: Current Minister of External Affairs of India.
- Sergey Lavrov: Current Minister of Foreign Affairs of Russia.

MAINS ANGLE Discuss the significance of the IRIGC-TEC in strengthening India's strategic and economic ties with Russia amidst a changing global order.

USE: Strategic autonomy Bilateral cooperation

Geopolitical dynamics

Economic diplomacy

Full note → satyadheesh.in/news/110857

GS3 · SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY P M

World's Oldest Commercial Nuclear Reactors Keep Humming at Tarapur at Rs 3.31 per Unit

Why in news: The Tarapur Atomic Power Station, India's first large-scale commercial nuclear plant, continues to operate as the world's oldest commercial reactor while undergoing life extension.

REMEMBER

- Tarapur Atomic Power Station (TAPS) is India's first large-scale commercial nuclear power station.
- Tarapur currently produces electricity at a tariff of Rs 3.31 per unit.
- TAPS was built in 1964 with equipment from General Electric and Bechtel.

MAINS ANGLE Discuss the role of nuclear energy in India's transition towards a low-carbon economy, highlighting the challenges of maintaining aging infrastructure and ensuring safety.

USE: energy security indigenization nuclear safety

infrastructure longevity

Full note → satyadheesh.in/news/110987

GS2 · POLITY & CONSTITUTION P M

Supreme Court Upholds Hanging as Constitutional Execution Method

Why in news: The Supreme Court upheld hanging as a constitutional method of execution, rejecting a PIL challenging its validity under the Code of Criminal Procedure.

REMEMBER

- Section 354(5) of the Code of Criminal Procedure (CrPC) deals with the methods of execution.
- The Supreme Court of India is the highest judicial body and the final arbiter on constitutional validity.
- The court ruled that there is no conclusive evidence that lethal injection is a more humane alternative to hanging.

MAINS ANGLE Critically examine the constitutional validity and ethical implications of capital punishment and the methods of execution in India.

USE: Constitutional validity Capital punishment

Judicial review

Article 21

Full note → satyadheesh.in/news/110772

India-U.K. Defence Consultative Group meets to review cooperation in New Delhi

Why in news: The 25th India-U.K. Defence Consultative Group (DCG) met in New Delhi to review bilateral cooperation in defence industry and R&D under the Vision 2035 framework.

REMEMBER

- The 25th India-U.K. Defence Consultative Group (DCG) meeting was held in New Delhi.
- The cooperation focuses on defence industry and research and development (R&D).
- The cooperation is guided by the India-U.K. Vision 2035 and the 10-year Defence Industrial Roadmap.

MAINS ANGLE Discuss the significance of bilateral defence industrial roadmaps in enhancing India's strategic autonomy and technological capabilities in the contemporary global order.

USE : strategic autonomy defence industrialization

bilateral cooperation R&D

Full note → satyadheesh.in/news/110638

Sugar prices surge: Odisha sees ₹64.72 per kg, 18 states under watch

Why in news: The Union Government is monitoring a significant surge in sugar prices across 18 states, with Odisha recording the highest price, leading to interventionist measures like stock limits and duty-free imports.

REMEMBER

- Odisha recorded the highest sugar price at ₹64.72 per kg as of August 2026.
- The Ministry of Consumer Affairs is the nodal body for monitoring and stabilizing commodity prices.
- The national average sugar price rose to ₹58.23 in 2026.

MAINS ANGLE Discuss the challenges faced by the Indian government in stabilizing essential commodity prices amidst climate-induced production volatility and fluctuating demand.

USE : price volatility supply-demand equilibrium

interventionist policy commodity stabilization

Full note → satyadheesh.in/news/110492

Indian banks raise \$4.4 billion through foreign debt issuance this week

Why in news: Indian banks raised \$4.4 billion through foreign debt issuance to finance foreign currency non-resident deposits following RBI's support for forex inflows.

REMEMBER

- Total foreign debt issuance by Indian banks since June 5 reached \$12 billion.
- Reserve Bank of India (RBI) provided special support for forex inflows.
- MUFG projects an additional \$5 billion to \$7.5 billion in issuance by the end of the year.

MAINS ANGLE Discuss the significance of foreign debt issuance for Indian banks and its implications on the country's external debt profile and forex reserves.

USE : foreign debt forex inflows liquidity

monetary policy

Full note → satyadheesh.in/news/110723

The Supreme Court set aside an NGT order against the Art of Living Foundation regarding Yamuna floodplain damage, directing the DDA to refund ₹5 crore

Why in news: The Supreme Court set aside an NGT order against the Art of Living Foundation regarding Yamuna floodplain damage, directing the DDA to refund ₹5 crore.

REMEMBER

- NGT: National Green Tribunal was established to handle environmental protection and conservation cases.
- DDA: Delhi Development Authority is the principal agency for land and infrastructure development in Delhi.
- The Supreme Court directed a refund of ₹5 crore to the Art of Living Foundation.

MAINS ANGLE Discuss the role of the judiciary in balancing the rights of civil society organizations with environmental conservation mandates in India.

USE : Judicial Review Environmental Jurisprudence

Public Interest Regulatory Oversight

Full note → satyadheesh.in/news/111368

Everything else, one line each

GS2 · POLITY · GOVERNANCE · SOCIAL JUSTICE · IR

Experts Push for Yoga and Ayurveda in Public Health Centers

Education Minister lays foundation for KP School in Shivamogga, says 1,000 KPS will be built in Karnataka

Patna High Court Blocks Religious Procession for Public Order Reasons

BRICS Ministers Tour Thotlakonda as Mandaviya Plants Sapling for Mother Earth

Karnataka Records 81.9% HPV Vaccination Coverage, Lowest AEFI Rate

GS3 · ECONOMY · S&T · ENVIRONMENT · SECURITY

AI-generated sexual images spark debate on women's rights and tech regulation

Robotic surgery saves eight-year-old with bile duct cancer in Vellore milestone

Elon Musk's Starlink Aims to Bridge India's Rural Internet Gap, 126.8 vs 48.3 Subscribers

India to Summon Hafiz Saeed via Diplomacy in 2025 Pahalgam Attack Case

CISF has initiated a green makeover of the Yamuna river in Delhi

Sebi Proposes Curbs on Urgency-Based Messaging in Online Bond Ads

- Central Empowered Committee meets Assam officials on Kaziranga mining ban compliance
- Amit Shah meets officials to strengthen Siliguri Corridor security, establish 'Triangular Security Grid'
- India Aims for Third in Space Race, Thriving Startups Defy Budget Cuts
- Karnataka bans 'analogue paneer' masquerading as real for a year
- Indian Firms Pay Over \$23 per mmbtu for September LNG Cargoes Amid Supply Disruptions
- Kyoto Team Maps Satellite Drag with Starlink Data, Verifying ESA's Swarm
- In its weekly report, Nuvama Institutional Equities noted that BSE's index option
- AI Reveals High Mountain Asia Losing 24.2 Billion Tonnes of Groundwater Annually
- Andhra CM N. Chandrababu Naidu inaugurates 1.19 lakh acre irrigation project after 30-year wait
- Chief Justice coins "Nyaya-nomics," stressing trust in justice for economic growth
- Conservationists Launch Project to Battle Invasive Plants in Khalingduar Reserve Forest
- Floods in Assam Kill Over 100 Displace 700,000
- China's Chang'e-7 Set to Explore Lunar Ice in Shackleton Crater

Write one answer today

GS2 · GOVERNANCE

Critically analyze the impact of redefining 'industry' on the bargaining power between corporations and workers in the era of liberalization.

USE :

bargaining power

labor welfare

judicial precedent

industrial relations

liberalization



TELEGRAM



WEBSITE

Get it every morning on Telegram

Daily PDF + quiz at 5 AM · weekly review every Sunday · English and Hindi · free, no sign-up.

t.me/satyadheesh · satyadheesh.in/upsc/reports

Notes are generated from SatyaDheesh's news feed and mapped to the UPSC CSE syllabus. Verify facts with the original report or PIB before using them in an answer.