

**SATYADHEESH**  
सत्याधीश

UPSC WEEKLY DETAILED NOTES

**Current Affairs • Week 32 • 3 Aug – 9 Aug 2026****50**

NOTES

**46**

STORIES MERGED

GS1 • 2

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GS3 • 21

PAPER MIX

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**HOW EACH NOTE READS**

Why in news → facts to remember → a Mains question with keywords. Duplicate stories are merged.

**SHORT ON TIME?**

The 5-page **Brief** has the stories that matter most, plus a quiz. Same day, same notes.

## History & Culture

1

MODERN INDIA &amp; FREEDOM STRUGGLE

P

M

8 Aug · NDTV · [satyadheesh.in/news/98828](https://satyadheesh.in/news/98828)

### Gandhi launches Quit India Movement, demanding immediate independence in 1942

**WHY IN NEWS** The Quit India Movement (1942) is a pivotal milestone in the Indian freedom struggle, marking the final push for independence from British rule.

- PLACE** | Gowalia Tank Maidan (now August Kranti Maidan) in Bombay was the site of the Quit India Movement launch.
- FACT** | The Quit India Movement was launched in 1942 during World War II.
- POST** | Mahatma Gandhi, Jawaharlal Nehru, and Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel were central figures in the movement.

**MAINS Q** Analyze the significance of the Quit India Movement in accelerating the end of British colonial rule and its impact on the eventual partition of India.

**USE:** Civil Disobedience Mass Mobilization Colonialism Nationalist Movement Satyagraha

## Indian Society

1

POPULATION, DEMOGRAPHY &amp; MIGRATION

P

4 Aug · NDTV · [satyadheesh.in/news/96388](https://satyadheesh.in/news/96388)

### Census to Enumerate Castes in Ladakh and Snow-Bound Areas from September 1

**WHY IN NEWS** The Registrar General of India announced the second phase of the census for Ladakh and snow-bound regions, which includes the enumeration of castes.

- FACT** | Census reference date for this phase: October 1, 2026
- PLACE** | Snow-bound areas covered: Jammu and Kashmir, Himachal Pradesh, and Uttarakhand
- BODY** | Registrar General of India: Head of the Office of the Registrar General and Census Commissioner
- FACT** | Self-enumeration period: August 17 to 31

**MAINS Q** Discuss the significance of caste enumeration in the census for inclusive policy formulation and social justice in India.

**USE:** Demographic profiling Social justice Data-driven governance Inclusive growth

## Polity & Constitution

6

CONSTITUTION, AMENDMENTS &amp; BASIC STRUCTURE

P M

5 Aug · The Hindu · satyadheesh.in/news/96831

### On August 5, Narendra Modi's administration revoked Jammu and Kashmir's special status

**WHY IN NEWS** The revocation of Article 370 and the subsequent loss of Jammu and Kashmir's statehood marks a significant constitutional shift in India's federal structure.

**CONSTITUTION** | Article 370 originally provided special autonomous status to the state of Jammu and Kashmir.

**FACT** | The revocation of special status occurred on August 5, followed by the loss of statehood on August 9.

**PLACE** | Jammu and Kashmir is a Union Territory following the reorganization of its statehood.

**MAINS Q** Critically analyze the constitutional implications of the revocation of Article 370 on India's federal structure and the integration of Jammu and Kashmir.

**USE:** Federalism Constitutional Amendment Integration Internal Security Special Status

JUDICIARY &amp; LANDMARK JUDGMENTS

P M

5 Aug · The Hindu · satyadheesh.in/news/97073

### States cannot cite financial burden to oppose raising retirement age of judicial officers: Supreme Court

**WHY IN NEWS** The Supreme Court directed State governments to decide on increasing the retirement age of judicial officers from 60 to 61 years to ensure judicial experience.

**BODY** | Supreme Court of India: The highest judicial body in the country.

**FACT** | Current retirement age for judicial officers discussed: 60 years.

**FACT** | Proposed retirement age: 61 years.

**PLACE** | Telangana and Madhya Pradesh: States that have already increased the retirement age of judicial officers.

**MAINS Q** Discuss the significance of judicial experience in maintaining the quality of the judiciary and the implications of varying retirement ages across different states.

**USE:** judicial experience vacancy management fiscal burden judicial independence administrative efficiency

FUNDAMENTAL RIGHTS, DPSP &amp; DUTIES

P M

2 REPORTS MERGED

7 Aug · BBC · satyadheesh.in/news/97909

### 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.

**CONSTITUTION** | Fundamental Rights are enshrined in Part III of the Indian Constitution

**FACT** | Pedestrians account for up to 40% of road deaths in India

**FACT** | Approximately 45 million Indians walk to work daily

**MAINS Q** 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

## MP Moves Supreme Court to Halt Delhi Police's Facial Recognition Use on Protesters

**WHY IN NEWS** A Rajya Sabha MP moved the Supreme Court to halt Delhi Police's use of facial recognition technology and mass surveillance on protesters, alleging violations of privacy rights.

- CONSTITUTION** | Article 21: Right to life and personal liberty, which includes the right to privacy.
- S&T** | Facial Recognition Technology (FRT): Uses biometric data to identify individuals from images or videos.
- FACT** | The petition specifically mentions 'Ikshana' and 'AjnaLens' as mobile applications used for surveillance.

**MAINS Q** Critically examine the tension between state surveillance for public order and the fundamental right to privacy under Article 21 of the Indian Constitution.

**USE:** Right to Privacy Mass Surveillance Biometric Data Constitutional Validity Proportionality

## High Court Orders Google to Hide Woman's Name from Old Prostitution Case Records

**WHY IN NEWS** The Karnataka High Court directed Google and other entities to mask a woman's name from online records to uphold her 'right to be forgotten' after her acquittal in a prostitution case.

- ACT / BILL** | Immoral Traffic (Prevention) Act, 1956: Legislation aimed at preventing trafficking and prostitution.
- S&T** | Right to be Forgotten: A legal concept allowing individuals to request the removal of personal data from internet searches.
- FACT** | The petitioner was an Iranian national who received refugee status in Sweden.

**MAINS Q** Discuss the challenges and necessity of establishing a 'Right to be Forgotten' in the era of digital permanence and data privacy in India.

**USE:** Right to be Forgotten Digital Stigma Data Privacy Judicial Vindication Digital Footprint

## Voter Mismatch: ASDDO List Matches 2024 Votes in Bengaluru Urban

**WHY IN NEWS** A data mismatch in Bengaluru Urban's voter list suggests that the number of voters categorized as 'Absent, Shifted, Duplicate, Dead and Others' (ASDDO) exceeds the number of votes cast in the 2024 Lok Sabha elections.

- FACT** | ASDDO: A category in voter list revision including Absent, Shifted, Duplicate, Dead, and Others.
- BODY** | Election Commission of India (ECI) is the constitutional body responsible for voter list maintenance.
- FACT** | The discrepancy was identified in the Special Intensive Revision (SIR) data.

**MAINS Q** Discuss the importance of periodic and accurate voter list revisions in ensuring the integrity of the electoral process in India.

**USE:** electoral integrity voter list maintenance transparency democratic accountability

BILLS, ACTS &amp; ORDINANCES

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M

2 REPORTS MERGED

5 Aug · NDTV · satyadheesh.in/news/97148

## Lok Sabha passes Bankers' Books Evidence Bill despite opposition protests

**WHY IN NEWS** The Lok Sabha passed the Bankers' Books Evidence Bill, 2026, to replace the 1891 Act and modernize the legal admissibility of digital and cloud-based banking records.

|            |                                                                                            |
|------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| ACT / BILL | Bankers' Books Evidence Act, 2026: replaces the 1891 Act to include digital/cloud records. |
| FACT       | The new framework is designed to be 'technology-neutral' for bank records.                 |
| BODY       | The Bill was moved by the Ministry of Finance in the Lok Sabha.                            |

**MAINS Q** Discuss the necessity of modernizing colonial-era legislation to align with the rapid evolution of digital banking and electronic evidence in India.

USE: technology-neutral legal admissibility digital banking modernization legislative reform

TRANSPARENCY, ACCOUNTABILITY &amp; RTI

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M

6 Aug · NDTV · satyadheesh.in/news/97577

## The Central Consumer Protection Authority (CCPA) fined nine digital platforms, including Zepto

**WHY IN NEWS** The Central Consumer Protection Authority (CCPA) imposed fines on nine digital platforms for employing 'dark patterns' to mislead consumers.

|      |                                                                                                  |
|------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| BODY | CCPA: Central Consumer Protection Authority is the regulatory body for consumer rights in India. |
| FACT | Zepto was fined Rs 7 lakh for drip pricing and automatic membership additions.                   |
| FACT | BookMyShow was flagged for 'basket sneaking' involving a pre-ticked Rs 1 donation.               |
| FACT | Total penalties collected from the nine platforms reached Rs 20 lakh.                            |

**MAINS Q** Discuss the challenges posed by 'dark patterns' in the digital economy and evaluate the role of the CCPA in ensuring consumer protection.

USE: dark patterns consumer protection regulatory oversight digital economy transparency

E-GOVERNANCE &amp; CITIZEN SERVICES

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M

6 Aug · NDTV · satyadheesh.in/news/97796

## India cuts unlawful content removal time to 3 hours for platforms

**WHY IN NEWS** The Indian government mandated a drastic reduction in the timeline for social media platforms to remove unlawful content and introduced mandatory AI-content labelling to combat deepfakes.

|      |                                                                                         |
|------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| FACT | Timeline for removing unlawful content reduced from 36 hours to 3 hours.                |
| FACT | Timeline for sensitive cases (nudity/impersonation) reduced to 2 hours.                 |
| FACT | Mandatory AI-content labelling and deepfake tagging for large platforms.                |
| FACT | Threshold for mandatory automated detection tools is platforms with over 50 lakh users. |

**MAINS Q** Discuss the challenges and necessity of balancing freedom of speech with the regulation of digital platforms to curb the spread of unlawful content and deepfakes in India.

USE: Digital Sovereignty Content Moderation Deepfakes Algorithmic Accountability Regulatory Compliance

## According to the World Bank and WHO, per capita public

**WHY IN NEWS** The World Bank and WHO highlighted a significant decline in per capita public health spending and development assistance in LMICs following the COVID-19 pandemic.

- FACT** | OECD predicts health funding could drop up to 60% from its 2022 peak.
- FACT** | The US announced a 67% cut to its foreign assistance programme in early 2025.
- BODY** | DAH (Development Assistance for Health) peaked during the COVID-19 pandemic.

**MAINS Q** Discuss the challenges faced by low- and middle-income countries in maintaining public health infrastructure amidst declining international development assistance.

**USE:** Development Assistance for Health (DAH) LMICs Public Health Spending Global Health Governance Fiscal Sustainability

## Heatstroke kills 20, 4853 cases reported since March 1: Rai

**WHY IN NEWS** The Ministry of Home Affairs reported significant heatstroke fatalities and cases, highlighting the increasing impact of heatwaves as a natural calamity.

- FACT** | 4,853 heatstroke cases and 20 deaths reported nationwide since March 1.
- FACT** | Maharashtra recorded 11 deaths; Telangana recorded 915 cases.
- BODY** | SDRF (State Disaster Response Fund) and NDRF (National Disaster Response Fund) provide coverage for heatwaves.
- FACT** | Heatwaves and lightning are officially classified as natural calamities for disaster fund coverage.

**MAINS Q** Discuss the growing threat of heatwaves in India as a climate-induced disaster and evaluate the adequacy of current disaster management frameworks in addressing heat-related health crises.

**USE:** climate change public health disaster management SDRF heatwave

## NEET-UG may shift to computer tests after paper leak scandal, task force formed

**WHY IN NEWS** The Education Ministry is considering transitioning the NEET-UG exam to Computer Based Testing (CBT) following a paper leak scandal and the formation of a task force led by Nandan Nilekani.

- BODY** | National Medical Commission (NMC) is the regulatory body for medical education in India
- FACT** | Over 22 lakh candidates are registered for the NEET-UG exam
- POST** | Nandan Nilekani is the chairperson of the task force formed to review NEET-UG testing methods

**MAINS Q** Discuss the challenges and benefits of transitioning large-scale national entrance examinations to Computer Based Testing (CBT) to ensure integrity and transparency.

**USE:** Transparency Digital Divide Integrity Standardization E-governance

## 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.

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

**MAINS Q** 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](#) [Educational Equity](#)

## India's Defence Minister OKs career reforms for women in Indian Coast Guard

**WHY IN NEWS** Defence Minister Rajnath Singh approved reforms granting permanent career opportunities and retirement benefits to women officers in the Indian Coast Guard (ICG).

- POST** | Rajnath Singh: Current Minister of Defence of India
- FACT** | Indian Coast Guard (ICG) is a maritime law enforcement agency under the Ministry of Defence
- FACT** | Permanent Commission: A career status providing lifelong tenure and retirement benefits to commissioned officers

**MAINS Q** Discuss the significance of granting Permanent Commission to women in uniformed services in achieving gender parity and strengthening national security.

**USE:** [Gender Parity](#) [Permanent Commission](#) [Uniformed Services](#) [Institutional Reform](#) [Judicial Intervention](#)

## The second phase of the Census in Ladakh, starting August 17

**WHY IN NEWS** The second phase of the Census in Ladakh starting August 17 includes a first-of-its-kind open-ended column for caste enumeration in India.

- FACT** | The census in Ladakh includes questions on 40 different parameters.
- FACT** | The pre-test for caste enumeration was conducted across 16 States and Union Territories.
- FACT** | This marks the first time since independence that India will enumerate caste in its census.

**MAINS Q** Discuss the significance of caste enumeration in the census for inclusive policy formulation and social justice in India.

**USE:** [Social Justice](#) [Data-driven Governance](#) [Demographic Mapping](#) [Inclusive Development](#)

Hamas Demands Withdrawal First, Israel Insists on Disarming: Standoff Threatens Trump’s Gaza Peace Plan

**WHY IN NEWS** A diplomatic standoff has emerged between Israel and Hamas regarding the sequence of disarmament and troop withdrawal, threatening the viability of the US-brokered Gaza peace plan.

|           |                                                                               |
|-----------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| INTL. ORG | ISF: Proposed International Stabilization Force to oversee security in Gaza.  |
| FACT      | The peace plan is a US-brokered initiative aimed at ending the Gaza conflict. |
| PLACE     | Gaza: Territory currently under conflict between Israel and Hamas.            |

**MAINS Q** Analyze the challenges in establishing a multi-lateral security framework in conflict zones like Gaza. How can international mediation ensure sustainable peace?

USE:

diplomatic standoff

security dilemma

multilateralism

peace mediation

stabilization force

Modi to visit Kyrgyzstan, Uzbekistan for SCO Summit, bilateral talks

**WHY IN NEWS** PM Modi’s visit to Kyrgyzstan and Uzbekistan to attend the SCO Summit and hold bilateral talks to strengthen India's strategic and economic footprint in Central Asia.

|           |                                                                                                  |
|-----------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| INTL. ORG | SCO: Shanghai Cooperation Organisation is a Eurasian political, economic, and security alliance. |
| PLACE     | Kyrgyzstan and Uzbekistan are landlocked countries in Central Asia.                              |
| FACT      | The visit focuses on four key pillars: trade, defence, connectivity, and investment.             |

**MAINS Q** Discuss the significance of the Shanghai Cooperation Organisation (SCO) in shaping India's strategic engagement with Central Asia.

USE:

strategic footprint

geopolitical competition

bilateral ties

connectivity

multilateralism

Bangladesh marks two years since student protests ousted Sheikh Hasina's government

**WHY IN NEWS** Bangladesh is marking the second anniversary of the student-led protests that ousted Sheikh Hasina, leading to a diplomatic reset between India and the new government under PM Tarique Rahman.

|       |                                                                                          |
|-------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| PLACE | Sheikh Hasina fled to India on August 05, 2024, following the ousting of her government. |
| POST  | Tarique Rahman is the current Prime Minister of Bangladesh.                              |
| FACT  | The new Bangladesh government has invited PM Modi to BRICS.                              |
| PLACE | Gana Bhavan is the official residence of the former Prime Minister of Bangladesh.        |

**MAINS Q** Analyze the impact of internal political shifts in Bangladesh on India's 'Neighborhood First' policy and the security dynamics of the Northeast region.

USE:

bilateral relations

geopolitical shift

neighborhood first

sovereignty

diplomatic reset

## Iran, Oman Close to Finalizing Strait of Hormuz Reopening Agreement

**WHY IN NEWS** Iran and Oman are nearing an agreement on shipping routes in the Strait of Hormuz to ensure safe navigation for global oil supplies.

- PLACE** | Strait of Hormuz: Connects the Persian Gulf with the Gulf of Oman.
- FACT** | The Strait of Hormuz is a primary maritime corridor for global oil and liquefied natural gas (LNG) exports.
- S&T** | Maritime security in the strait involves monitoring of shipping lanes and coastal state rights.

**MAINS Q** Discuss the significance of the Strait of Hormuz in global energy security and the implications of maritime navigation rights for regional stability.

**USE:** Chokepoint Energy Security Maritime Navigation Geopolitics

## 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.

- PLACE** | Moreh is a key border town in Manipur, India, serving as a starting point for the Trilateral Highway.
- PLACE** | Mae Sot is a major border town in Thailand, serving as the terminus for the Trilateral Highway.
- FACT** | The Trilateral Highway was first conceptualized in 2002.
- S&T** | The project aims to link India, Myanmar, and Thailand to enhance regional trade and connectivity.

**MAINS Q** 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

## 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.

- PLACE** | Long Ju: A strategic location along the Line of Actual Control (LAC) and a flashpoint since 1959.
- PLACE** | Thag La: A high-altitude mountain pass where opening battles between Indian and Chinese forces occurred in 1962.
- PLACE** | Jairampur: A logistics hub in Changlang district serving as a gateway to the eastern border and Myanmar frontier.
- BODY** | Survey of India: The national survey agency of India responsible for mapping and geographical data.

**MAINS Q** 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 revisionism

## India's Defence Minister Moves to Join France-Led 6G Fighter Aircraft Program Amid Parliamentary Push

**WHY IN NEWS** India's Defence Minister is exploring joining the France-led Future Combat Air System (FCAS) to acquire 6th-generation fighter aircraft.

- S&T** | 6th-generation fighter aircraft: Advanced aircraft featuring AI, autonomous systems, and advanced sensors.
- POST** | Minister of Defence: The cabinet minister responsible for the Ministry of Defence (MoD).
- FACT** | FCAS: A collaborative aerospace project led by France and Germany.

**MAINS Q** Discuss the significance of joining international aerospace consortia for India's defence capabilities and the implications for 'Atmanirbhar Bharat' in the aerospace sector.

**USE:** Strategic Autonomy Defence Cooperation Technological Sovereignty Joint Development

## Russian strikes near Kyiv kill three, including a child, as US tightens sanctions

**WHY IN NEWS** Russia's strikes on Kyiv and the US Senate's new sanctions on Russian energy exports highlight the escalating geopolitical and economic pressure in the Ukraine conflict.

- FACT** | Boryspil is a district near Kyiv, Ukraine, known for its international airport.
- FACT** | The US Senate is the upper house of the United States Congress responsible for approving international sanctions.
- FACT** | Energy exports are a primary source of revenue for the Russian economy.

**MAINS Q** Discuss the impact of economic sanctions on global energy markets and their effectiveness in altering the geopolitical dynamics of the Russia-Ukraine conflict.

**USE:** geopolitical tension economic sanctions energy security sovereignty

## Modi inaugurates ₹5,640 crore Bhogapuram airport with 5 MW solar power plant

**WHY IN NEWS** PM Modi inaugurated the Alluri Sitharama Raju International Airport at Bhogapuram, highlighting the integration of AI and renewable energy in aviation infrastructure.

- PLACE** | Bhogapuram International Airport is located in Andhra Pradesh
- FACT** | The project cost for the airport is ₹5,640 crore
- FACT** | The airport includes a 5 MW solar power plant for sustainable operations
- FACT** | The airport is designed to handle 6 million passengers annually

**MAINS Q** Discuss how the integration of sustainable infrastructure and AI technologies in aviation can drive regional economic development and tourism in India.

**USE:** Public-Private Partnership Sustainable Infrastructure Regional Connectivity Economic Development

## BRICS Summit: Xi Jinping, Putin set to attend in New Delhi next week

**WHY IN NEWS** India is hosting the 18th BRICS Summit in New Delhi, marking a significant multilateral engagement before passing the chairmanship to China in 2026.

|           |                                                                                                      |
|-----------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| INTL. ORG | BRICS: A multilateral grouping of 11 member nations (as of 2026) including India, China, and Russia. |
| PLACE     | New Delhi: Host city for the 18th BRICS Summit.                                                      |
| FACT      | India's previous BRICS chairmanships occurred in 2012, 2016, and 2021.                               |
| FACT      | China is scheduled to take over the BRICS chairmanship from India in late 2026.                      |

**MAINS Q** Discuss the significance of BRICS as a platform for the Global South and evaluate India's role in shaping the bloc's agenda during its chairmanship.

USE: [Multilateralism](#) [Global South](#) [Strategic Autonomy](#) [Economic Cooperation](#) [Geopolitics](#)

## Turkish FM: New Mecca Pact Mirrors NATO's Article 5, Aims to Counter Aggression

**WHY IN NEWS** Turkish FM Hakan Fidan announced the 'Mecca Joint Defence Agreement' between Turkey, Pakistan, and Saudi Arabia, modeled after NATO's Article 5.

|           |                                                                                                                             |
|-----------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| INTL. ORG | NATO Article 5: The principle of collective defense where an attack against one member is considered an attack against all. |
| FACT      | The Mecca Joint Defence Agreement was under development for approximately 32 months (two years and eight months).           |
| PLACE     | Saudi Arabia: Host country for the alliance's general secretariat.                                                          |

**MAINS Q** Analyze the implications of emerging regional collective security pacts in the Middle East and South Asia on the existing global security architecture.

USE: [Collective Security](#) [Geopolitical Alignment](#) [Regional Hegemony](#) [Defense Cooperation](#)

## U.S. Vice-President J.D. Vance Calls PM Modi to Deepen India-U.S. Ties

**WHY IN NEWS** U.S. Vice-President J.D. Vance contacted PM Modi to discuss deepening bilateral cooperation in trade, defense, and energy security.

|      |                                                                                                         |
|------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| POST | J.D. Vance: Vice-President of the United States                                                         |
| FACT | Key areas of cooperation: Trade, defense, energy security, emerging technologies, and critical minerals |
| FACT | Contextual factor: Mutual defense pact between Türkiye, Saudi Arabia, and Pakistan                      |

**MAINS Q** Discuss the significance of India-U.S. cooperation in critical minerals and emerging technologies in the context of shifting global geopolitical dynamics.

USE: [Strategic Partnership](#) [Critical Minerals](#) [Energy Security](#) [Geopolitical Alignment](#)

## Economy

6

MONETARY POLICY, RBI &amp; BANKING

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3 REPORTS MERGED

6 Aug · NDTV · [satyadheesh.in/news/97792](https://satyadheesh.in/news/97792)**Lok Sabha passes Bill to allow fees on UPI and other electronic payments**

**WHY IN NEWS** The Lok Sabha passed a Bill to amend the Payment and Settlement Systems Act, 2007, to allow banks and providers to levy fees on UPI and electronic payments.

|            |                                                                                                                     |
|------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| ACT / BILL | Payment and Settlement Systems Act, 2007: Governs the framework for electronic payment systems in India.            |
| FACT       | MDR (Merchant Discount Rate): A fee paid by a merchant to a bank or payment processor for processing a transaction. |
| BODY       | Lok Sabha: The lower house of the Parliament of India passed the bill via voice vote.                               |

**MAINS Q** Discuss the implications of removing MDR exemptions on UPI for the growth of the digital economy and the sustainability of the fintech ecosystem in India.

USE: Merchant Discount Rate (MDR) Digital Infrastructure Sustainable Revenue Model Fintech Ecosystem Payment Settlement Systems

MONETARY POLICY, RBI &amp; BANKING

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7 Aug · Economic Times · [satyadheesh.in/news/98034](https://satyadheesh.in/news/98034)**Bajaj Finance, Bajaj Finserv shares fall up to 5% on RBI's new proposal for NBFCs**

**WHY IN NEWS** The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) issued a circular restricting Non-Banking Financial Companies (NBFCs) from offering revolving credit products like credit cards to safeguard financial stability.

|      |                                                                                                                    |
|------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| BODY | RBI: The central bank of India responsible for regulating the monetary system and NBFCs.                           |
| FACT | NBFCs: Non-Banking Financial Companies provide banking services but do not hold a full banking license.            |
| FACT | Revolving Credit: A type of credit where the borrower can reuse the funds as they are repaid (e.g., credit cards). |

**MAINS Q** Discuss the role of the Reserve Bank of India in regulating Non-Banking Financial Companies (NBFCs) to ensure systemic financial stability and protect consumers.

USE: systemic risk monetary regulation financial stability credit cycle regulatory framework

MONETARY POLICY, RBI &amp; BANKING

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7 Aug · NDTV · [satyadheesh.in/news/98076](https://satyadheesh.in/news/98076)**RBI Restricts Loan Recovery Calls to 8 am-7 pm, Bans Threats and Online Harassment**

**WHY IN NEWS** The RBI introduced new guidelines to regulate loan recovery practices to protect borrowers from harassment and ensure ethical debt collection.

|      |                                                                                                   |
|------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| BODY | RBI: The central bank of India responsible for regulating the banking sector and monetary policy. |
| FACT | Recovery calls are restricted to the time window of 8 am to 7 pm.                                 |
| FACT | A one-day prior notice is mandatory before any physical visit by recovery agents.                 |
| FACT | Banks are mandated to record all calls made by recovery agents.                                   |

**MAINS Q** Discuss how the RBI's new loan recovery guidelines balance the rights of financial institutions to recover debts with the protection of borrowers' dignity and privacy.

USE: consumer protection regulatory framework ethical banking debt recovery privacy rights

## 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.

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

**MAINS Q** 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 Foreign Institutional Investors

## U.S. LPG supply to India soars to 67%, up from 10% target

**WHY IN NEWS** Petroleum Minister Hardeep Singh Puri announced that U.S. LPG imports have surged to 67% of India's total, significantly exceeding the initial 10% diversification target.

|       |                                                                                         |
|-------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| FACT  | U.S. LPG supply to India currently stands at 67%.                                       |
| PLACE | Strait of Hormuz: A critical maritime chokepoint for oil and gas transit.               |
| FACT  | Domestic LPG production capacity increased to 55,000 metric tonnes daily during crisis. |

**MAINS Q** Discuss the strategic importance of diversifying energy import sources for India's energy security and economic stability.

USE: Energy Security Diversification Strategic Reserves Supply Chain Resilience

## Indian government clarifies: UPI person-to-person transactions will remain free

**WHY IN NEWS** The Indian government clarified that person-to-person UPI transactions will remain free to ensure the sustainability of the digital payment ecosystem.

|            |                                                                                                                         |
|------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| BODY       | NPCI (National Payments Corporation of India) is the body responsible for overseeing UPI operations.                    |
| ACT / BILL | Payment and Settlement Systems Act, 2007 is the primary legislation governing electronic payment systems in India.      |
| FACT       | MDR (Merchant Discount Rate) is the fee paid by a merchant to a bank or payment processor for processing a transaction. |

**MAINS Q** Discuss the significance of the Unified Payments Interface (UPI) in promoting financial inclusion and the challenges of ensuring its long-term fiscal sustainability.

USE: Financial Inclusion Digital Public Infrastructure Merchant Discount Rate Sustainable Ecosystem Payment Systems

## ICRISAT secures CRISPR rights to boost crop yields, ease India's food security

**WHY IN NEWS** ICRISAT secured CRISPR Cas9 rights from Corteva and The Broad Institute to enhance crop yields and resilience in pulses and sorghum to bolster food security.

- S&T** | CRISPR Cas9: A gene-editing tool that allows precise changes to DNA sequences.
- BODY** | ICRISAT: An international research organization focused on improving agriculture in dry-land regions.
- FACT** | Target crops for the technology include chickpea, pigeon pea, and sorghum.

**MAINS Q** How can gene-editing technologies like CRISPR contribute to achieving India's food security goals while ensuring sustainable agricultural practices?

**USE:** Food Security Gene Editing CRISPR Cas9 Agricultural Innovation Crop Resilience

## Science & Technology

## NEET Overhaul: Centre Proposes AI, Blockchain, and 10-Year Jail Terms to Curb Exam Leaks

**WHY IN NEWS** The Centre proposed a technological overhaul of the NEET exam using AI and Blockchain to curb paper leaks and strengthened legal penalties for fraud.

- S&T** | Blockchain: A decentralized, distributed ledger technology used here to ensure data integrity and prevent tampering.
- S&T** | AI: Artificial Intelligence proposed to monitor and secure the examination process.
- FACT** | The proposed legal penalty for examination fraud includes up to 10 years of imprisonment and a fine of Rs 1 crore.
- BODY** | NTA: National Testing Agency is the body responsible for conducting the NEET exam.

**MAINS Q** Discuss how the integration of emerging technologies like Blockchain and AI can enhance the integrity of large-scale competitive examinations in India.

**USE:** technological integrity deterrence institutional memory blockchain security regulatory overhaul

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

**WHY IN NEWS** India's defence exports reached a record high of Rs 38,424 crore in FY26, signaling a shift toward exporting high-tech autonomous systems and drones.

- FACT** | India's defence exports reached Rs 38,424 crore in FY26.
- FACT** | Exports were made to over 80 countries and involved 145 exporters.
- S&T** | Key export products include KAL drones, precision munitions, electronics, and autonomous systems.

**MAINS Q** Discuss the significance of India's growing defence exports in achieving the vision of 'Atmanirbhar Bharat' and its implications for India's position in the global arms market.

**USE:** Atmanirbhar Bharat Defence Diplomacy Autonomous Systems Strategic Autonomy Export Growth

## 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.

- S&T** | Bacteriophages: Viruses that specifically infect and replicate within bacteria.
- S&T** | Evo 1 and Evo 2: AI models developed for computational biology to identify evolutionary patterns.
- FACT** | The study involved the creation of 16 new functional viruses based on genetic sequences from millions of organisms.
- S&T** | Phi X-174: A bacteriophage used as a reference for infecting Escherichia coli (E. coli).

**MAINS Q** 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](#) [biotechnology](#)

## India's Defence Committee Demands Roadmap for Sixth-Generation Fighter Aircraft

**WHY IN NEWS** The Parliamentary Standing Committee on Defence requested a roadmap from the MoD for developing sixth-generation fighter aircraft to ensure India's technological edge.

- BODY** | Parliamentary Standing Committee on Defence: A committee of the Lok Sabha/Rajya Sabha to oversee defense expenditures and policies.
- FACT** | Sixth-generation aircraft: Next-generation combat aircraft featuring advanced AI, stealth, and multi-domain capabilities.
- POST** | Ministry of Defence (MoD): The central ministry responsible for the country's defense capabilities and procurement.

**MAINS Q** Discuss the significance of indigenous development of sixth-generation fighter aircraft in ensuring India's strategic autonomy and technological leadership in defense.

**USE:** [Strategic Autonomy](#) [Indigenization](#) [Technological Edge](#) [Defense Procurement](#) [Future Combat Air System](#)

## India Unveils First Privately Built 800 kN FFSC Rocket Engine, Joining Elite Global Club

**WHY IN NEWS** Astrobase Space Technologies unveiled India's first privately built 800 kN FFSC rocket engine, making India the fourth nation to possess this technology.

- S&T** | FFSC: Full-Flow Staged Combustion is a high-efficiency rocket engine cycle.
- FACT** | India is the 4th nation to possess FFSC technology, joining Russia, USA, and China.
- S&T** | The EVEREST engine utilizes LOX (Liquid Oxygen) and Methane as propellants.
- PLACE** | Astrobase Space Technologies is headquartered in Bengaluru.

**MAINS Q** Discuss the significance of private sector participation in India's space exploration and its role in achieving self-reliance in high-end aerospace technologies.

**USE:** [SpaceTech](#) [FFSC technology](#) [Self-reliance](#) [Private participation](#) [Aerospace innovation](#)

## Meta Assures India It Will Tackle Deepfakes, Child Abuse Content in Compliance Talks

**WHY IN NEWS** The Indian government held compliance talks with Meta to ensure its recommendation systems and content promotion align with the IT Act regarding deepfakes and child abuse material.

**S&T** Deepfakes: Synthetic media in which a person in an existing image or video is replaced with someone else's likeness.

**ACT / BILL** Information Technology (IT) Act: The primary law in India dealing with cybercrime and electronic commerce.

**FACT** Meta's status as an 'intermediary' subjects it to specific liabilities regarding third-party content hosted on its platform.

**MAINS Q** Discuss the challenges posed by synthetic media and deepfakes in the digital era. How can India balance the protection of individual rights with the need for robust regulatory oversight of social media intermediaries?

**USE:** [Intermediary liability](#) [Synthetic media](#) [Digital governance](#) [Algorithmic accountability](#) [Cybersecurity](#)

## Environment & Ecology

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## Supreme Court: Mining Ban within 10 km of Asan Wetland Applies Nationwide

**WHY IN NEWS** The Supreme Court ruled that the mining ban within 10 km of the Asan wetland conservation reserve applies nationwide to ensure parity across similar reserves.

**PLACE** Asan wetland conservation reserve is located in Uttarakhand.

**BODY** National Board of Wildlife (NBWL) is the body responsible for wildlife conservation and management.

**FACT** The mining ban applies within a 10 km radius of the wetland conservation reserve.

**MAINS Q** Discuss the significance of judicial activism in ensuring the protection of ecologically sensitive zones and the importance of uniform environmental regulations across India.

**USE:** [Judicial Activism](#) [Ecologically Sensitive Zones](#) [Environmental Parity](#) [Biodiversity Conservation](#)

## Global Warming Accelerates: Could Exceed 1.5°C Limit by 2030

**WHY IN NEWS** A study by NASA and other agencies warns that global warming is accelerating significantly, potentially breaching the Paris Agreement's 1.5°C limit by 2030.

**S&T** Paris Agreement: International treaty aimed at limiting global warming to well below 2°C, preferably 1.5°C.

**FACT** The study identifies a significant acceleration in global warming starting around 2013–2014.

**S&T** El Niño: A climate pattern describing the unusual warming of surface waters in the eastern tropical Pacific Ocean.

**MAINS Q** Discuss the implications of accelerated global warming on India's climate goals and the necessity of transitioning to low-carbon economies to meet the Paris Agreement targets.

**USE:** [climate mitigation](#) [Paris Agreement](#) [carbon footprint](#) [anthropogenic warming](#)

NATURAL DISASTERS & RESPONSE

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4 REPORTS MERGED

8 Aug · NDTV · [satyadheesh.in/news/99026](https://satyadheesh.in/news/99026)

## Floods in Assam Kill 98, Affect Over 1.55 Lakh; CM Promises Relief

**WHY IN NEWS** Severe flooding in Assam has caused significant casualties and displacement, prompting a government-led damage assessment for rapid rehabilitation.

**PLACE** | Assam: State in Northeast India frequently affected by annual floods from the Brahmaputra River.

**FACT** | Death toll: 98; Affected population: Over 1.55 lakh.

**PLACE** | Charaideo, Golaghat, and Sivasagar: Districts specifically highlighted as severely impacted.

**MAINS Q** Discuss the challenges in flood management in the Brahmaputra basin and suggest measures for enhancing disaster resilience in Northeast India.

**USE:** disaster management climate resilience rehabilitation mitigation vulnerability

# Internal Security

CYBER SECURITY

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2 REPORTS MERGED

4 Aug · NDTV · [satyadheesh.in/news/96669](https://satyadheesh.in/news/96669)

## SOPs, Compensation Framework: Top Court's New Directions On 'Digital Arrest'

**WHY IN NEWS** The Supreme Court directed the RBI and State governments to establish SOPs, coordination centres, and compensation frameworks to combat 'digital arrest' and cyber-enabled financial frauds.

**BODY** | RBI: The central bank of India responsible for monetary policy and banking regulation.

**BODY** | I4C: Indian Cyber Crime Coordination Centre, a nodal agency for cybercrime management.

**FACT** | e-Zero FIR: A mechanism allowing victims to file a first information report (FIR) online regardless of the location of the crime.

**POST** | CJI: Chief Justice of India, the highest judicial office in the country.

**MAINS Q** Discuss the challenges in curbing cyber-enabled financial frauds in India and suggest measures to strengthen the legal and institutional framework for victim protection.

**USE:** cyber-enabled fraud digital arrest SOP grievance redressal e-Zero FIR

BORDER MANAGEMENT

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2 REPORTS MERGED

8 Aug · NDTV · [satyadheesh.in/news/98537](https://satyadheesh.in/news/98537)

## Centre Forms High-Level Committee to Study Illegal Immigration Led by Justice Navlekar

**WHY IN NEWS** The Union Cabinet approved a High-Level Committee led by Justice Navlekar to study illegal immigration and demographic changes to strengthen border management.

**POST** | Justice Prakash Prabhakar Navlekar: Chairperson of the High-Level Committee on Demographic Change.

**FACT** | The committee's report is due within one year, with a possible six-month extension.

**PLACE** | Jammu: Site of the committee's initial three-day study visit (August 10-12, 2025).

**MAINS Q** Discuss the challenges posed by illegal immigration on India's demographic profile and suggest measures to strengthen border management and national security.

**USE:** demographic change border management illegal immigration national security deportation mechanisms

## SSB reserves 50% constable posts for ex-Agniveers, sparks recruitment drive

**WHY IN NEWS** The Sashastra Seema Bal (SSB) notified new recruitment rules reserving 50% of Constable (General Duty) posts for ex-Agniveers to integrate them into border security forces.

- BODY** | Sashastra Seema Bal (SSB) is a Central Armed Police Force (CAPF) under the Ministry of Home Affairs.
- FACT** | 50% of Constable (General Duty) posts in SSB are reserved for ex-Agniveers.
- POST** | Nityanand Rai serves as the Union Minister of State for Home.

**MAINS Q** Discuss the implications of integrating ex-Agniveers into Central Armed Police Forces (CAPF) regarding operational efficiency and the long-term career security of personnel.

**USE:** [Agnivee Scheme](#) [Central Armed Police Forces](#) [Human Resource Management](#) [Border Security](#) [Recruitment Policy](#)

## Maharashtra bans 114 extremist items linked to ISIS, Al Qaeda

**WHY IN NEWS** The Maharashtra government banned 114 extremist items linked to ISIS and Al Qaeda to curb the promotion of violent extremism and protect internal security.

- BODY** | ATS: State Anti-Terrorism Squad is the primary agency for investigating terror-related crimes in Maharashtra.
- FACT** | 114 items including magazines and books were banned by the Maharashtra government.
- FACT** | The ban targets literature linked to ISIS and Al Qaeda.

**MAINS Q** Discuss the role of state-level security agencies in countering the influence of global terrorist ideologies and radicalization in India.

**USE:** [violent extremism](#) [internal security](#) [radicalization](#) [sovereignty](#) [counter-terrorism](#)

## Dedicated team fast-tracks military theatre commands as CDS Raja Subramani takes charge

**WHY IN NEWS** The government has formed a dedicated team to fast-track the operationalisation of military theatre commands to create an integrated war-fighting structure.

- POST** | Chief of Defence Staff (CDS): A tri-service position responsible for providing military advice to the government.
- BODY** | Standing Committee on Defence: A parliamentary committee tasked with examining the ministry's expenditures and policies.
- FACT** | Theatre Commands: A structural shift to unify the Army, Navy, and Air Force under a single operational command for specific geographical areas.

**MAINS Q** Discuss the significance of theatre commands in enhancing India's jointmanship and integrated war-fighting capabilities in a contemporary security landscape.

**USE:** [Jointmanship](#) [Theatre Commands](#) [Operational Integration](#) [Tri-service synergy](#) [Strategic Autonomy](#)



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