

**Current Affairs • Week 33 • 10 Aug – 16 Aug 2026****17 min**

READING TIME

10

KEY STORIES

36

IN BRIEF

2

MAINS QUESTIONS

GS1 • 4

GS2 • 21

GS3 • 25

PAPER MIX

01 – THE WEEK IN 2 MINUTES

The 6 stories you can't skip**1 Lok Sabha Passes Tribunals Reforms Bill 2026 Amid Protests**

Why it matters: The Lok Sabha passed the Tribunals Reforms Bill, 2026, which seeks to establish a National Tribunals Commission to ensure independence in tribunal appointments.

GS2 • POLITY & CONSTITUTION

P

M

2 Census Overhaul: Modi Approves Full Caste Enumeration for All Respondents

Why it matters: The Registrar General of India notified a major overhaul in the Census methodology, including full caste enumeration for all respondents, approved by the Cabinet Committee on Political Affairs.

GS2 • POLITY & CONSTITUTION

P

M

3 Census 2027: India Expands Questionnaire to 40, Adding Caste Beyond 29 Categories

Why it matters: The Census 2027 will expand its questionnaire to 40 questions, including a shift to recording caste information from all respondents beyond the previous 29 categories.

GS1 • INDIAN SOCIETY

P

M

4 Bill Strips States of Mineral Tax Power, Leaving 11 Affected Regions in Fiscal Limbo

Why it matters: The Lok Sabha passed the Mines and Minerals (Development and Regulation) Amendment Bill, 2026, which restricts states' power to tax mineral rights, impacting federal fiscal autonomy.

GS3 • ECONOMY

P

M

5 NASA Invites ISRO to Join Moon Base Program Near Lunar South Pole

Why it matters: NASA invited ISRO to join its Moon Base programme near the lunar South Pole during the 9th India-U.S.

GS2 • INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS

P

M

6 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

What to know, in 60 seconds each

10 of 254 notes · picked for exam value

GS2 · POLITY & CONSTITUTION

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Lok Sabha Passes Tribunals Reforms Bill 2026 Amid Protests

Why in news: The Lok Sabha passed the Tribunals Reforms Bill, 2026, which seeks to establish a National Tribunals Commission to ensure independence in tribunal appointments.

REMEMBER

- Tribunals Reforms Bill, 2026 aims to establish a National Tribunals Commission.
- The National Tribunals Commission will comprise a chairperson and four members (2 judicial, 2 technical).
- The bill seeks to improve efficiency and independence in tribunal appointments.

MAINS ANGLE Discuss the significance of establishing an independent commission for tribunal appointments in ensuring the rule of law and judicial efficiency in India.

USE: Judicial independence Administrative efficiency

Separation of powers Statutory bodies

Full note → satyadheesh.in/news/100762

GS1 · INDIAN SOCIETY

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Census 2027: India Expands Questionnaire to 40, Adding Caste Beyond 29 Categories

Why in news: The Census 2027 will expand its questionnaire to 40 questions, including a shift to recording caste information from all respondents beyond the previous 29 categories.

REMEMBER

- Census 2027 questionnaire expanded to 40 questions.
- Caste information will be recorded from all respondents for the first time since Independence.
- The new system moves beyond the previous 29 caste categories to an open-column approach.

MAINS ANGLE Discuss the significance of comprehensive caste data collection in the Census for inclusive policymaking and social justice in India.

USE: Demographic data Inclusive policymaking Social justice

Data-driven governance

Full note → satyadheesh.in/news/104718

GS2 · POLITY & CONSTITUTION

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Census Overhaul: Modi Approves Full Caste Enumeration for All Respondents

Why in news: The Registrar General of India notified a major overhaul in the Census methodology, including full caste enumeration for all respondents, approved by the Cabinet Committee on Political Affairs.

REMEMBER

- Census Act, 1948: The primary legislation governing the conduct of the census in India.
- Registrar General of India: The primary authority responsible for the census and demographic data collection.
- Full caste enumeration: A shift from only enumerating Scheduled Castes and Tribes to including all respondents.

MAINS ANGLE Discuss the significance of comprehensive caste enumeration in the Census for inclusive policy formulation and social justice in India.

USE: Demographic profiling Social justice Data-driven policy

Inclusivity

Full note → satyadheesh.in/news/104302

GS3 · ECONOMY

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Bill Strips States of Mineral Tax Power, Leaving 11 Affected Regions in Fiscal Limbo

Why in news: The Lok Sabha passed the Mines and Minerals (Development and Regulation) Amendment Bill, 2026, which restricts states' power to tax mineral rights, impacting federal fiscal autonomy.

REMEMBER

- Mines and Minerals (Development and Regulation) Amendment Bill, 2026
- The bill affects 11 states including Jharkhand, Odisha, Chhattisgarh, West Bengal, Bihar, Uttar Pradesh, Rajasthan, Andhra Pradesh, Telangana, Karnataka, and Madhya Pradesh.
- The bill nullifies mineral tax arrears dating back to 2005.

MAINS ANGLE Discuss the implications of the Mines and Minerals (Development and Regulation) Amendment Bill, 2026, on the fiscal federalism and revenue-sharing dynamics between the Centre and States.

USE: Fiscal Federalism Revenue Autonomy Mineral Rights

Centralization

Full note → satyadheesh.in/news/103926

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

Why in news: NASA invited ISRO to join its Moon Base programme near the lunar South Pole during the 9th India–U.S. Civil Space Joint Working Group meeting.

REMEMBER

- Artemis Accords: A multilateral agreement for cooperation in civil space exploration.
- TRUST Initiative: A U.S.–India initiative focused on space cooperation.
- ISRO Chairman: V. Narayanan (as of the meeting date).

MAINS ANGLE Discuss the significance of the Artemis Accords and bilateral space cooperation in establishing India as a leading global space power.

USE: Space Diplomacy Strategic Partnership
Lunar Exploration Technological Collaboration

Full note → satyadheesh.in/news/101829

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

Supreme Court rules direct communication essential for every arrest in India

Why in news: The Supreme Court ruled in *Vihaan Kumar v. State of Haryana* that direct communication of arrest grounds to the individual is mandatory to prevent arbitrary use of power.

REMEMBER

- Article 22(1) guarantees the right to be informed of grounds of arrest and to consult a legal practitioner.
- Section 50 of the Code of Criminal Procedure (CrPC) mandates informing the person of the grounds of arrest.
- The Supreme Court is the highest judicial body in India, exercising judicial review over executive actions.

MAINS ANGLE Critically examine the importance of procedural safeguards during arrest in ensuring the protection of fundamental rights against arbitrary state action.

USE: Arbitrary power Procedural safeguards Due process
Judicial review

Full note → satyadheesh.in/news/103786

National Song Vande Mataram Sung Before National Anthem for First Time on Independence Day

Why in news: The Centre mandated that the National Song 'Vande Mataram' be sung before the National Anthem for the first time on Independence Day under a new amendment act.

REMEMBER

- Prevention of Insults to National Honour Act, 1971 (amended in 2026)
- Vande Mataram duration: approximately 3 minutes 10 seconds
- Vande Mataram was adopted as the National Song on its 150th anniversary in 2026

MAINS ANGLE Discuss the significance of national symbols in fostering a sense of collective identity and unity among the diverse populace of India.

USE: National Identity Cultural Heritage
Legislative Framework Symbolism

Full note → satyadheesh.in/news/103088

India Suspends Indus Waters Treaty with "Terror-Harboring" Pakistan on Independence Eve

Why in news: President Droupadi Murmu announced the suspension of the Indus Waters Treaty (IWT) with Pakistan due to cross-border terrorism.

REMEMBER

- Indus Waters Treaty (IWT): A water-sharing treaty between India and Pakistan signed in 1960.
- Operation Sindoor: A military operation cited by the President regarding the fight against terrorism.
- President Droupadi Murmu: The current President of India.

MAINS ANGLE *Discuss the implications of suspending the Indus Waters Treaty on India-Pakistan bilateral relations and regional water security.*

USE : bilateral relations water diplomacy

cross-border terrorism sovereignty

Full note → satyadheesh.in/news/104165

Amid tensions over Sheikh Hasina's press event in Delhi, Dinesh Trivedi met

Why in news: India and Bangladesh are navigating strained diplomatic ties following the transition of power in Bangladesh and tensions over Sheikh Hasina's press event in Delhi.

REMEMBER

- BIMSTEC: Bay of Bengal Initiative for Multi-Sectoral Technical and Economic Cooperation
- BRICS: An intergovernmental organization comprising Brazil, Russia, India, China, and South Africa
- Tarique Rahman is the current Prime Minister of Bangladesh

MAINS ANGLE *Discuss the evolving dynamics of India-Bangladesh relations in the wake of recent political transitions and their implications for regional security.*

USE : sovereignty extradition bilateral ties

regional stability

Full note → satyadheesh.in/news/100541

Everything else, one line each

36 more notes · full versions online

GS1 · HISTORY · SOCIETY · GEOGRAPHY

The Population Census 2027, the first digital and caste-enumerating Census in independent

The Mountbatten Plan: How June 3 sealed the Partition of India

GS2 · POLITY · GOVERNANCE · SOCIAL JUSTICE · IR

Turkey, Pakistan, Saudi Arabia Sign Mutual Defence Pact Mirroring NATO's Article 5

U.S. Report Names Pune-Gujarat-Chennai Belt in 'Great Transshipment Scam'

The United States Senate approved the Lindsey Graham Sanctioning Russia and Iran

India Races to Match China: IAC-2 Awaits Approval as Fujian Nears 2026 Operational Capabilities

Prime Minister Tarique Rahman of Bangladesh will visit India for bilateral talks

The Mines and Minerals (Development and Regulation) Amendment Bill, 2026 was passed to balance national mineral growth with federal rights over resources

President Murmu Signs Bill Criminalizing Disruption of Vande Mataram, Stirring Debate

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

Putin Orders Russia to Target NATO and EU from Within in Secret Meeting

US to warn 35 countries to choose between US-led AI initiative and China's framework

India, Russia Discuss Deep Cooperation Along Strategic Arctic Route NSR

Information and Broadcasting ministry removes 12-minute ad cap for TV channels

Supreme Court to Hear MP Rahim's Petition on Unconstitutional Facial Recognition Use Against Protesters

Iran, US in Strait of Hormuz Standoff; Talks Aim to Reopen Strait

GS3 · ECONOMY · S&T · ENVIRONMENT · SECURITY

Modi aims for 100 GW nuclear energy by 2047 in ambitious Independence Day speech

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

Supreme Court urges Kuki, Meitei groups to remove blockades on Manipur highways

Indian Army gets 84 loiter munition systems in ₹1,577 crore 'Buy Indian' deal

SEBI Allows OBPPs to Offer Products Regulated by RBI IRDAI IFSCA PFRDA

Youth Unemployment Soars to 16.2%, Young Women Face 20.7% Job Hunt Struggles

Sebi Proposes Credit Risk-o-Meter with Six Color Codes to Simplify Ratings for Investors

The Securities and Exchange Board of India plans to allow companies

NCDC's mandate expands to direct loans and grants for cooperatives without extra funding

SEBI Allows FPIs to Trade in Non-Agricultural Commodity Derivatives, Sets Strict Unwinding Rules

Reports claim Chinese troops crossed the Line of Actual Control (LAC)

Taxpayers get immunity: I-T Department launches 60% tax FAST-DS for hidden foreign wealth

According to the Maddison Project Database 2023, India's GDP per capita fell

Modi unveils AI training for one crore youth, sports hunt for 10 million kids

RBI to close FCNR(B) swaps a month earlier due to gush

Prime Minister Narendra Modi unveiled the 'Sapta Dhara' framework at Red Fort

Defence budget soars to ₹7.85 lakh crore, R&D gets 90% boost: Rajnath Singh

The CAG report, tabled in Parliament on Wednesday, revealed that the Green

DRDO faces PMO-directed reforms to become leaner and compete in AI by 2026

Magnetic snaps power 93% of corona's heat, debunking energy loss mystery

Mains questions to practise

GS2 · POLITY & CONSTITUTION

Discuss the significance of establishing an independent commission for tribunal appointments in ensuring the rule of law and judicial efficiency in India.

USE : [Judicial independence](#) [Administrative efficiency](#) [Separation of powers](#) [Statutory bodies](#) [Rule of law](#)

GS2 · POLITY & CONSTITUTION

Discuss the significance of comprehensive caste enumeration in the Census for inclusive policy formulation and social justice in India.

USE : [Demographic profiling](#) [Social justice](#) [Data-driven policy](#) [Inclusivity](#) [Census Act](#)



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