

**Current Affairs • Week 34 • 17 Aug – 23 Aug 2026****17 min**

READING TIME

10

KEY STORIES

36

IN BRIEF

2

MAINS QUESTIONS

GS2 • 30

GS3 • 20

PAPER MIX

01 – THE WEEK IN 2 MINUTES

The 6 stories you can't skip**1 Top US Diplomat Arrives In Ladakh, 1st Such Visit Since Galwan Clashes**

Why it matters: US Ambassador Sergio Gor visited Ladakh and met J&K Chief Minister, reaffirming the US stance on India's sovereignty over Kashmir amidst ongoing LAC tensions.

GS2 • INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS

P

M

2 India's Defence Minister Rajnath Singh Aligns MAHASAGAR with Japan's FOIP During New Delhi Meeting

Why it matters: Defence Minister Rajnath Singh met with Japanese counterparts to align India's MAHASAGAR vision with Japan's Free and Open Indo-Pacific (FOIP) initiative.

GS2 • INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS

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 Defence Dept Unveils List: 405 Items Worth ₹3,070 Crore to Boost Indigenous Production

Why it matters: The Department of Defence Production released the sixth Positive Indigenisation List to boost domestic manufacturing of 405 defence items worth ₹3,070 crore.

GS3 • SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY

P

M

5 Gyanesh Kumar launches Electoral Literacy Clubs 2.0 in Patna

Why it matters: Chief Election Commissioner Gyanesh Kumar launched Electoral Literacy Clubs 2.0 to promote voter awareness and democratic trust among youth.

GS2 • POLITY & CONSTITUTION

P

6 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

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

P = PRELIMS • M = MAINS

What to know, in 60 seconds each

10 of 251 notes · picked for exam value

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Top US Diplomat Arrives In Ladakh, 1st Such Visit Since Galwan Clashes

Why in news: US Ambassador Sergio Gor visited Ladakh and met J&K Chief Minister, reaffirming the US stance on India's sovereignty over Kashmir amidst ongoing LAC tensions.

REMEMBER

- Sergio Gor: US Ambassador to India and Special Envoy to South and Central Asia
- Galwan Clashes (June 2020): Resulted in the death of 20 Indian Army soldiers
- Ladakh: Became a separate Union Territory in 2019

MAINS ANGLE Analyze the significance of the US-India strategic partnership in the context of border security and regional stability in the Himalayas.

USE : strategic partnership sovereignty status quo

diplomatic signaling

Full note → satyadheesh.in/news/109250

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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

GS2 · INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS

P M

India's Defence Minister Rajnath Singh Aligns MAHASAGAR with Japan's FOIP During New Delhi Meeting

Why in news: Defence Minister Rajnath Singh met with Japanese counterparts to align India's MAHASAGAR vision with Japan's Free and Open Indo-Pacific (FOIP) initiative.

REMEMBER

- Rajnath Singh is the current Union Minister of Defence of India
- MAHASAGAR: India's maritime vision for the Indian Ocean Region
- FOIP: Japan's Free and Open Indo-Pacific initiative

MAINS ANGLE Discuss the significance of aligning India's MAHASAGAR vision with Japan's FOIP initiative in ensuring a rules-based maritime order in the Indo-Pacific region.

USE : maritime security strategic alignment Indo-Pacific

bilateral cooperation

Full note → satyadheesh.in/news/109248

GS3 · SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY

P M

Defence Dept Unveils List: 405 Items Worth ₹3,070 Crore to Boost Indigenous Production

Why in news: The Department of Defence Production released the sixth Positive Indigenisation List to boost domestic manufacturing of 405 defence items worth ₹3,070 crore.

REMEMBER

- The sixth Positive Indigenisation List comprises 405 items.
- The business potential of the listed items is estimated at ₹3,070 crore.
- The SRIJAN Defence Portal is the platform used for tracking indigenisation timelines.

MAINS ANGLE Discuss how the Positive Indigenisation List contributes to the 'Aatmanirbhar Bharat' initiative in the defence sector and its impact on India's strategic autonomy.

USE : Aatmanirbhar Bharat Indigenisation

Strategic Autonomy

Defence Manufacturing

Full note → satyadheesh.in/news/107740

Gyanesh Kumar launches Electoral Literacy Clubs 2.0 in Patna

Why in news: Chief Election Commissioner Gyanesh Kumar launched Electoral Literacy Clubs 2.0 to promote voter awareness and democratic trust among youth.

REMEMBER

- Chief Election Commissioner (CEC) is the head of the Election Commission of India (ECI).
- Electoral Literacy Clubs 2.0 aims to reach 15 lakh schools and 1,420 universities.
- The initiative focuses on building electoral literacy and trust in the democratic process.

MAINS ANGLE Discuss the significance of electoral literacy in strengthening grassroots democracy and ensuring informed participation in the Indian electoral process.

USE: electoral literacy democratic process
voter awareness digital outreach

Full note → satyadheesh.in/news/107195

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

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 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

Market Regulator Bans JPMorgan Unit From Trading Over Sensex Price Rigging

Why in news: SEBI banned a JPMorgan unit and a local firm for manipulating the BSE Sensex closing auction, highlighting vulnerabilities in the newly introduced auction-based pricing system.

REMEMBER

- SEBI: Securities and Exchange Board of India, the primary regulator for securities and capital markets in India.
- The Indian stock market is valued at approximately \$5.1 trillion.
- BSE Sensex: The benchmark index of the Bombay Stock Exchange.

MAINS ANGLE *Discuss the challenges faced by regulators in maintaining market integrity in the face of high-frequency trading and sophisticated market manipulation techniques.*

USE : market manipulation regulatory enforcement

market integrity liquidity

Full note → satyadheesh.in/news/109113

RBI Keeps Policy Rate Unchanged at 5.25% Amid Inflation Concerns

Why in news: The RBI Monetary Policy Committee kept the policy rate unchanged at 5.25% due to persistent inflation risks and projected headline inflation peaks.

REMEMBER

- RBI Policy Rate: 5.25% as of the August meeting.
- Projected headline inflation peak: 5.9% in Q3 2026-27.
- Projected core inflation: 4.3% for FY27.

MAINS ANGLE *Discuss the challenges faced by the RBI in balancing inflation control with economic growth in a volatile macroeconomic environment.*

USE : monetary policy inflation targeting policy rate

core inflation

Full note → satyadheesh.in/news/108891

Everything else, one line each

36 more notes · full versions online

GS2 · POLITY · GOVERNANCE · SOCIAL JUSTICE · IR

Border Stability, De-escalation On Agenda As National Security Advisor Ajit Doval Heads To China, To meet Chinese foreign Minister Wang Yi

Saudi Arabia, Turkey, Pakistan sign 'big first step' defence pact, US hails

U.S. Accuses India and 39 Others of Helping China Evade Tariffs, Costing \$28B

Supreme Court: Caste slur in closed room not a public offense, cancels charges

Supreme Court Grills NTA Over NEET-UG Leaks, Questions Nilekani Task Force

BRICS Slams EU Carbon Plan as "Unilateral and Discriminatory" at Delhi Meet

Supreme Court Grills Delhi Police Over Facial Recognition Use in Protests

The Supreme Court emphasized in a judgment that the Election Commission

President Droupadi Murmu has approved the bill renaming Kerala as Keralam

China Allegedly Encroaches on Arunachal Pradesh, Threatening India-China Relations Ahead of BRICS Summit

India's Goyal Leads 200-member Delegation to Japan to Boost Trade Ties

Justice Sanjay Karol, Known As Chachaji In Supreme Court, Retires

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

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

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

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

Amit Shah Announces High Court Bench in Ladakh, Amid Local Demands for Safeguards

India, Singapore Ministers Eye Deeper Ties: ISMR Discusses Digital, Economic Growth

India demands UN Security Council reforms, criticizes delays in appointing chairs

NMC proposes single ID for doctors to practice across India, renews every five years

Few know: Supreme Court allowed passive euthanasia in 2018

Syria Unveils Tons of Nuclear Material to UN Probe Amid IAEA Praise

GS3 · ECONOMY · S&T · ENVIRONMENT · SECURITY

Government offers 200 standard cubic metres of cheaper gas to speed up PNG adoption

ISRO Chairman Announces Un-Crewed Gaganyaan Launch in Four Months

India's maize imports rise as ethanol production policy backfires

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

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

First X-rays Taken in Space During Fram2 Mission

On August 6, the Lok Sabha passed a bill amending Section 10A

Oldest life on Earth found in eastern India, dating back 3.497 billion years

SEBI plans 15%-20% drop in collateral for liquid stocks to lure back foreign investors

Sebi Chairman Announces Overhaul of IPO Rules for SMEs, Targets Costly Underwriting Systems

Supreme Court orders eviction framework for Agasthyamalai landscape

A Supreme Court Bench headed by Justice S.V.N

Kerala's Air Quality Worst in South India, Study Shows 25 Cities Failing PM10 Standards

RBI Proposes Faster Floating-Rate Loans, Resetting Interests Every Three Months

Mains questions to practise

GS2 · INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS

Analyze the significance of the US-India strategic partnership in the context of border security and regional stability in the Himalayas.

USE : [strategic partnership](#) [sovereignty](#) [status quo](#) [diplomatic signaling](#) [defense cooperation](#)

GS2 · INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS

Discuss the significance of aligning India's MAHASAGAR vision with Japan's FOIP initiative in ensuring a rules-based maritime order in the Indo-Pacific region.

USE : [maritime security](#) [strategic alignment](#) [Indo-Pacific](#) [bilateral cooperation](#) [maritime domain awareness](#)



TELEGRAM



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