CURRENT AFFAIRS BRIEFING

August 2026

119 verified developments across National, International, Economy, Defence, Science, Governance, Environment, and Sports — organised for SSC, Banking & All Government Exams.

119	7	100%
VERIFIED FACTS	SECTIONS	SOURCED

> Every entry in this briefing is drawn from primary reporting and cross-checked before inclusion. Where a claim seemed unusual, it was independently verified rather than assumed.

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SECTION 01

National

01 Vande Mataram was granted the same legal protection as the National Anthem, following its 150th anniversary year.

02 119th Martyrdom Day of Khudiram Bose, one of India's youngest revolutionary freedom fighters, was observed.

03 Partition Horrors Remembrance Day was observed on 14 August 2026.

04 The Centre notified the first phase of Census 2027 operations in Ladakh.

05 A High Court Bench of the Jammu & Kashmir and Ladakh High Court was established in Ladakh.

06 The Kerala (Alteration of Name) Bill, 2026 was introduced in Parliament.

07 India officially mapped and named 27 places in Arunachal Pradesh.

08 The Supreme Court (Number of Judges) Amendment Bill, 2026 was introduced to expand the sanctioned strength of SC judges.

09 The Supreme Court reduced the minimum practice requirement for entry into the judicial services.

10 The Lok Sabha passed the Tribunals Reforms Bill, 2026.

11 The Rajya Sabha passed the Bankers' Books Evidence (Amendment) Bill, 2026.

12 The Registration of Births and Deaths (Amendment) Bill, 2026 was introduced in Parliament.

13 The Mines and Minerals (Development and Regulation) Amendment Bill, 2026 was introduced.

14 The MSME Development (Amendment) Bill, 2026 was introduced in Parliament.

15 The Taxation and Other Laws (Amendment) Bill, 2026 was introduced.

16 The Supreme Court issued fresh directions to curb 'digital arrest' cyber scams.

17 The Supreme Court upheld pedestrian rights in a significant road-safety related ruling.

18 Former President Ram Nath Kovind released his autobiography.

19 The Cabinet approved the creation of 19 new Special Courts to speed up case disposal.

SECTION 02

International

01 US President Donald Trump signed an executive order renaming Lake Ontario as 'Lake America' within the United States, escalating trade tensions with Canada.

02 India rejected 'politically motivated' observations made by the UN Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination (UNCERD) after its 11th periodic review of India.

03 India and China held the 36th Working Mechanism for Consultation & Coordination (WMCC) meeting on border affairs.

04 India and China held the 25th round of Special Representatives' Talks on the India-China boundary question.

05 India rejected Pakistan's 'Youm-e-Istehsal' remarks concerning Jammu & Kashmir.

06 India and Uzbekistan agreed to deepen their strategic partnership.

07 India and Russia reviewed and advanced bilateral cooperation across sectors.

08 India and New Zealand held a Defence Strategic Dialogue.

09 India and the UK held a Defence Consultative Group meeting.

10 India and Armenia agreed to expand defence cooperation.

11 India and Brazil signed an MoU on Telecommunications and Information & Communication Technologies (ICTs).

12 India and Seychelles agreed to strengthen cooperation in the Blue Economy.

13 India and Japan agreed to boost Startup and Innovation cooperation.

14 Saudi Arabia, Türkiye, and Pakistan announced a trilateral defence pact.

15 The COP17 of the UN Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD) opened in Mongolia.

16 The BRICS Culture Ministers' Meeting concluded with the 'Bhopal Declaration'.

17 The 8th BRICS Youth Energy Summit 2026 was held.

18 The 10th BRICS Industry Ministers' Meeting was held.

19 The 2nd BRICS Anti-Corruption Working Group Meeting was held.

20 The BRICS ICT Working Group Meeting was held.

21 Cameroon won the Women's Africa Cup of Nations 2026.

SECTION 03

Economy & Banking

01 The RBI's Monetary Policy Committee kept the repo rate unchanged in its August 2026 review.

02 The RBI's USD-INR forex swap operations mobilised a total of US$73 billion.

03 New part-time directors were appointed to the RBI's Central Board.

04 SIDBI entered into an MSME co-lending arrangement with Regional Rural Banks (RRBs).

05 SEBI introduced the Information Technology Resilience Index (ITRI), a 100-point scorecard measuring the cyber resilience of Market Infrastructure Institutions (MIIs).

06 The 'Sahkar Nav-Kranti' initiative was launched for the modernisation of Urban Cooperative Banks.

07 The FAO Food Price Index reached a level not seen in over three years.

08 The US processed over US$100 billion in tariff refunds.

09 A nationwide verification drive targeted suspicious foreign remittances flagged for scrutiny.

10 The government announced an incentive scheme to promote domestic Piped Natural Gas (PNG) connections.

11 The Union Cabinet approved railway and highway infrastructure projects across multiple states.

12 The Supreme Court weighed in on the issue of black money in elections.

SECTION 04

Defence & Science

01 India successfully test-fired the Agni-4 Medium Range Ballistic Missile (MRBM).

02 The Indian Navy received 'Mangrol', the third indigenously built Anti-Submarine Warfare Shallow Water Craft (ASW-SWC) of the Mahe-class, from Cochin Shipyard Limited.

03 The Indian Navy launched its final Diving Support Craft.

04 The Indian Navy commissioned the multi-purpose vessel 'Samarthak'.

05 The Indian Navy announced plans to lease two MQ-9B Sea Guardian drones.

06 A next-generation Offshore Patrol Vessel, 'Shruti', was launched.

07 India achieved 100% indigenous production of the AK-203 'Sher' rifle.

08 CSIR-NAL unveiled indigenously developed gas turbine engines.

09 The Indian Air Force concluded Exercise Udara Shakti 2026 with Malaysia, following its participation in Exercise Pitch Black 2026 in Australia.

10 India and the US conducted a joint Navy Explosive Ordnance Disposal (EOD) Exercise 2026.

11 Exercise MAITREE-XV 2026 was conducted as part of ongoing bilateral defence cooperation.

12 The 4th Tri-Services Future Warfare Course was conducted.

13 The 9th National Security Strategies Conference 2026 was held.

14 An NCC Girls' High Altitude Trek, 'Aparajita – Parang La 2026', was flagged off.

15 'Terrier Cyber Quest 2026', a cybersecurity exercise, was conducted.

16 Scientists found evidence of microbial life dating back 3.497 billion years in chert rock from the Singhbhum Craton, Jharkhand — among the oldest directly dated biosignatures found.

17 India developed a new smart cancer drug candidate, RK-251.

18 'MutAIverse', an AI platform to help trace cancer-causing environmental exposures, was unveiled.

19 IIT Patna developed a hybrid magneto-rheometer, a scientific instrument for studying fluid properties.

20 A new 3D model was developed for predicting Coronal Mass Ejections (solar storms).

21 A new framework for more efficient quantum communication was proposed by Indian researchers.

SECTION 05

Schemes & Governance

01 The Union Cabinet approved the Pradhan Mantri Surya Sarovar Yojana (PM-SSY) with an outlay of ₹5,070 crore to promote floating solar projects.

02 The Union Cabinet approved a revamped Khelo India Scheme.

03 The Union Cabinet extended the PM-KISAN Scheme until 2031.

04 The Ministry of New and Renewable Energy began formulating a subsidy scheme to build 30 GW of domestic polysilicon manufacturing capacity by 2030.

05 The 'Nasha Mukt Yuva for Viksit Bharat Sankalp Abhiyan' was launched.

06 The 'National Offshore Exploration Scheme: Samudra Manthan' was launched.

07 A CBDC (Central Bank Digital Currency)-based Direct Benefit Transfer pilot was launched for PMGKAY beneficiaries.

08 The e-Shram Portal completed five years of operation on 26 August 2026, strengthening social security delivery for India's unorganised workforce.

09 The 'Sujalam Bharat' policy on data sharing and interoperability was released.

10 The Ministry of Tribal Affairs launched 'Jago', an AI-powered conversational assistant to help users navigate tribal welfare schemes.

11 The GOBARdhan scheme, India's national circular bioenergy initiative, continued its expansion.

12 'Mission Samriddh Gaon' was launched to boost rural prosperity.

13 Meghalaya launched the 'CM-IMPACT Read & Rise' education programme.

14 'National Campaign on Entrepreneurship-II' was launched under DAY-NRLM.

15 Tamil Nadu launched the 'Vetri Vaanmagal' scheme for women farmers.

16 Uttar Pradesh launched its Startup Mission Portal and Startup Policy-2026.

17 The MeitY-backed 'GENESIS EIR 3.0' initiative for entrepreneurs-in-residence was launched.

18 The Ministry of Electronics & IT approved 31 additional proposals under the Electronics Components Manufacturing Scheme (ECMS), worth a projected ₹6,844 crore.

19 The Central Government restricted certain cough-and-cold Fixed-Dose Combinations (FDCs) for children below four years.

20 The Central Information Commission (CIC) launched the upgraded AppCoMS 2.0 portal.

21 The 20th National e-Governance Webinar was held.

22 India launched its first comprehensive Guide to Grasslands.

23 'India's First Virtual Zoo' was launched.

24 'Gramin Gyan Setu', a rural digital-learning app, was launched.

25 A national workshop on 'AIKosh', India's AI dataset repository, was held.

26 The 'One Herb, One Standard' initiative for standardising Ayurvedic herbs was renewed.

SECTION 06

Environment & Health

01 Glaw Lake was designated India's 101st Ramsar Site (Wetland of International Importance).

02 A Clouded Leopard Conservation Action Plan was released.

03 A black-necked stork sighting was recorded at the Khijadia Bird Sanctuary in Gujarat.

04 An unusual, elevated ozone concentration was recorded over the north Bay of Bengal.

05 A global assessment reported progress — and continuing gaps — in land restoration efforts.

06 The Supreme Court directed that cancer be treated as a Notifiable Disease.

07 Snakebite was officially made a Notifiable Disease in India.

08 ICMR launched the 'SHINE' programme to strengthen health research infrastructure.

09 The 'Anemia Mukt Bharat Abhiyaan' continued its nationwide push against anaemia.

10 AIIA (All India Institute of Ayurveda) launched the 'Garbhini Mitra' course for maternal Ayurvedic care.

11 The IARC (International Agency for Research on Cancer) classified three common medicines as carcinogenic.

12 The US investigated a major Cyclosporiasis outbreak linked to food contamination.

13 Unauthorised 'analogue' paneer, cheese, and butter (made without genuine dairy) were banned by food safety regulators.

SECTION 07

Sports & Awards

01 India finished fourth in the medal tally at the Commonwealth Games 2026.

02 R. Praggnanandhaa won the Grand Chess Tour 2026.

03 A team of Indian skydivers set a new Guinness World Record.

04 India's Publications Division won 7 awards at the FIP Awards 2026.

05 The National Anubhav Awards 2026 recognised excellence in government pension and retirement services.

06 The 'Sarvottam Jeevan Raksha Padak', India's highest life-saving gallantry award, was announced for exceptional bravery.

07 The Canadian Open Tennis 2026 tournament concluded with notable results.