



Military Brat Defence Academy

Current Affairs Related to 3 August 2026

- ◆ **India's first domestic benchmark-based futures contract for natural gas will be launched** on the National Stock Exchange (NSE). This move is considered significant for making pricing in the domestic energy market more transparent and organized. The contract has received approval from the Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI) and will trade under the ticker symbol 'NATGASIND'. A futures contract is a derivative whose price is linked to an underlying asset or index; in this instance, the contract price will be linked to rates at the Indian Gas Exchange's Dahej hub in Gujarat.
- ◆ **The Government of India's Cyber Crime Coordination Centre I4C has directed Google** to remove the Bluetooth-based chat app 'Bitchat' from the GitHub. Jack Dorsey, the app's developer and former CEO of Twitter, made this public. The incident sparks a new debate regarding the security and regulation of encrypted, decentralized communication platforms that operate without the internet. Bitchat is an open-source, peer-to-peer messaging app that utilizes a Bluetooth Low Energy-based mesh network, enabling direct message transmission between nearby devices.
- ◆ **A pilot project to convert traditional passenger boats into electric boats on the Ganges River** in Varanasi has been launched. The first phase of this initiative was inaugurated at Namohat, aiming to make boat services operating between the ghats cleaner, more modern, and less polluting. Varanasi Mayor Ashok Kumar Tiwari inaugurated the project, which is being jointly implemented by the Varanasi Development Authority and India Limited. In the initial phase, 20 traditional passenger boats are being retrofitted with electric propulsion systems.
- ◆ **To strengthen regional air connectivity in India, the Central Government has approved the revised UDAN scheme** for the period from the 2026-27 to 2035-36 financial years. Under this scheme, special emphasis will be placed on connecting the country's remote and underdeveloped areas with improved air services. The government believes that this initiative will not only provide affordable air travel to passengers but also boost regional economic development and tourism. The revised UDAN scheme will be implemented for a duration of ten years.
- ◆ **Indian Railways has launched an Artificial Intelligence-based pilot project to detect stains** on washed linen. This initiative is being tested at mechanized laundries in the Pune Division of Central Railway and the Jaipur and Jodhpur Divisions of North Western Railway. Its objective is to make the existing cleaning inspection system more precise. The system utilizes automated camera technology, computer vision, and machine learning algorithms. The machines analyze images of washed linen to identify any stains present on them.
- ◆ **Private FM radio in the country has evolved beyond being merely a medium of entertainment**; it has become a significant platform for local culture, city-specific information, and public engagement. There were 386 active private FM channels in India. Under the policy governing these channels, it is mandatory for at least 20% of the daily broadcast to be in the local language of the city. This provision of the private FM radio policy integrates the linguistic and cultural identity of cities into broadcasting. Programs in local languages provide a platform for regional traditions, folklore, folk music, and community-centric themes.
- ◆ **The indigenous 'Bhargavastra', developed for the Indian Army, has given a new direction** to the country's counter-drone capabilities. Manufactured by Solar Defence and Aerospace Limited, this vehicle-mounted, multi-layered counter-swarm drone system was demonstrated during a progress review of the 'Make-II' program in Nagpur. The system is specifically designed to counter threats where multiple drones might launch a coordinated attack simultaneously. In counter-drone warfare, the objective is not merely to detect enemy drones but also to neutralize them.
- ◆ **Prioritizing the health and safety of students, the Maharashtra government has announced a ban** on the sale of so-called energy drinks (including those containing stimulants) and other intoxicating substances within a 500-meter radius of all schools across the state. Food and Drug Administration Minister Narhari Zirwal announced this decision in the Legislative Assembly during the monsoon session. The move aims to protect children and adolescents from the potential health risks associated with such products and to ensure a safe environment around schools. In accordance with the government's directive, the Food and Drug Administration will take immediate action against shopkeepers selling these prohibited products within the 500-meter zone around schools.



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National & International Current Affairs

1. Whose term as the UN High Commissioner for Human Rights has recently been extended by four years?

- (A) Nirmal Jain (B) Kuldeep Singh
(C) Volker Türk (D) None of the above

(C) Recently, the UN General Assembly extended Volker Türk's term as the UN High Commissioner for Human Rights by four years, despite strong opposition from the US, Russia, and Israel. His second term will begin on October 12, 2026.



2. What is the name of India's first solar-powered mobile water purification van that was recently launched?

- (A) Namo Yaan (B) Jal Yaan
(C) Vande Bharat Yaan (D) None of the above

(B) The name of India's first solar-powered mobile water purification van is 'Jal Yaan'. It was launched by CSIR-CSMCRI and Right Water Solutions. This vehicle makes water from natural sources potable without requiring any external electricity.



3. Who has recently assumed charge as the Secretary of the Ministry of Mines?

- (A) Keshav Chandra (B) Praveen Joshi
(C) Praveen Mishra (D) None of the above

(A) Recently, Indian Administrative Service (IAS) officer Keshav Chandra assumed charge as the Secretary of the Ministry of Mines. Mr. Chandra presided over a meeting with senior officials of the Ministry and reviewed the Ministry's key initiatives and ongoing activities.



4. In which city did Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman recently inaugurate the Income Tax Department's new office complex, 'Aaykar Sindhu'?

- (A) Bengaluru (B) Chennai
(C) Mumbai (D) None of the above

(C) Recently, Union Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman inaugurated 'Aaykar Sindhu', the Income Tax Department's new state-of-the-art office complex at Nariman Point, Mumbai. It was dedicated to the nation through an official Press Information Bureau (PIB) release. Its total built-up area is approximately 1.13 lakh square feet.



5. Under whose leadership has a high-level task force recently been constituted for examination reforms?

- (A) S. Somanath (B) Nandan Nilekani
(C) Gopal Krishna Sharma (D) None of the above

(B) Recently, Prime Minister Narendra Modi announced the formation of a 6-member high-level task force led by Nandan Nilekani—co-founder of Infosys and former Chairman of UIDAI. This committee will review the examination system of the National Testing Agency (NTA) and provide suggestions to make it transparent, technology-driven, and free from paper leaks.





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6. Which medal did India's Sharmila Dhankhar recently win in the women's F57 shot put event at the Commonwealth Games?

- (A) Bronze (B) Gold
(C) Silver (D) None of these

(B) Recently, Indian para-athlete Sharmila Dhankhar made history by winning the gold medal in the women's F57 shot put event at the Commonwealth Games with an impressive throw of 9.81 meters. She has become the first Indian athlete to win a gold medal in the para-athletics history of the Commonwealth Games.

7. Which state has recently launched a service for cyber financial fraud?

- (A) Gujarat (B) Kerala
(C) Haryana (D) Punjab

(A) Recently, the Gujarat government launched an 'e-Zero FIR' service for cyber financial fraud in Gandhinagar. Under this initiative, victims can register complaints from the comfort of their homes via the national helpline number 1930; this automatically generates an e-Zero FIR and forwards it to the concerned police station.

8. How much financial assistance in million dollars has the World Bank recently approved for the PM Surya Ghar Yojana?

- (A) 570 million dollars (B) 690 million dollars
(C) 780 million dollars (D) 890 million dollars

(D) Taking a significant step towards promoting clean energy in India, the World Bank's Board of Executive Directors approved a financial package of US\$ 890 million for the 'Pradhan Mantri Surya Ghar: Muft Bijli Yojana' (Prime Minister's Solar Home: Free Electricity Scheme). This assistance aims to accelerate the expansion of residential rooftop solar systems for rural and urban households across the country.

9. Which state government has recently approved the Green Data Center Policy 2026?

- (A) Uttar Pradesh (B) Rajasthan
(C) Punjab (D) Haryana

(A) Recently, the Uttar Pradesh Cabinet, chaired by Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath, approved the Uttar Pradesh Data Center Policy 2026 to develop the state into a green, AI-ready, and globally competitive data center hub. The policy aims to develop an additional 2 GW of data center capacity in the state.

10. How many important domestic surveys has the RBI recently launched for monetary policy purposes?

- (A) 1 (B) 2
(C) 3 (D) 4

(C) Recently, the Reserve Bank of India launched three important domestic surveys aimed at making monetary policy formulation more effective and accurate. These include the Inflation Expectations Survey of Households, the Rural Consumer Confidence Survey, and the Urban Consumer Confidence Survey.

