



Military Brat Defence Academy

Current Affairs Related to 9 August 2026

- ◆ **The Rajya Sabha has passed a bill amending the law related to national honors, thereby** extending legal protection to the national song, 'Vande Mataram'. Under this amendment, intentionally obstructing or disrupting the singing of 'Vande Mataram' will be considered a punishable offense. This amendment has been made to the Prevention of Insults to National Honour Act, 1971. Previously, this law applied to cases of insult or disrespect regarding the national flag, the Constitution, and the national anthem.
- ◆ **Rajasthan has become the first state in the country to implement an exploration license for** rare earth elements. This license covers an area of 207.63 square kilometers spanning the Navtala Devigarh region in the Balotra district and the Shergarh tehsil in the Jodhpur district of western Rajasthan. An exploration license does not grant permission to extract minerals; rather, it is a legal authorization to investigate the presence, quantity, and geological status of minerals in a specific area. In Rajasthan, this license was awarded to the Central Mine Planning and Design Institute Limited, and the agreement was signed by the state's Department of Mines and Geology.
- ◆ **The Assam Legislative Assembly passed the Assam Land and Revenue Regulation Bill, 2026,** aimed at regulating land ownership and transactions around the state's historical and religious sites. This law brings areas within a radius of up to 5 kilometers around heritage and religious institutions that are 250 years or older under a protected zone. Under the bill, this provision applies to religious and heritage sites belonging to all communities, provided they are at least 250 years old.
- ◆ **India has issued a new regulatory framework for the planned re-entry of spacecraft and their** remnants into the Earth's atmosphere. Under these rules, clear conditions regarding authorization, safety, and liability will apply to both Indian and foreign operators. IN-SPACE (Indian National Space Promotion and Authorization Centre) released a framework for drone testing and certification. This framework has been made public.
- ◆ **India has recorded significant improvement in enhancing global market competitiveness** and reducing anti-competitive distortions. A new report has elevated India's ranking from 82nd to 57th place. This rise indicates that the impact of structural reforms implemented over the past few years is now becoming visible in international assessments.
- ◆ **China has begun strengthening its drone testing and research infrastructure for high-altitude** regions in Tibet. A testing base in Ngari (Western Tibet) and a specialized drone research center at Xizang University (near Mount Everest) have been established. Both facilities are located in terrain where low oxygen levels, extreme cold, rugged landscapes, and rapidly changing weather conditions put drone capabilities to the ultimate test. The High-Altitude Unmanned Equipment Testing Base in Ngari was inaugurated on September 28, 2025.
- ◆ **Sarvam AI launched the 'Epoch Builder Edition' to develop Large Language Models (LLMs) for Indian languages.** It is a developer and enterprise platform that enables the creation, fine-tuning, and deployment of LLMs. The company focuses specifically on Indian languages and local use cases, reflecting an effort to move AI beyond an English-centric scope. The platform includes multilingual models with 7 billion and 70 billion parameters.
- ◆ **The Food Safety and Standards Authority of India (FSSAI) has suspended the nutraceutical license** of Dior Pharmaceuticals. This action was taken following the discovery of serious violations and a failure to adhere to Good Manufacturing Practices at the Punjab-based company's manufacturing unit. The order also conveyed a clear message that compromises regarding quality, hygiene, and traceability in food safety-related establishments are unacceptable. Nutraceutical products are derived from food sources and are used as dietary supplements or functional foods; in India, they are regulated under the food safety framework.



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National & International Current Affairs

1. When is 'Quit India Movement Day' observed every year?
(A) 8 August (B) 9 August
(C) 10 August (D) 11 August
(B) The 'Quit India' movement is also known as the 'August Kranti' (August Revolution). With the slogan "Do or Die," Gandhi ji launched this major third movement against the British. The longest struggle to liberate India from British rule began in 1942. The 'Quit India' resolution was passed during a meeting of the Congress Working Committee in Mumbai on 8 August 1942.
2. When is the 'International Day of the World's Indigenous Peoples' observed every year?
(A) 9 August (B) 10 August
(C) 11 August (D) 12 August
(A) The International Day of the World's Indigenous Peoples is observed annually on August 9 to celebrate indigenous peoples and their knowledge. This day highlights the rights of indigenous peoples to make their own decisions and implement them in a meaningful and culturally appropriate manner. The United Nations General Assembly decided, in its resolution 49/214, to observe the International Day of the World's Indigenous Peoples on August 9 each year.
3. Where is the trial of the first Vande Bharat freight train being conducted recently?
(A) Surat (B) Pune
(C) Kota (D) None of these
(C) Recently, the trial of India's first Vande Bharat freight train was conducted. During the trial, the train achieved a maximum speed of 145 km/h. This is considered a significant initiative in the freight transport sector. On the first day of testing, the train attained a speed of 145 km/h on the Kota-Nagda-Sawai Madhopur rail section of the West Central Railway.
4. Where was the DIR-V Symposium 2026 recently held?
(A) IIT Delhi (B) IIT Madras
(C) IIT Mumbai (D) IIT Kanpur
(B) The third Digital India RISC-V (DIR-V) Symposium was recently held at the IIT Madras Research Park in Chennai, Tamil Nadu. The main theme of this symposium was empowering India's semiconductor future and focusing on security.
5. Where did Prime Minister Narendra Modi recently inaugurate the Alluri Sitarama Raju International Airport?
(A) Kerala (B) Karnataka
(C) Madhya Pradesh (D) Andhra Pradesh
(D) Prime Minister Narendra Modi recently inaugurated the Alluri Sitarama Raju International Airport at Bhogapuram in the Vizianagaram district of Andhra Pradesh. Built at a cost of approximately 5,640 crore, this is the first greenfield international airport in Andhra Pradesh following the state's bifurcation in 2014.





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6. Which scheme has the Government of India recently approved to promote floating solar power projects?

- (A) PM Surya Sarovar Yojana (B) Namo Sarovar Yojana
(C) PM Surya Udaan Yojana (D) None of the above

(A) The Government of India has approved the 'Pradhan Mantri Surya Sarovar Yojana' worth 5,070 crore to promote floating solar panels on water bodies. This scheme aims to develop 5,000 MW of floating solar capacity between 2026-27 and 2030-31 and will provide assistance of ₹1 crore per megawatt.



7. Who has recently assumed the office of Controller General of Defence Accounts (CGDA) in New Delhi?

- (A) Nirmal Jain (B) Keshav Chandra
(C) Alka Nangia Arora (D) None of the above

(C) Alka Nangia Arora, a senior officer of the 1991 batch of the Indian Defence Accounts Service (IDAS), has recently assumed the office of Controller General of Defence Accounts in New Delhi. She possesses extensive experience of over three decades in defence financial management and public administration. She began her career at the Dum Dum Ordnance Factory in Kolkata.



8. The Pithora painting of which state has recently been officially granted the GI (Geographical Indication) tag?

- (A) Bihar (B) Gujarat
(C) Maharashtra (D) None of the above

(B) Gujarat's famous Pithora painting has officially received the Geographical Indication (GI) tag. This unique and centuries-old tribal mural art is primarily created by the Rathwa, Bhil, and Bhilala tribes in the Chhota Udepur and Panchmahal districts of Gujarat. It is dedicated to Baba Pithora, the deity of grain and prosperity.



9. Where did Prime Minister Narendra Modi recently inaugurate the 'Vivek Smarak' (Vivek Memorial)?

- (A) Mysuru (B) Kochi
(C) Kolkata (D) Bengaluru

(A) Recently, Prime Minister Narendra Modi inaugurated the grand 'Vivek Smarak' at the Sri Ramakrishna Ashram in Mysuru, Karnataka. On this occasion, he performed special prayers and also watched a film based on the memorial. Governor Thawar Chand Gehlot and other dignitaries were present during this historic event.



10. What rank has India been assigned in the recently released Environmental Performance Index 2026?

- (A) 57th (B) 112th
(C) 176th (D) 177th

(C) While India is among the world's fastest-growing economies, it is simultaneously facing environmental challenges such as climate change, air pollution, water scarcity, and biodiversity loss. Recently, in the Environmental Performance Index 2026, India ranked 176th out of 177 countries. India's total score in this report was 22.46, and only Laos ranked below India on the list.

