



16 AUGUST 2026
SUNDAY

★ **UPSC & TNPSC SPECIAL EDITION** ★



NATIONAL

GOVERNMENT LAUNCHES 'SAMPARK' PORTAL FOR CITIZEN GRIEVANCE REDRESSAL

- The Department of Administrative Reforms & Public Grievances launched 'SAMPARK' (System for Administration of Public Grievances by Application of Right to Knowledge).
- It integrates CPGRAMS and RTI platforms to ensure time-bound, transparent and accountable disposal of complaints.



INDIA ACHIEVES 100 GW INSTALLED SOLAR CAPACITY

- India reaches a milestone of 100 GW installed solar capacity.
- This marks a significant step towards achieving the target of 500 GW non-fossil fuel capacity by 2030.
- Solar energy continues to drive India's clean energy transition.



INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS

INDIA – AFRICAN UNION COMMISSION COOPERATION EXPANDED

- India and the African Union Commission held the 4th India-AU Partnership Summit in New Delhi.
- Discussions focused on peace & security, health, agriculture, education, digital transformation and climate action.
- Both sides reaffirmed commitment to a stronger Global South cooperation.



ASEAN-INDIA TOURISM MINISTERS' MEETING HELD IN LANGKAWI, MALAYSIA

- The 23rd ASEAN-India Tourism Ministers' Meeting was held in Langkawi.
- Focused on sustainable tourism, digital innovation and cultural connectivity.
- India highlighted 'Heal in India' initiative to promote wellness tourism.



ENVIRONMENT & ECOLOGY

INDIA RELEASES NATIONAL FRAMEWORK ON CIRCULAR ECONOMY

- The Ministry of Environment, Forest & Climate Change released the National Framework on Circular Economy.
- Aims to promote resource efficiency, waste minimization and sustainable consumption.
- Focus on EPR, recycling, green jobs and innovation.



NEW RAMSAR SITE NOTIFIED IN TAMIL NADU

- 'Vellode Bird Sanctuary' in Tamil Nadu added to the list of Ramsar Sites.
- The site is home to diverse migratory birds and wetlands.
- Brings India's total Ramsar sites to 89.



ECONOMY

WHOLESALE PRICE INDEX (WPI) INFLATION EASES TO 0.85% IN JULY 2026

- India's WPI inflation for July 2026 stands at 0.85% (year-on-year).
- Decline due to lower prices of food articles, fuel & power.
- Indicates easing cost pressures in the economy.



RBI RELEASES 'FINANCIAL STABILITY REPORT' JULY 2026

- RBI released its bi-annual Financial Stability Report.
- The report notes that India's financial system remains resilient.
- Risks from global uncertainties and cyber threats highlighted.



SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY

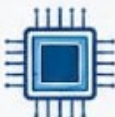
ISRO COMPLETES PREPARATION FOR CHANDRAYAAN-4 MISSION

- ISRO completed key preparations for Chandrayaan-4 mission.
- Mission aims to bring lunar samples from the Moon and return to Earth.
- It will enhance understanding of lunar geology and evolution.



INDIA'S FIRST INDIGENOUS SEMICONDUCTOR FAB PLANT INAUGURATED

- India's first indigenous semiconductor fabrication plant inaugurated in Dholera, Gujarat.
- A major step towards Atmanirbhar Bharat in electronics.
- Boosts India's chip manufacturing capabilities.



DEFENCE

INDIA, AUSTRALIA CONDUCT 'AUSTRA HIND 2026' JOINT EXERCISE

- The bilateral military exercise 'AUSTRA HIND 2026' conducted in Australia.
- Focus on counter-terrorism, peacekeeping and interoperability.
- Strengthens defence cooperation and strategic ties.



DRDO TESTS INDIGENOUS LONG RANGE GLIDE BOMB

- DRDO successfully tested an indigenously developed Long Range Glide Bomb.
- Designed for precision strikes with extended range.
- Enhances India's defence technological capabilities.



GOVERNANCE & SOCIAL ISSUES

PM POSHAN SCHEME EXPANDED

- Government approved expansion of PM POSHAN Scheme.
- Now covers more districts with improved nutritional standards.
- Aims to reduce malnutrition and improve learning outcomes.



DIGITAL PERSONAL DATA PROTECTION RULES, 2026 NOTIFIED

- Government notified the Digital Personal Data Protection Rules, 2026.
- Rules provide framework for consent management, data fiduciary obligations and grievance redressal.



PRACTICE MCQ

Q. Consider the following statements:

- The Circular Economy Framework aims to eliminate waste and promote resource efficiency.
- Ramsar Sites are declared under the Biodiversity Act, 2002.
- Chandrayaan-4 mission is aimed at landing humans on the Moon.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- a) 1 only b) 1 and 2 only
c) 1 and 3 only d) 1 and 2 only

Answer & Explanation

Answer: a) 1 only

- Statement 1 is correct. Circular Economy aims to minimize waste and reuse resources.
- Statement 2 is incorrect. Ramsar Sites are declared under the Ramsar Convention, not Biodiversity Act.
- Statement 3 is incorrect. Chandrayaan-4 aims to bring lunar samples, not to land humans.



QUOTE OF THE DAY

*"Excellence is not a skill.
It is an attitude."*

– Ralph Marston



TODAY IN HISTORY

16 August 1947

Direct Action Day was observed in British India, where violent communal riots broke out in Kolkata.

