



15 AUGUST 2026 (SATURDAY)

★ RELEVANT FOR UPSC PRELIMS & MAINS ★

UPSC SYLLABUS
RELEVANCE

GS I | GS II | GS III
PRELIMS FACTS
& MAINS ANALYSIS

SOURCES:



PIB
pib.gov.in



Ministry
Press Releases



PRS India
prsindia.org



ISRO
isro.gov.in



All India Radio
newsonair.gov.in

1



**INDIA MARKS THE
INDUCTION OF LCA Mk1A
FIGHTER JETS INTO
THE INDIAN AIR FORCE**

Why in News?

On 15 August 2026, the Government of India announced the induction of the indigenously built LCA Mk1A fighter jets into the Indian Air Force.



Key Points

- LCA Mk1A is an advanced version of Tejas Mk1.
- Developed by HAL in collaboration with ADA.
- 4.5 generation multirole fighter.
- Equipped with AESA radar, BVR missiles, & advanced avionics.
- A major boost to Aatmanirbhar Bharat in defence.



Prelims Facts

- LCA Mk1A: Light Combat Aircraft Mark 1A
- Developer: HAL
- Designer: ADA
- First Flight (Mk1A): Tejas Mk1A
- Role: Multirole fighter
- Engine: GE F404-IN20



GS Mains Link

- GS II – Defence Modernisation
- GS III – Indigenisation & Make in India
- GS III – Science & Technology
- GS III – Strategic Autonomy

2



**INDIA LAUNCHES
BHARAT CONTAINER
SHIPPING LINE (BCSL)
TO BOOST MARITIME TRADE**

Why in News?

On 15 August 2026, the Government launched Bharat Container Shipping Line (BCSL) to strengthen India's presence in global container shipping.



Key Points

- A Government of India initiative under DPIIT.
- Aims to increase India's share in global container shipping.
- Initial capacity: 4 ships, expanding to 20 ships.
- Will reduce logistics cost & support EXIM trade.
- Part of Maritime Amrit Kaal Vision 2047.



Prelims Facts

- Launched by: DPIIT
- Operator: Shipping Corporation of India (SCI)
- Initial Capacity: 4 Ships
- Vision: Maritime Amrit Kaal Vision 2047
- Objective: Boost EXIM & reduce logistics cost



GS Mains Link

- GS III – Infrastructure & Logistics
- GS III – Indian Economy (Trade)
- GS III – Ports & Shipping
- GS II – Government Initiatives

3



**RBI LAUNCHES
CENTRAL BANK DIGITAL
CURRENCY (CBDC)–
RETAIL PILOT EXPANSION**

Why in News?

RBI announced on 15 August 2026 the expansion of its e₹ (Digital Rupee) retail pilot across more cities and banks.



Key Points

- e₹ (Digital Rupee) is legal tender issued by RBI.
- Retail pilot expanded to more banks & cities.
- Available in both offline & online modes.
- Enhances efficiency, security & financial inclusion.
- Complements UPI and cash.



Prelims Facts

- Issuer: Reserve Bank of India
- Currency: e₹ (e-Rupee)
- Type: Retail CBDC (Pilot)
- Modes: Offline & Online
- Pilot Expansion: August 2026
- Objective: Financial inclusion & efficient payments



GS Mains Link

- GS III – Indian Economy
- GS III – Monetary Policy
- GS III – Financial Inclusion
- GS III – Digital Economy & FinTech

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**UNION CABINET APPROVES
HEO HYDROELECTRIC PROJECT
(240 MW) IN ARUNACHAL PRADESH**

Why in News?

The Union Cabinet approved the 240 MW Heo Hydroelectric Project in Arunachal Pradesh on 15 August 2026.



Key Points

- Run-of-the-river project on Heo River in Dibang Valley.
- Estimated cost: ₹4,307 crore.
- To be executed by NHPC Ltd.
- Will generate clean energy & support regional development.
- Strengthens India's renewable energy capacity.



Prelims Facts

- Project: Heo H.E. Project
- Capacity: 240 MW
- River: Heo (tributary of Dibang)
- State: Arunachal Pradesh
- Implementing Agency: NHPC Ltd.
- Type: Run-of-the-river



GS Mains Link

- GS III – Energy
- GS III – Infrastructure
- GS III – Environment & Sustainable Development
- GS II – Development in North-East

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**INDIA CELEBRATES
INTERNATIONAL DAY FOR
THE CONSERVATION OF
THE MANGROVE ECOSYSTEM**

Why in News?

India joined the world in observing the International Day for the Conservation of the Mangrove Ecosystem on 15 August 2026.



Key Points

- Theme 2026: 'Mangroves: Nature's Shield for Our Future'.
- India has ~4,992 sq. km of mangrove cover.
- Mangroves protect coasts, support biodiversity & livelihoods.
- India's initiatives: MISHTI, Mangrove Initiative for Shoreline Habitats & Tangible Incomes.



Prelims Facts

- Day: 15 August
- Established by: UNESCO
- First observed: 2015
- India's Mangrove Cover: 4,992 sq. km (ISFR 2023)
- Major States: Gujarat, Andhra Pradesh, Odisha, Maharashtra, West Bengal



GS Mains Link

- GS III – Environment
- GS III – Biodiversity & Conservation
- GS III – Climate Change
- GS III – Sustainable Development

PRELIMS RAPID REVISION



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