

International News & Diplomatic Relations

- **PM Narendra Modi Begins Central Asia Visit:** Prime Minister Narendra Modi embarked on a bilateral visit to Uzbekistan and the Kyrgyz Republic. The visit includes high-level discussions on trade, energy, and digital connectivity, concluding with participation in the **26th Shanghai Cooperation Organisation (SCO) Summit** in Bishkek.
- Exam Point: India became a full member of the SCO in 2017.
- **India Secures 'Dialogue Partner' Status in GCAP:** India formally secured Dialogue Partner status in the **Global Combat Air Programme (GCAP)**, a trilateral initiative (UK, Japan, Italy) developing 6th-generation fighter jet technologies.
- **China Tests New Variant of YJ-18A Missile:** China successfully flight-tested a new stealth-coated variant of the YJ-18A anti-ship cruise missile aimed at bypassing naval missile defence systems.

National News & Science & Tech

- **Vice President Launches Sovereign AI Stack 'Gnani Artha':** Vice President C. P. Radhakrishnan launched India's indigenous sovereign AI stack, **Gnani Artha** (comprising Evon 3.3 and Plexus models), developed by Indian startup GNANI AI.
- Key Specs: Released under Apache 2.0 open-source licence; supports 11+ Indian languages for secure self-hosting.
- **India's First Quantum & AI University Campus Approved:** The Andhra Pradesh government approved the establishment of India's first dedicated Quantum and AI University Campus at Amaravati,

implemented by NIELIT with an outlay of ₹730.70 crore.

- **Establishment of Mediation Council of India (MCI):** The Department of Legal Affairs notified the setting up of the MCI under the Mediation Act. Headquartered in New Delhi, the council mandates mediation completion within 180 days (extendable by another 180 days).
- **New Flora & Fauna Discoveries:**
 - Flora: CSIR-IHBT researchers discovered *Doronicum sanctum*, a new sunflower family species, in Tawang, Arunachal Pradesh at 4,000 meters elevation.
 - Fauna: Scientists documented *Gangaichthys indonepalicus*, the first subterranean fish species discovered in the Indo-Gangetic Basin.

Banking & Economics

- **PM Jan Dhan Yojana (PMJDY) Completes 12 Years:** Launched on 28 August 2014, PMJDY completed 12 years of financial inclusion.
 - Total Statistics: Over 59.09 crore bank accounts opened with cumulative deposits exceeding ₹3.17 lakh crore.
 - Slogan: "Mera Khata – Bhagya Vidhata".
- **RBI Relaxes FCNR(B) Swap Facility Rules:** The Reserve Bank of India relaxed access norms for the Foreign Currency Non-Resident (Bank) dollar-rupee swap facility for transactions exceeding \$100 million, allowing access on any business day.
- **NABARD and NaBFID Sign Infrastructure MoU:** National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD) and National Bank for Financing Infrastructure and Development (NaBFID) signed an MoU to co-finance rural infrastructure and compressed biogas projects.

Defence News

- **India-US Javelin ATGM Agreement:** Indian Army signed a \$93 million (approx. ₹292 crore) deal under Foreign Military Sales (FMS) with the USA for ~100 FGM-148 Javelin Anti-Tank Guided Missile systems.
- **Induction of MPV 'Samarthak':** Indian Navy received Samarthak, its first indigenous Multi-Purpose Vessel (MPV), constructed by L&T Shipbuilding in Kattupalli, Tamil Nadu, boasting >75% indigenous content.
- **Inaugural India-Kuwait Joint Defence Committee (JDC):** Held in New Delhi to enhance R&D, training, and military medicine collaboration.
- **ICG Decommissions Two Vessels:** Indian Coast Guard decommissioned Fast Patrol Vessels ICGS Meera Behn and ICGS Subhadra Kumari Chauhan after decades of service.

Sports & Appointments

- **R. Praggnanandhaa Wins Grand Chess Tour 2026:** Grandmaster Rameshbabu Praggnanandhaa defeated USA's Fabiano Caruana (15-13) in Saint Louis, Missouri, becoming the **first Indian champion** in Grand Chess Tour history.

Important Days (30 August)

Day	Theme / Significance
National Small Industry Day	Recognizing the contribution of small-scale industries to India's GDP and employment.
International Day of the Victims of	UN-observed day to raise global awareness

Day	Theme / Significance
Enforced Disappearances	regarding missing and disappeared individuals.

Defence News & Strategic Partnerships

- **Reliance & Rolls-Royce Partner for AMCA Engine:** Reliance Industries and UK-based Rolls-Royce signed a strategic agreement to jointly design and manufacture the 5th-generation combat engine for India's **Advanced Medium Combat Aircraft (AMCA)** program.
- **Deployment of GARUD Binoculars:** Indian Armed Forces and CAPFs deployed GARUD, an indigenous high-resolution, defense-grade optical binocular system for surveillance.
- **Joint Air Exercise Udara Shakti:** Indian Air Force (IAF) deployed Rafale and C-17 aircraft to participate alongside the Royal Malaysian Air Force (RMAF) Su-30MKM jets.

Economics, Trade & Policy

- **NITI Aayog Report on Global Manufacturing Hub:** NITI Aayog released a landmark report detailing strategies for 12 key manufacturing sectors (Chemicals, Textiles, Solar PV, Telecom, etc.) to lift manufacturing's GVA share toward achieving India's \$30 Trillion Economy Vision by 2047.
- **India-SACU Preferential Trade Agreement:** India signed the Terms of Reference (ToR) with the **Southern African Customs Union (SACU)** to officially initiate negotiations for a Preferential Trade Agreement (PTA).

- **Sahkar Nav-Kranti Conclave for Urban Cooperative Banks (UCBs):**
 - Held at the Bombay Stock Exchange (BSE), Mumbai.
 - NUCFDC launched 'Bank in a Box', a standardized core technology platform for UCBs.
 - MoU signed between NUCFDC and National Forensic Sciences University (NFSU) for cybersecurity defenses.

National News & Constitutional Law

- **Supreme Court Ruling on Article 22(1) (Vihaan Kumar v. State of Haryana):** The Supreme Court reaffirmed that an arrested individual must be explicitly informed of the precise written grounds of arrest at the earliest to satisfy constitutional mandates under Article 22(1).
- **Digital India BHASHINI & NITI Aayog Sol:** Signed a Statement of Intent to integrate AI language tools with NITI TARA (Toolkit for Analysis, Review & Action) and SMRITI for multilingual governance.

Books, Awards & Art & Culture

- **Book Launch:** Operational Risk Management – A Practical Guide to Urban Co-operative Banks, authored by former RBI DGM G. P. Mistry.
- **Gaj Gaurav Awards 2026:** Conferred by the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change recognizing exemplary efforts in Asian Elephant conservation and human-elephant conflict mitigation.
- **IIHT SUTRA 2026 Conclave:** Ministry of Textiles held the 1st national conclave of Indian Institutes of Handloom Technology (IIHT) at DAIC, New Delhi. MoUs were executed with NITRA and IIM Sambalpur.

- **Art & Heritage Focus:** Archaeological Survey of India (ASI) initiated structural preservation drives at the historic **Vaishya Tekri Stupa** in Ujjain, Madhya Pradesh.

1. International News

Question: During Prime Minister Narendra Modi's state visit in late August 2026, India and which Central Asian nation agreed to elevate their bilateral relationship to a Comprehensive Strategic Partnership and establish a Coordination Council at the Foreign Ministers' level?

- (A) Kazakhstan
- (B) Uzbekistan
- (C) Kyrgyzstan
- (D) Tajikistan

• **Answer:** (B) Uzbekistan

• **Detailed Explanation:** PM Narendra Modi undertook a four-day visit to Uzbekistan and the Kyrgyz Republic from August 29 to September 1, 2026. During bilateral talks with Uzbek President Shavkat Mirziyoyev in Tashkent, both countries agreed to elevate bilateral ties to a Comprehensive Strategic Partnership. Key agreements included a long-term uranium supply arrangement, joint projects in critical minerals exploration, and enhanced IT/startup cooperation building upon the Indian-backed IT Park in Tashkent. PM Modi also laid a wreath at the Lal Bahadur Shastri Memorial in Tashkent.

2. National News

Question: The Department of Legal Affairs (Ministry of Law and Justice) officially notified the establishment of which statutory body in August 2026 to promote domestic and international dispute resolution?

- (A) National Arbitration Board (NAB)
- (B) Mediation Council of India (MCI)
- (C) Alternative Dispute Resolution Authority (ADRA)
- (D) Indian Commercial Conciliation Council (ICCC)

- **Answer: (B)** Mediation Council of India (MCI)
- **Detailed Explanation:** The Department of Legal Affairs (DoLA), under the Ministry of Law & Justice, notified the creation of the Mediation Council of India (MCI) headquartered in New Delhi. Formed under the Mediation Act, 2023, the Council aims to regulate, standardize, and promote institutional mediation across India. It aims to significantly reduce pending judicial backlogs by establishing a robust institutional mechanism for pre-litigation and commercial mediation.

3. Economics & Banking

Question: The Pradhan Mantri Jan Dhan Yojana (PMJDY), India's flagship national mission for financial inclusion, completed how many years of operation on August 28, 2026?

- (A) 10 Years
- (B) 11 Years
- (C) 12 Years
- (D) 14 Years

- **Answer: (C)** 12 Years
- **Detailed Explanation:** PMJDY was launched on August 28, 2014, and completed 12 successful years in August 2026. As per Ministry of Finance records, over 59.09 crore bank accounts have been opened under the scheme, with cumulative deposits crossing ₹3.17 lakh crore. More than 67% of these accounts belong to rural and semi-

urban areas, and 55% are held by women account holders. The official slogan of PMJDY is "Mera Khata – Bhagya Vidhata".

4. Economics & Banking

Question: The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) relaxed access norms for the FCNR(B) dollar-rupee swap facility for transactions exceeding which monetary limit?

- (A) USD 50 Million
- (B) USD 100 Million
- (C) USD 250 Million
- (D) USD 500 Million

- **Answer: (B)** USD 100 Million
- **Detailed Explanation:** The RBI relaxed the operational guidelines for the Foreign Currency Non-Resident (Bank) [FCNR(B)] dollar-rupee swap facility for high-value transactions exceeding USD 100 million. Under the revised norms, authorized dealer banks can access the swap window on any business day for large capital inflows rather than waiting for designated weekly windows. This operational tweak helps manage foreign exchange volatility and eases foreign currency liquidity management.

5. Sports

Question: Who became the first Indian grandmaster to win the Grand Chess Tour title after securing victory in the 2026 finals in Saint Louis, USA?

- (A) D. Gukesh
- (B) R. Praggnanandhaa
- (C) Arjun Erigaisi
- (D) Vidit Gujrathi

- **Answer: (B)** R. Praggnanandhaa

- **Detailed Explanation:** Indian Grandmaster Rameshbabu Praggnanandhaa made history by becoming the first Indian champion of the Grand Chess Tour (GCT). In the 2026 finals held at the Saint Louis Chess Club in Missouri, USA, Praggnanandhaa defeated American GM Fabiano Caruana by a score of 15-13 in the final rapid and blitz tie-breakers.

6. Statutory Framework & Polity

Question: Under the statutory provisions of the Mediation Act, 2023, the newly setup Mediation Council of India mandates that a mediation process must be concluded within how many days?

- (A) 90 Days
- (B) 120 Days
- (C) 180 Days
- (D) 300 Days

- **Answer:** (C) 180 Days

- **Detailed Explanation:** According to the statutory notification issued by the Department of Legal Affairs, the Mediation Act mandates that the mediation process must be completed within 180 days (6 months) from the date of commencement. With the mutual consent of both disputing parties, this period can be extended by a maximum of another 180 days, bringing the absolute outer limit for resolution to 360 days.

7. Awards & Honors

Question: Which government department was recently highlighted for winning the prestigious 'Rajbhasha Kirti Puraskar' (First Place) for two consecutive years (2023-24 and 2024-25)?

- (A) Department of Financial Services (DFS)

(B) Department of Administrative Reforms and Public Grievances (DARPG)

(C) Department of Science and Technology (DST)

(D) Department of School Education & Literacy (DOSEL)

- **Answer:** (B) Department of Administrative Reforms and Public Grievances (DARPG)

- **Detailed Explanation:** DARPG, under the Ministry of Personnel, Public Grievances and Pensions, was recognized for winning the Rajbhasha Kirti Puraskar (First Prize) consecutively in 2023-24 and 2024-25 for its promotion and execution of Hindi in official administrative work. Under Ministry of Home Affairs Official Language guidelines, institutions receiving the first prize for two consecutive years enter a mandatory cooling-off period.

8. Books & Authors / Anniversaries

Question: August 30 marks the birth anniversary of Mary Shelley (born 1797). Which classic novel written by her is widely considered the world's first modern science fiction work?

- (A) Dracula
- (B) Frankenstein; or, The Modern Prometheus
- (C) The Last Man
- (D) Wuthering Heights

- **Answer:** (B) Frankenstein; or, The Modern Prometheus

- **Detailed Explanation:** August 30 commemorates the birth anniversary of English author Mary Shelley (born August 30, 1797). She authored the landmark gothic novel Frankenstein; or, The Modern Prometheus (published in 1818), which introduced themes of artificial creation, ethical boundaries in science, and human

identity, establishing the modern science fiction genre.

9. Defense News

Question: In August 2026, the Indian Army signed a USD 93 million (approx. ₹292 crore) deal with the United States for procuring which Anti-Tank Guided Missile (ATGM) system?

- (A) FGM-148 Javelin
- (B) BGM-71 TOW
- (C) Spike LR2
- (D) NLAW

• **Answer:** (A) FGM-148 Javelin

• **Detailed Explanation:** The Indian Army signed a Foreign Military Sales (FMS) Letter of Offer and Acceptance (LOA) with the United States for procuring around 60 to 100 FGM-148 Javelin Anti-Tank Guided Missile (ATGM) systems valued at USD 93 million. The Javelin is a man-portable, top-attack, fire-and-forget missile system designed to destroy modern armored vehicles and fortified bunkers.

10. Defense News

Question: The inaugural meeting of the Joint Defence Committee (JDC) between India and which Middle Eastern nation took place in New Delhi in August 2026?

- (A) Sultanate of Oman
- (B) State of Kuwait
- (C) United Arab Emirates
- (D) Kingdom of Saudi Arabia

• **Answer:** (B) State of Kuwait

• **Detailed Explanation:** The inaugural India-Kuwait Joint Defence Committee (JDC) meeting was hosted in New Delhi. Both sides established a strategic roadmap to strengthen bilateral defense engagement,

focusing on joint military training, naval exercises, exchange of experts in military medicine, counter-terrorism practices, and defense industrial R&D collaboration.

11. Govt Schemes

Question: The Ministry of Fisheries, Animal Husbandry and Dairying introduced which long-term initiative to upgrade infrastructure and boost exports in non-food aquaculture?

- (A) Mission Rangin Machhli 2031
- (B) Pradhan Mantri Matsya Sampada Phase II
- (C) Mission Aqua Horizon
- (D) National Ornamental Fish Mission

• **Answer:** (A) Mission Rangin Machhli 2031

• **Detailed Explanation:** Vice President C. P. Radhakrishnan unveiled "Mission Rangin Machhli 2031", a strategic action plan initiated by the Ministry of Fisheries, Animal Husbandry & Dairying. The mission focuses on expanding India's ornamental fish aquaculture sector through technology adoption, breeding hub development, export infrastructure creation, and eco-friendly practices to empower rural youth and women entrepreneurs.

12. MoUs

Question: Which two apex financing institutions signed an MoU in August 2026 to joint-venture and finance rural infrastructure and PPP projects in India?

- (A) SIDBI and EXIM Bank
- (B) NABARD and NaBFID
- (C) NHB and HUDCO
- (D) REC and PFC

• **Answer:** (B) NABARD and NaBFID

• **Detailed Explanation:** The National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development



(NABARD) and the National Bank for Financing Infrastructure and Development (NaBFID) signed a historic MoU. The partnership focuses on co-financing commercially viable Public-Private Partnership (PPP) rural infrastructure initiatives, including micro-irrigation, cold chain logistics, rural warehousing, and compressed biogas (CBG) infrastructure.

13. MoUs & Security

Question: The Central Industrial Security Force (CISF) partnered with which organization to convert its Recruit Training Centre (RTC) at Behror, Rajasthan into a Centre of Excellence?

- (A) Drone Federation of India (DFI)
- (B) Society of Indian Defence Manufacturers (SIDM)
- (C) Centre for Joint Warfare Studies (CENJOWS)
- (D) Bharat Electronics Limited (BEL)

- **Answer: (A)** Drone Federation of India (DFI)
- **Detailed Explanation:** The CISF signed an agreement with the Drone Federation of India (DFI) to upgrade its Recruit Training Centre (RTC) in Behror, Rajasthan into a specialized Centre of Excellence (CoE) for Drone and Counter-Drone Systems under Ministry of Home Affairs guidelines. The CoE will develop Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs), pilot deployment models, and forensic analysis frameworks for rogue drone threats across critical infrastructure.

14. Important Days (National)

Question: National Small Industry Day (Rashtriya Laghu Udyog Divas) is observed across India annually on which date?

- (A) 28 August
- (B) 29 August
- (C) 30 August

(D) 31 August

- **Answer: (C)** 30 August
- **Detailed Explanation:** India celebrates National Small Industry Day on August 30 every year to acknowledge the contributions of Micro, Small, and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs). The observance marks the policy package launched on August 30, 2000, aimed at boosting credit access and technical upgrading for small businesses. MSMEs contribute ~30% of India's GDP, 45% of manufacturing output, and employ over 12 crore citizens.

15. Important Days (International)

Question: August 30 is officially designated by the United Nations General Assembly as which international observance?

- (A) International Day of the Victims of Enforced Disappearances
- (B) World Humanitarian Day
- (C) International Day Against Nuclear Tests
- (D) International Day of Peacekeepers

- **Answer: (A)** International Day of the Victims of Enforced Disappearances
- **Detailed Explanation:** Designated by the UN General Assembly in 2010, August 30 is observed globally as the International Day of the Victims of Enforced Disappearances. The day raises awareness regarding state and non-state secret arrests, illegal detentions, and abductions, urging countries to adopt the International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance.

16. Art & Culture

Question: Banaras Hindu University (BHU) collaborated with which organization in August

2026 to host the 'Banaras Biennale 2026' and establish an E2EE Career Lounge?

- (A) Sangeet Natak Akademi
- (B) Confederation of Indian Industry (CII)
- (C) Indian Council for Cultural Relations (ICCR)
- (D) Lalit Kala Akademi

- **Answer: (B)** Confederation of Indian Industry (CII)
- **Detailed Explanation:** Banaras Hindu University (BHU) signed two MoUs with the Confederation of Indian Industry (CII). The partnership covers organizing the upcoming 'Banaras Biennale 2026' to highlight Varanasi's living heritage, art, and craft, alongside setting up an E2EE (Education to Employability and Entrepreneurship) Career Lounge at BHU.

17. Art & Culture / Journalism History

Question: Vice President C. P. Radhakrishnan attended the 115th Anniversary Celebrations of the prominent Malayalam daily 'Kerala Kaumudi'. In which year was the paper established?

- (A) 1905
- (B) 1911
- (C) 1923
- (D) 1938

- **Answer: (B)** 1911
- **Detailed Explanation:** Vice President C. P. Radhakrishnan addressed the 115th Anniversary Celebrations of Kerala Kaumudi in Alappuzha, Kerala. Founded in 1911 by social reformer and journalist C. V. Kunhiraman, Kerala Kaumudi played a historical role in social awakening, addressing caste inequalities, and

promoting freedom movements in Travancore and broader Kerala.

18. Birth Anniversaries (Science)

Question: Ernest Rutherford, born on August 30, 1871, was awarded the Nobel Prize in Chemistry in 1908. What honorific title is he widely accorded in modern science?

- (A) Father of Quantum Physics
- (B) Father of Nuclear Physics
- (C) Father of Modern Chemistry
- (D) Father of Electromagnetic Theory

- **Answer: (B)** Father of Nuclear Physics
- **Detailed Explanation:** August 30 marks the birth anniversary of Ernest Rutherford (born August 30, 1871). Renowned as the "Father of Nuclear Physics," he won the Nobel Prize in Chemistry in 1908 for his investigations into atomic disintegration and radioactive chemistry. His landmark 1909 Gold Foil Experiment proved the existence of the atomic nucleus, and he later discovered the proton in 1919.

19. Birth Anniversaries & Sports

Question: National Sports Day is celebrated annually in India on August 29 to commemorate the birth anniversary of which sports personality?

- (A) Milkha Singh
- (B) Major Dhyan Chand
- (C) K. D. Jadhav
- (D) Balbir Singh Sr.

- **Answer: (B)** Major Dhyan Chand
- **Detailed Explanation:** August 29 is celebrated as National Sports Day in India to mark the birth anniversary of hockey legend Major Dhyan Chand (born August 29, 1905). Known as "The Wizard of Hockey," he led

India to three consecutive Olympic Gold Medals in field hockey (1928 Amsterdam, 1932 Los Angeles, and 1936 Berlin).

20. Environment & Science

Question: CSIR-IHBT researchers discovered *Doronicum sanctum*, a new species belonging to the sunflower family (Asteraceae), in which Indian state?

- (A) Sikkim
- (B) Arunachal Pradesh
- (C) Uttarakhand
- (D) Himachal Pradesh

- **Answer:** (B) Arunachal Pradesh
- **Detailed Explanation:** Scientists from CSIR-Institute of Himalayan Bioresource Technology (IHBT) documented *Doronicum sanctum*, a new flowering plant species belonging to the sunflower family (Asteraceae). Found in the Tawang district of Arunachal Pradesh at an altitude of ~4,000 meters, this discovery marks the first recorded documentation of the *Doronicum* genus in Northeast India.

21. Environment & Science

Question: Scientists recently identified *Gangaichthys Indonepalicus*, marking the discovery of the first subterranean (groundwater-dwelling) fish in which geographic zone?

- (A) Western Ghats
- (B) Indo-Gangetic Basin
- (C) Deccan Plateau
- (D) Sundarbans Delta

Answer: (B) Indo-Gangetic Basin

Detailed Explanation: Researchers discovered *Gangaichthys Indonepalicus*, representing the first recorded subterranean (groundwater) fish

species originating within the Indo-Gangetic Basin. Lacking functional eyes and pigmentation, the discovery provides new insights into subterranean biodiversity and subterranean aquifer health in northern India and Nepal.

22. Defense News

Question: What is the name of India's first indigenous Multi-Purpose Vessel (MPV) constructed by Larsen & Toubro (L&T) and delivered to the Indian Navy in August 2026?

- (A) Samarthak
- (B) Sandhayak
- (C) Nirdeshak
- (D) Ikshak

Answer: (A) Samarthak

Detailed Explanation: The Indian Navy took delivery of 'Samarthak', its first indigenous Multi-Purpose Vessel (MPV). Built at L&T's Kattupalli shipyard in Tamil Nadu, the vessel features over 75% indigenous content. It is designed to assist in towing ships, launching surface targets, conducting trials, and evaluating indigenous naval weapons and sensors.

23. Defense News

Question: The Indian Coast Guard (ICG) decommissioned two Fast Patrol Vessels (FPVs) in August 2026 after decades of service. What are their names?

- (A) Rajshree and Rajtarang
- (B) Meera Behn and Subhadra Kumari Chauhan
- (C) Annie Besant and Sarojini Naidu
- (D) Priyadarshini and Kanaklata Barua

Answer: (B) Meera Behn and Subhadra Kumari Chauhan

Detailed Explanation: The Indian Coast Guard formally decommissioned two in-service Fast Patrol Vessels (FPVs)—ICGS Meera Behn and ICGS Subhadra Kumari Chauhan—at an official ceremony. Both vessels provided search and rescue, anti-smuggling, and coastal surveillance support for over two decades.

24. Defense & International

Question: India formally secured 'Dialogue Partner' status in which multinational 6th-generation fighter jet initiative in August 2026?

- (A) Future Combat Air System (FCAS)
- (B) Global Combat Air Program (GCAP)
- (C) Next Generation Air Dominance (NGAD)
- (D) F-35 Lightning Industrial Group

Answer: (B) Global Combat Air Program (GCAP)

Detailed Explanation: India formally obtained 'Dialogue Partner' status in the Global Combat Air Program (GCAP). GCAP is a trilateral coalition (led by the UK, Japan, and Italy) developing a 6th-generation stealth fighter jet. Joining as a Dialogue Partner allows India to explore technology transfers, combat cloud networks, and future air combat systems.

25. Science & Technology

Question: Vice President C. P. Radhakrishnan launched 'Gnani Artha', an open-source sovereign AI stack featuring Evon 3.3 and Plexus. Which Indian AI startup developed it?

- (A) Sarvam AI
- (B) GNANI AI
- (C) Krutrim AI
- (D) Vernacular.ai

Answer: (B) GNANI AI

- Detailed Explanation: Vice President C. P. Radhakrishnan launched 'Gnani Artha', a sovereign Voice-AI stack featuring the Evon

3.3 and Plexus models, developed by Indian Voice AI startup GNANI AI. Released under the open-source Apache 2.0 license, it supports over 11 Indian languages and allows enterprises and defense bodies to self-host AI operations without leaking sensitive data.

26. National News & Education

Question: Which state government approved India's first dedicated Quantum and AI University Campus to be set up at Amaravati with an investment of ₹730.70 crore?

- (A) Karnataka
- (B) Andhra Pradesh
- (C) Telangana
- (D) Tamil Nadu

Answer: (B) Andhra Pradesh

Detailed Explanation: The State Cabinet of Andhra Pradesh approved the establishment of India's first dedicated Quantum and Artificial Intelligence University Campus at Amaravati. Developed in collaboration with NIELIT with a 5-year investment outlay of ₹730.70 crore, it will offer specialized degree and research programs in Quantum Computing, VLSI Design, and Semiconductor Fabrication.

27. Economics & International Trade

Question: Commerce Secretary Rajesh Agrawal met Deputy Minister Paula Estévez Weinstein to advance bilateral trade negotiations under the Comprehensive Economic Partnership Agreement (CEPA) with which country?

- (A) Chile
- (B) Brazil
- (C) Argentina
- (D) Peru

Answer: (A) Chile

Detailed Explanation: India and Chile advanced negotiations to convert their existing Preferential Trade Agreement (PTA) into a comprehensive Comprehensive Economic Partnership Agreement (CEPA). Discussions between Commerce Secretary Rajesh Agrawal and Chilean Vice Minister Paula Estévez Weinstein covered tariff concessions, critical mineral trade (Lithium/Copper), and services exports.

28. Economics & Trade Summits

Question: The 10th Taiwan-India Industrial Collaboration Summit was held in Bengaluru in August 2026. Which organization co-hosted it alongside FICCI?

- (A) Chinese National Federation of Industries (CNFI)
- (B) Taiwan External Trade Development Council (TAITRA)
- (C) Taiwan Electrical and Electronic Manufacturers' Association (TEEMA)
- (D) Taiwan Semiconductor Industry Association (TSIA)

Answer: (A) Chinese National Federation of Industries (CNFI)

Detailed Explanation: FICCI and the Chinese National Federation of Industries (CNFI) co-hosted the 10th Taiwan-India Industrial Collaboration Summit in Bengaluru, Karnataka. Co-chaired by DPIIT Secretary Amardeep Singh Bhatia and Taiwan's Deputy Minister Cynthia Kiang, discussions centered on electronics manufacturing, EV supply chains, and semiconductor supply chain integration.

29. International & Disaster Assistance

Question: India deployed a specialized tunnel rescue team and air-lifted relief materials following flash floods in the Bhote Kosi river region to which neighboring nation?

- (A) Bangladesh
- (B) Nepal
- (C) Bhutan
- (D) Myanmar

Answer: (B) Nepal

Detailed Explanation: The Ministry of External Affairs (MEA) dispatched an Indian specialized tunnel rescue team and three Indian Air Force aircraft carrying emergency relief supplies to Nepal. The deployment came in response to severe flash floods and landslides along the Bhote Kosi river basin, assisting Nepali security forces in clearing trapped transport networks and locating survivors.

30. International Defense

Question: Which country flight-tested an upgraded, stealth-coated variant of its YJ-18A anti-ship cruise missile in late August 2026?

- (A) Russia
- (B) China
- (C) North Korea
- (D) Iran

Answer: (B) China

Detailed Explanation: China carried out test firings of an upgraded variant of its YJ-18A submarine/surface-launched anti-ship cruise missile featuring new radar-absorbent stealth coatings and enhanced electronic counter-countermeasure (ECCM) seeker suites. The missile operates at subsonic speeds during cruise before accelerating to supersonic speeds (Mach 2.5–3.0) during final approach.