

**Current Affairs • 15 August 2026****14 min**
READING TIME**8**
KEY STORIES**24**
IN BRIEF**1**
MAINS QUESTION

GS1 • 6 GS2 • 28

GS3 • 24

PAPER MIX

01 – TODAY IN 2 MINUTES

The 5 stories you can't skip

- 1 Census 2027: India Expands Questionnaire to 40, Adding Caste Beyond 29 Categories**
Why it matters: The Census 2027 will expand its questionnaire to 40 questions, including a shift to recording caste information from all respondents beyond the previous 29 categories.
GS1 • INDIAN SOCIETY P M
- 2 Census Overhaul: Modi Approves Full Caste Enumeration for All Respondents**
Why it matters: The Registrar General of India notified a major overhaul in the Census methodology, including full caste enumeration for all respondents, approved by the Cabinet Committee on Political Affairs.
GS2 • POLITY & CONSTITUTION P M
- 3 Modi aims for 100 GW nuclear energy by 2047 in ambitious Independence Day speech**
Why it matters: PM Modi announced a target of 100 GW of nuclear energy by 2047 in his Independence Day speech to drive India's energy transition.
GS3 • SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY P M
- 4 Taxpayers get immunity: I-T Department launches 60% tax FAST-DS for hidden foreign wealth**
Why it matters: The Income Tax Department launched the FAST-DS scheme to encourage small taxpayers to voluntarily disclose hidden foreign assets in exchange for immunity from prosecution.
GS3 • ECONOMY P
- 5 Putin Orders Russia to Target NATO and EU from Within in Secret Meeting**
Why it matters: Reports suggest Russia is planning a dual-track strategy to destabilize NATO and the EU from within while seeking to annex Moldova.
GS2 • INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS P

P.2 KEY STORIES » IN BRIEF + PLACES » TEST YOURSELF

P = PRELIMS • M = MAINS

What to know, in 60 seconds each

8 of 58 notes · picked for exam value

GS1 · INDIAN SOCIETY

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Census 2027: India Expands Questionnaire to 40, Adding Caste Beyond 29 Categories

Why in news: The Census 2027 will expand its questionnaire to 40 questions, including a shift to recording caste information from all respondents beyond the previous 29 categories.

REMEMBER

- Census 2027 questionnaire expanded to 40 questions.
- Caste information will be recorded from all respondents for the first time since Independence.
- The new system moves beyond the previous 29 caste categories to an open-column approach.

MAINS ANGLE Discuss the significance of comprehensive caste data collection in the Census for inclusive policymaking and social justice in India.

USE: Demographic data Inclusive policymaking Social justice

Data-driven governance

Full note → satyadheesh.in/news/104718

GS2 · POLITY & CONSTITUTION

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Census Overhaul: Modi Approves Full Caste Enumeration for All Respondents

Why in news: The Registrar General of India notified a major overhaul in the Census methodology, including full caste enumeration for all respondents, approved by the Cabinet Committee on Political Affairs.

REMEMBER

- Census Act, 1948: The primary legislation governing the conduct of the census in India.
- Registrar General of India: The primary authority responsible for the census and demographic data collection.
- Full caste enumeration: A shift from only enumerating Scheduled Castes and Tribes to including all respondents.

MAINS ANGLE Discuss the significance of comprehensive caste enumeration in the Census for inclusive policy formulation and social justice in India.

USE: Demographic profiling Social justice Data-driven policy

Inclusivity

Full note → satyadheesh.in/news/104302

GS3 · SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY

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Modi aims for 100 GW nuclear energy by 2047 in ambitious Independence Day speech

Why in news: PM Modi announced a target of 100 GW of nuclear energy by 2047 in his Independence Day speech to drive India's energy transition.

REMEMBER

- Nuclear energy target: 100 GW by 2047
- AI training target: 1 crore youth
- Focus on semiconductor manufacturing expansion

MAINS ANGLE Discuss the significance of nuclear energy in achieving India's net-zero goals and the challenges in scaling up nuclear capacity to 100 GW by 2047.

USE: Energy Transition Decarbonization

Nuclear Infrastructure

Strategic Autonomy

Full note → satyadheesh.in/news/104802

GS3 · ECONOMY

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Taxpayers get immunity: I-T Department launches 60% tax FAST-DS for hidden foreign wealth

Why in news: The Income Tax Department launched the FAST-DS scheme to encourage small taxpayers to voluntarily disclose hidden foreign assets in exchange for immunity from prosecution.

REMEMBER

- Income Tax Department: Responsible for administering direct taxes in India.
- FAST-DS Scheme: Effective tax rate for voluntary disclosure is 60%.
- FAST-DS Scheme: Disclosure window is open until December 31, 2026.

MAINS ANGLE Discuss how voluntary disclosure schemes like FAST-DS can enhance tax compliance and curb money laundering in India.

USE: voluntary disclosure tax compliance money laundering

revenue mobilization

Full note → satyadheesh.in/news/105186

Putin Orders Russia to Target NATO and EU from Within in Secret Meeting

Why in news: Reports suggest Russia is planning a dual-track strategy to destabilize NATO and the EU from within while seeking to annex Moldova.

REMEMBER

- NATO: North Atlantic Treaty Organization, a collective defense alliance.
- Moldova: A landlocked country in Eastern Europe bordering Romania, Ukraine, and the Black Sea.
- Russia has conducted strikes on Ukrainian hydroelectric plants affecting Moldova's water and electricity.

MAINS ANGLE Discuss the implications of hybrid warfare and infrastructure sabotage on European security and the collective defense mechanisms of NATO.

USE : hybrid warfare collective defense
infrastructure sabotage geopolitical destabilization

Full note → satyadheesh.in/news/104890

The Mountbatten Plan: How June 3 sealed the Partition of India

Why in news: The Mountbatten Plan and the subsequent Indian Independence Act of 1947 are highlighted as the foundational legal and political framework for the partition of India.

REMEMBER

- Lord Mountbatten served as the last Viceroy of India.
- The Indian Independence Act of 1947 was the legislative instrument that ended British rule.
- The Mountbatten Plan was proposed on June 3, 1947.

MAINS ANGLE Discuss how the Mountbatten Plan and the Indian Independence Act of 1947 shaped the geopolitical and social landscape of the Indian subcontinent.

USE : Partition Decolonization Communal Violence
Transfer of Power

Full note → satyadheesh.in/news/104827

Rajya Sabha Passes Amendment Prohibiting States From Levying Taxes on Mining Operations

Why in news: The Rajya Sabha passed an amendment to the Mines and Minerals (Development and Regulation) Act to prohibit states from levying taxes or cess on mining operations to ensure fiscal stability.

REMEMBER

- Mines and Minerals (Development and Regulation) Act governs the mining sector in India.
- The amendment prohibits states from levying taxes or cess on minerals and mining operations.
- Odisha and Jharkhand are identified as major mineral-rich states in India.

MAINS ANGLE Discuss the implications of central legislation prohibiting state taxes on mining operations on the principle of cooperative federalism and fiscal autonomy.

USE : fiscal federalism cooperative federalism
mineral governance fiscal stability

Full note → satyadheesh.in/news/104823

According to the Maddison Project Database 2023, India's GDP per capita fell

Why in news: The Maddison Project Database 2023 highlights India's long-term GDP per capita trajectory, showcasing the impact of colonial history and post-1990s reforms.

REMEMBER

- India's GDP per capita was 32% of the global average in 1940.
- India's projected GDP growth rate for 2026 is 6.4%.
- Maddison Project Database is a primary source for historical GDP data.

MAINS ANGLE Analyze the factors that contributed to the stagnation of India's GDP per capita during the colonial period and the role of 1990s reforms in its recovery.

USE : GDP per capita economic trajectory
structural reforms growth indicators

Full note → satyadheesh.in/news/104643

Everything else, one line each

24 more notes · full versions online

GS1 · HISTORY · SOCIETY · GEOGRAPHY

India Marks 80 Years, Sings Vande Mataram from Red Fort for First Time

GS2 · POLITY · GOVERNANCE · SOCIAL JUSTICE · IR

US to warn 35 countries to choose between US-led AI initiative and China's framework

India, Russia Discuss Deep Cooperation Along Strategic Arctic Route NSR

Information and Broadcasting ministry removes 12-minute ad cap for TV channels

India Races to Match China: IAC-2 Awaits Approval as Fujian Nears 2026 Operational Capabilities

Karnataka's Transport Minister Announces 15,000 New Buses and Free Passes for 10 Lakh Students

Andhra Pradesh sends 29 top teachers to Finland for education makeover

Tribal Musician Nanjamma Wins National Award, Boosts Copyright Initiatives

Andhra Pradesh Celebrates Stree Shakti Year – Double Dignity Anniversary

Madras High Court Adds Tamil Thai Vazhthu at Start, Sparks Protocol Debate

GS3 · ECONOMY · S&T · ENVIRONMENT · SECURITY

Modi unveils AI training for one crore youth, sports hunt for 10 million kids

RBI to close FCNR(B) swaps a month earlier due to gush

Prime Minister Narendra Modi unveiled the 'Sapta Dhara' framework at Red Fort

Supreme Court urges Kuki, Meitei groups to remove blockades on Manipur highways

Defence budget soars to ₹7.85 lakh crore, R&D gets 90% boost: Rajnath Singh

Indian Army gets 84 loiter munition systems in ₹1,577 crore 'Buy Indian' deal

The CAG report, tabled in Parliament on Wednesday, revealed that the Green

Karnataka targets one lakh new jobs, AI hubs, and a \$3 trillion economy by 2047

Tribunal Orders TNPCB to Act on Conflicting Mercury Levels in Neyveli

Drones sow hope: HML seeds 15 acres with 24 native species near Peerumade hills

Indian President Approves 78 Gallantry Awards on Independence Day, Including Nine Kirti Chakras

BCG Vaccine Retrains Aging Immune Cells, Offers Hope for Alzheimer's Treatment

An international study published in Nature predicts that global photovoltaic (PV) waste

Minister of Tourism and Culture Kandula Durgesh announced infrastructure projects worth ₹2,643

Write one answer today

GS1 · INDIAN SOCIETY

Discuss the significance of comprehensive caste data collection in the Census for inclusive policymaking and social justice in India.

USE :

Demographic data

Inclusive policymaking

Social justice

Data-driven governance



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