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Weekly Current Affairs

August 2026 - Week 1

3 – 9 August 2026 | Exam Revision Notes

40+ Topics · 14 Sections · ~30 Min Read

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Dear Aspirants,

Greetings from ReadingRoomz! Another week has passed with significant developments across international affairs, national governance, Andhra Pradesh, science, environment, schemes, defence, and sports — all of which matter for your APPSC journey.

Read each topic carefully, note the key facts, and revise before your next practice session. Consistency is your greatest weapon. **Every small step today brings you closer to your dream tomorrow.**

— Team ReadingRoomz | contact@readingroomz.com

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1. International Current Affairs

Nauru Officially Renamed as the Republic of Naoero

The Pacific Island country of **Nauru** has officially adopted the name **Republic of Naoero**, reflecting the spelling and pronunciation used in its national language. President **David Adeang** described the change as an effort to restore the country's traditional identity and honour its language, heritage, and ancestors.

Key Facts: Region – Micronesia, Pacific Ocean | President – David Adeang | Currency – Australian dollar | One of the world's smallest island nations.

2. National Current Affairs

Veeragallu (Hero Stone) Found in Karnataka – Hoysala Date Resolution

A centuries-old **veeragallu (hero stone)** with a Kannada inscription was discovered at **Neeragunda village, Arsikere taluk, Karnataka**. It commemorates a soldier who died shortly after **Hoysala ruler Vishnuvardhana's** death at Bankapura (Haveri district). The inscription date corresponds to **December 11, 1141** — challenging earlier scholarly proposals of **1149 and 1152**.

About the Hoysalas: Vishnuvardhana was one of the most important Hoysala rulers, renowned for its distinctive temple architecture. The Sacred Ensembles of the Hoysalas at Belur, Halebidu, and Somanathapura were inscribed on the UNESCO World Heritage List in 2023.

3. Andhra Pradesh Current Affairs

PM Modi Inaugurates ₹17,900-Crore Development Projects in Bhogapuram, Vizianagaram

PM Narendra Modi inaugurated, laid the foundation stone, and dedicated projects worth over **₹17,900 crore** at **Bhogapuram, Vizianagaram district** on **1 August 2026**. Projects cover aviation, semiconductor manufacturing, renewable-energy transmission, and national highways.

Detail	Fact
Airport Project Cost	More than ₹5,640 crore
Development Model	Public-Private Partnership (PPP)
Initial Passenger Capacity	6 million passengers annually
Traditional Dance Featured	Dhimsa
Other Project Areas	Semiconductor manufacturing Renewable-energy transmission National highways

Andhra Pradesh and Australia Sign Four MoUs - Solar Manufacturing, Mental Health, Skills

AP government and Australian institutions signed **four MoUs** on **2 August 2026** to strengthen cooperation in clean energy, education, student mental health, and skill development.

MoU	Partners & Outcome
1 - Solar Manufacturing	AP's CoEET + IIT Tirupati + UNSW Sydney → Centre of Excellence for Solar Manufacturing at IIT Tirupati
2 - Women's Education	UNSW + Sri Padmavati Mahila Visvavidyalayam + Samagra Shiksha, AP
3 - Student Mental Health	APSCHE + Australia's Rebound → Technology-enabled student mental-health pilot
4 - Vocational Skills	APSSDC + Australia's Dynamic Learning Services → Vocational education, international certifications, overseas employment

4. Science & Technology

Leptospirosis - Zoonotic Bacterial Disease; Kerala Reports ~50 Deaths in July 2026

Kerala reported approximately **50 leptospirosis-related deaths** in July 2026. The disease has remained **endemic in Kerala for over three decades**, receiving particular attention during the monsoon.

Detail	Fact
Disease Type	Zoonotic bacterial disease
Causative Organism	Pathogenic <i>Leptospira</i> bacteria (genus <i>Leptospira</i>)
Major Reservoir Host	Rodents (also cattle, pigs, dogs)
Transmission	Contact with water or soil contaminated by urine of infected animals
Entry into Body	Broken skin, abrasions, or mucous membranes
High-Risk Groups	Farmers, dairy workers, sanitation workers, construction labourers, gardeners
Kerala Risk Factors	Heavy monsoons, floods, waterlogging, high humidity, canals, wetlands
Early Diagnostic Method	PCR (Polymerase Chain Reaction)
Protective Measures	Gumboots, gloves, sanitation, and rodent control

ICAR Develops India's First Indigenous African Swine Fever Vaccine - ICAR-NIHSAD, Bhopal

Scientists at **ICAR-NIHSAD (National Institute of High Security Animal Diseases)**, Bhopal developed India's first indigenous **live attenuated vaccine** against **African Swine Fever (ASF)**. Dedicated to the nation during ICAR Foundation Day by Union Agriculture Minister **Shivraj Singh Chouhan**.

Technical Details: Attenuated African Swine Fever Virus Genotype II with specific gene deletions | Grown in widely available MA-104 cell line (unlike proprietary lines in some commercial vaccines) — enables large-scale domestic production at lower cost.

5. Environment

Glaw Lake - Arunachal Pradesh's First Ramsar Site; India's 101st

Glaw Lake (Arunachal Pradesh) was designated as **India's 101st Ramsar Site** on **3 August 2026** — the **first from Arunachal Pradesh**.

Detail	Fact
Location	Kamlang Tiger Reserve and Wildlife Sanctuary, Eastern Himalayas, Arunachal Pradesh
Type	Pristine freshwater lake fed by perennial mountain streams; surrounded by rich vegetation
Significance	India's 101st Ramsar Site First from Arunachal Pradesh
Ramsar Convention	International treaty for wetland conservation Signed in Ramsar, Iran, 1971 India acceded 1982

Meghalaya Launches Mission Clouded Leopard - State Animal Conservation

The Meghalaya government launched **Mission Clouded Leopard** on **4 August 2026** (International Clouded Leopard Day) under CM **Conrad K. Sangma** to protect the **mainland clouded leopard** (*Neofelis nebulosa*) — Meghalaya's **State animal**.

6. Schemes

GOBARdhan - National Circular Bioenergy Scheme; ₹23,731 Crore (2026-27 to 2035-36)

The Union Cabinet approved **GOBARdhan — the National Circular Bioenergy Scheme** with an outlay of **₹23,731 crore**. Implemented from **2026-27 to 2035-36** and administered by the **Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas**.

Detail	Fact
Feedstocks	Agricultural residue, cattle dung, press mud, municipal organic waste, and other biomass
Outputs	Compressed Biogas (CBG), organic manure, and rural income
CBG vs Natural Gas	Chemically similar to natural gas; supplied through existing City Gas Distribution networks
Key Aims	Increase domestic CBG production nearly tenfold Attract private investment Reduce fossil fuel import dependence

PMAY-G - 3.12 Crore Houses Completed; SC/ST 60%; PAHAL Typology Compendium

PMAY-G has completed **3.12 crore houses** as of **3 August 2026** against an allocation of 4.18 crore. Of the allocation, 3.91 crore sanctioned; **79 lakh under construction**. Implemented by the **Ministry of Rural Development**.

Key Detail	Fact
Houses Completed	3.12 crore (of 4.18 crore allocated) 3.91 crore sanctioned
2025-26	32.47 lakh sanctioned 26.57 lakh completed
SC/ST Earmark	Minimum 60% of PMAY-G target nationally
Special Projects Quota	Up to 5% for rehabilitation of natural-hazard-affected families
Housing Typology Compendium	PAHAL — accessible through AwaasApp
Convergence Schemes	Water: Jal Jeevan Mission LPG: PM Ujjwala Yojana PVTG housing: PM-JANMAN

7. Defence

India Successfully Test-Fires Agni-4 Ballistic Missile - 4,000 km Range; Chandipur, Odisha

India successfully test-fired the **Agni-4 Medium-Range Ballistic Missile** from the **Integrated Test Range at Chandipur, Odisha** on **6 August 2026**. The test validated all operational and technical parameters.

Specification	Detail
Type	Medium-Range Ballistic Missile (MRBM) Surface-to-surface
Stages	Two-stage
Propulsion	Solid-fuel rocket motors
Strike Range	Up to 4,000 km
Launcher	Road-mobile launcher — provides greater deployment flexibility

8. Awards & Honours

Lokmanya Tilak National Award 2026 - Presented to NSA Ajit Doval

Union Home Minister **Amit Shah** presented the **Lokmanya Tilak National Award 2026** to **NSA Ajit Doval** in **Pune, Maharashtra** on **1 August 2026** — Tilak's **106th death anniversary**. Honoured for contributions to national security, counter-terrorism, strategic intelligence, and border security.

About the Award: Instituted by the Tilak Smarak Mandir Trust in 1983 | Presented annually on 1 August | ₹1 lakh cash prize + memento + citation. About Ajit Doval: Former Director of the Intelligence Bureau | Appointed NSA in 2014 | India's longest-serving National Security Adviser.

National Handloom Awards 2025 - AP Weavers Recognised

22 National Handloom Awards will be presented — comprising **3 Sant Kabir Handloom Awards** (India's highest recognition for handloom weavers) and **19 National Handloom Awards**.

Andhra Pradesh recipients: Murakala Nataraju (Srikakulam) — cotton tussar half-and-half jamdani saree M/s N. Venkateswara Rao (Venkatagiri) — handloom marketing category

M.S. Swaminathan Environment Award 2026 - Marine Conservation, Tamil Nadu

Grassroots environmental leaders **P. Pechiyammal** and **Govindhammal** were honoured with the **Dr. M.S. Swaminathan Award for Environment Protection 2026** in Chennai, recognising their contributions to marine conservation and sustainable agriculture in Tamil Nadu.

9. Ranks & Reports

NITI Aayog Report - ~94,000 Govt Schools Closed in a Decade; Enrolment Falls 2.26 Crore

NITI Aayog's 2026 report "*School Education System in India: Temporal Analysis and Policy Roadmap for Quality Enhancement*" highlighted a major contraction in India's government-school network over a decade.

Indicator	2014-15	2024-25
Government Schools	11.07 lakh	10.13 lakh (—~94,000)
Private Unaided Schools	2.88 lakh	3.39 lakh (increase)
Total Enrolment	26.95 crore	24.69 crore (fall: 2.26 crore)
Govt-School Enrolment Share	54.3% (14.66 crore)	49.25% (12.15 crore)

School Rationalisation: States most affected – Uttar Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh, and J&K; | NITI Aayog recommends only phased, evidence-based rationalisation with safe access guarantees. Legal Framework: Education on the Concurrent List | Sections 6 and 8 of the RTE Act, 2009 require neighbourhood elementary schools for children aged 6-14 | School management primarily handled by State governments.

10. Committees & Conferences

16th BRICS Trade Ministers' Meeting - Jaipur Consensus; BRICS Invoice Discounting Mechanism

The **16th BRICS Trade Ministers' Meeting** concluded in **Jaipur, Rajasthan** on **7 August 2026** under India's **BRICS Chairship**. Chaired by Union Commerce and Industry Minister **Piyush Goyal**. Theme: "**Building for Resilience, Innovation, Cooperation and Sustainability.**"

Outcome	Detail
Jaipur Consensus	BRICS members agreed to study a BRICS Invoice Discounting Mechanism to improve trade-finance access for MSMEs
MSME Credit Assessment	Guiding Principles adopted — assessment based on cash flow rather than assets and collateral
Trade Finance Gap	Global gap addressed: approximately \$2.5 trillion
GVC Action Plan 2026-30	BRICS Technical Council, BRICS Connect, and BRICS GVC Joint Study proposed
Digital Services	Principles adopted to facilitate safe and secure digitally delivered services across borders

11. Person in News

Varsha Ashok Aglawe - First Woman Director General of GSI (176-Year History)

Varsha Ashok Aglawe assumed charge as the **54th Director General** of the **Geological Survey of India (GSI)**, becoming the **first woman to head the organisation in its 176-year history**. She succeeded **Asit Saha**, who served as Director General until **31 July 2026**.

12. Important Days

International Clouded Leopard Day - 4 August

International Clouded Leopard Day is observed annually on **4 August** to raise awareness about clouded leopards, their ecological importance, and threats to their forest habitats. Meghalaya launched Mission Clouded Leopard on this day in 2026.

World Breastfeeding Week - 1-7 August; Theme 2026: "Breastfeeding for a Sustainable Start in Life"

World Breastfeeding Week is observed annually from **1-7 August**. 2026 theme: "**Breastfeeding for a Sustainable Start in Life: Strengthen What Works.**"

Key Facts: Breastfeeding should begin within the first hour after birth — the "Golden Hour" | First milk (colostrum) is rich in antibodies and nutrients — described as the baby's first natural vaccine | Early skin-to-skin contact assists initiation of breastfeeding.

National Handloom Day - 7 August; Swadeshi Movement Anniversary (1905)

National Handloom Day is observed on **7 August**, commemorating the launch of the **Swadeshi Movement on 7 August 1905**. First observed in **2015**.

Key Statistics (4th All India Handloom Census 2019-20): ~35.22 lakh handloom weavers and allied workers | 31.45 lakh handloom households | Women: 72%+ of workforce (25.46 lakh) | ~9 in 10 handlooms are in rural India.

13. Sports

2026 Commonwealth Games - Glasgow; India 4th with 39 Medals; Next Host: Ahmedabad

The **2026 Commonwealth Games** concluded in **Glasgow, Scotland** on **2 August 2026**. India finished **fourth** in the final medal standings.

Country	Gold	Silver	Bronze	Total
Australia (1st)	70	45	56	171
England (2nd)	-	-	-	110
Canada (3rd)	-	-	-	62
India (4th)	13	17	9	39

Key CWG Facts: Host city: Glasgow, Scotland | First CWG: Hamilton, Canada, 1930 | India previously hosted: New Delhi, 2010 | Next host: Ahmedabad (Amdavad), Gujarat. India ranked ahead of host Scotland (also 13 gold, but fewer silver medals).

India's CWG 2026 Medal Highlights - Boxing Dominance; Historic Javelin Double Podium

Athlete	Event	Medal / Achievement
Neeraj Chopra	Men's Javelin Throw	Silver
Yash Vir Singh	Men's Javelin Throw	Bronze — CWG debutant India's first double podium in CWG javelin
Yamini Mourya	Judo – Women's 57 kg	Silver
Tejaswin Shankar	Men's Decathlon	Bronze — 7,976 points First Indian CWG decathlon medal
Ankush Panghal	Boxing – Men's 80 kg	Gold
Sachin Siwach	Boxing – Men's 60 kg	Gold
Sakshi Chaudhary	Boxing – Women's 51 kg	Gold
Preeti Pawar	Boxing – Women's 54 kg	Gold
Jaismine Lamboria	Boxing – Women's 57 kg	Gold
Priya Ghanghas	Boxing – Women's 60 kg	Gold
Arundhati Choudhary	Boxing – Women's 70 kg	Gold

14. Miscellaneous

‘Boss Scam’ (CEO Impersonation Fraud) - I4C Warning

The **Indian Cyber Crime Coordination Centre (I4C)** (MHA) warned companies and finance professionals about the rapidly spreading **“Boss Scam” or CEO Impersonation Fraud**. Malicious files disguised as account statements or communications from the **RBI** and **Ministry of Corporate Affairs (MCA)** are used to **hijack WhatsApp accounts** and commit high-value financial fraud.

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