

Daily Current Affairs

Date : 20 August, 2025



Index

Sr. No.	Topic
1.	Rashtrabhasha Hindi Prachar Samiti, Sridungargarh's Awards for the year 2025
2.	Approval for Kota-Bundi Greenfield Airport
3.	Rajasthan in Swamitva Yojana
4.	Brahmi script in Rajasthan school curriculum
5.	News in Shorts 1. Martyr Sergeant Surendra Moga 2. 'Biodiversity and Conservation': State Level Workshop 3. Baba Banshidas Hospital: Sikar 4. Indian Railways' only international level rifle shooting range 5. Safe Roadways (Susama) Campaign 6. Partition Horrors Gallery: Ajmer 7. 12th Indian Industrial Fair: Bhiwadi 8. Kodewala Out Post (Border Outpost) 9. Kaman Utsav – 2025 10. 'Nayika' AI Chatbot: Arsh Chaudhary
6.	Aunta-Simaria Project
7.	Mines and Minerals (Development and Regulation) Amendment Bill, 2025

--:1:--

Daily Current Affairs

Date : 20 August, 2025



8.	Indian Institutes of Management (Amendment) Bill, 2025
9.	28 new initiatives of Election Commission
10.	Sadbhavna Diwas 2025 (Communal Harmony Day)
11.	Vice Presidential Candidates
12.	Rashmika Sehgal
13.	News in Shorts 1. South Central Railway: Five key departments headed by women



--2--

Rajasthan

Rashtrabhasha Hindi Prachar Samiti, Sridungargarh's Awards for the year 2025

➔ Why in News?

- Recently, Rashtrabhasha Hindi Prachar Samiti, Sridungargarh (Bikaner) announced the 'National Awards for Hindi Creation' for the year 2025.



➔ Key Points:

- These awards will be given on the occasion of 14 September (Hindi Day).
- Mala Ram Mali Smriti Sahitya Shree Samman:** The highest honor of the organization for the year 2025 will be given to Jodhpur's renowned litterateur Dr. Padmaja Sharma for her overall literary contribution.

Other Awards:

- Dr. Nandlal Maharshi Smriti Hindi Creation Award:** Devendra Mishra (Madhya Pradesh), work: Dust and Other Stories (Story Collection)
- Shri Shivprasad Sikhwal Smriti Women Writing Award:** Sangeeta Sethi (Bikaner), work: Tum Kab Aaoge (Story Collection)
- Shyam Sundar Nagla Smriti Bal Sahitya Award:** Dr. Nagesh Pandey (Shahjahanpur), work: Naughty Children Stories (Children Story Work)
- Pt. Govind Vallabh Pant Award:** Kumar Suresh (Bhopal), work: Sambhavaami Yuge Yuge.
- Shri Chandramohan Hada Himkar Smriti Novel Writing Award:** Vishwanath Tanwar (Sardarshahar), work: Tapasya.

Approval for Kota-Bundi Greenfield Airport

➡ Why in News?

- The Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs chaired by the Prime Minister approved the construction of Kota-Bundi Greenfield Airport on August 19, 2025.



➡ Key Points:

- **Estimated cost:** ₹1507.00 crores.
- **Proposal:** Introduced by Airports Authority of India (AAI).
- Kota, located on the banks of Chambal river, is known as the industrial capital of Rajasthan. Also, Kota is famous as an educational coaching hub of India.

Daily Current Affairs

Date : 20 August, 2025



- The Government of Rajasthan has transferred 440.06 hectares of land to AAI for the development of a Greenfield Airport suitable for handling A-321 type aircraft.
- The project involves construction of a terminal building spread over an area of 20,000 square meters which will be capable of handling 1000 passengers during peak hours (PHP) and will have an annual capacity of 2 million passengers per annum.
- The existing Kota airport is owned by the Airports Authority of India (AAI).

Facts for Prelims:

Difference between Greenfield and Brownfield:


Description	Greenfield Project	Brownfield Project
Definition	A project initiated on a new and undeveloped land.	A project initiated on previously developed or used land.
Environmental Impact	Higher environmental impact, as the entire land needs to be developed.	Lower environmental impact, as work is done on already developed land.

-:5:-


Rajasthan in Swamitva Yojana


➔ Why in News?

- Under the Swamitva Yojana of the Ministry of Panchayati Raj, digital mapping of 35,955 villages has been completed in Rajasthan.




Swamitva Yojana







Launched on National Panchayati Raj day on pilot basis in 6 states




Mapping of rural inhabited land through drones & new technology




Title deeds to be issued on basis of mapping



“Swamitva” to people through identification of property rights



Settling property disputes in rural India



Streamline revenue collection & planning

Daily Current Affairs

Date : 20 August, 2025



➡ Key Points:

- The top districts under the scheme include Jaipur, Jhalawar, Chittorgarh and Nagaur etc. New districts; such as Balotra, Beawar and Phalodi etc. have the least number of villages digitally mapped.
- **Swamitva Yojana full name:** Survey of Villages Aabadi and Mapping with Improved Technology in Village Areas.
- **Launch of the scheme:** By the Prime Minister on the occasion of Panchayati Raj Day on 24 April 2020.
- **Objective:** To provide the right to rural people to document their residential properties so that they can use their property for economic purposes.
- **Implementation of the scheme:** Jointly by Panchayati Raj Department, Survey of India Department and Revenue Department.
- Under the scheme, the Survey of India Department prepares a digital map of the inhabited areas of all the villages of the state through drones and submits it to the concerned Gram Panchayat.
- On the basis of the map, the concerned Gram Panchayat will issue the lease to the concerned person under the provisions of the Rajasthan Panchayati Raj Act, 1996.
- Out of a total of 36,352 surveyable villages in the state, drone survey work has been completed in 35,955 villages.
- According to Rajasthan Economic Review 2024-25, leases have been distributed to 6,85,935 land owners on the basis of ownership cards after drone survey in 10,765 villages on the basis of map received from Survey of India.

--7--

Brahmi script in Rajasthan school curriculum

➔ Why in News?

- The Rajasthan Sanskrit Education Department has decided to include Brahmi script in the Sanskrit textbook of class 7 in schools.

𑀀	𑀁	𑀂	𑀃	𑀄	𑀅	𑀆	𑀇	𑀈	𑀉
a	ā	i	ī	u	ū	ṛ	ṝ	ḷ	ḹ
[ə]	[a:]	[i]	[i:]	[u]	[u:]	[r]	[r:]	[l]	[l:]
𑀔	𑀕	𑀖	𑀗	𑀘	𑀙	𑀚	𑀛	𑀜	𑀝
ka	kā	ki	kī	ku	kū	kṛ	kṝ	kḷ	kḹ
𑀭	𑀮	𑀯	𑀰	𑀱	𑀲	𑀳			
e	ai	o	au	aṅ	aṁ	aḥ			
[e/ɛ]	[əy]	[o/ɔ]	[a:u]	[aŋ]	[ə̃]	[əh]			
𑀦	𑀧	𑀨	𑀩	𑀪	𑀫	𑀬	𑀭		
ke	kai	ko	kau	kaṅ	kam	kaḥ	k		

➔ Key Points:

- After studying this script, students will be able to read and understand many ancient texts, manuscripts and inscriptions.
- The Sanskrit Education Department took this step on the recommendation of the curriculum development committee. This decision was taken after in-depth study and deliberation under the leadership of the committee chairman Prof. Y.S. Ramesh.

Daily Current Affairs

Date : 20 August, 2025



- Prime Minister Narendra Modi had mentioned the 'Gyan Bharatam Yojana' from the Red Fort on Independence Day on August 15, 2025, to take it forward.
- **Note:** With the aim of promoting the Sanskrit language in the state, the Rajasthan government is planning to teach Sanskrit to children in pre-primary classes as well. Children will be taught names in Sanskrit through pictures. This will be the first experiment in the country where Sanskrit books have been prepared for pre-primary classes.

Facts for Prelims:

Brahmi Script:

- Brahmi script is the earliest writing system developed in India after the Indus script. It is one of the most influential writing systems; all modern Indian scripts and many scripts found in Southeast and East Asia originate from Brahmi.
- The earliest evidence of the Brahmi script comes from the inscriptions of Ashoka, the third Mauryan emperor of Magadha, who ruled much of the Indian subcontinent from 268 to 232 BCE.

--:9::--

News in Shorts

S. No.	News
1.	<p>Martyr Sergeant Surendra Moga</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">♦ On the eve of Independence Day, President Draupadi Murmu approved the Gallantry Awards to be given to the personnel of the Armed Forces and Central Armed Police Forces.♦ Sergeant Surendra Moga, a resident of Mehradasi in Jhunjhunu district, will be awarded the Air Force Medal (Gallantry) (posthumously) for his supreme sacrifice.♦ Sergeant Surendra Moga was seriously injured and martyred in a Pakistani airstrike in the Udhampur sector of Jammu and Kashmir on May 10, 2025 during 'Operation Sindoor'.
2.	<p>'Biodiversity and Conservation': State Level Workshop</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">♦ On August 19, 2025, a state level workshop on the subject of 'Biodiversity and Conservation' was organized by Ranbanka Balaji Trust and Foundation for Ecological Security at Hotel Royal Orchid, Jaipur.♦ The workshop was attended by the “Butterfly Man of Uttarakhand” Peter Smetacek as the keynote speaker.♦ Objective: To bring together policy makers, researchers and the community to communicate on ecosystem challenges and conservation measures.

3.

Baba Banshidas Hospital: Sikar

- ◆ Recently, Deputy Chief Minister Dr. Premchand Bairwa laid the foundation stone of the 100-bed Baba Banshidas Hospital at Sangliya in Danta Ramgarh tehsil of Sikar district.

4.

Indian Railways' only international level rifle shooting range

- ◆ Indian Railways' first and only international level rifle shooting range was inaugurated in Ajmer on August 15, 2025.
- ◆ This state-of-the-art facility will serve as an important resource not only for railway employees but also for emerging sportspersons of Ajmer district and entire Rajasthan.

5.

Safe Roadways (Susama) Campaign

- ◆ Safe Roadways (Susama) Campaign is being organized in Rajasthan under the joint aegis of the Public Works Department and the Higher Education Department.
- ◆ This campaign will be organized from 9 August to 15 September 2025 to promote road safety.
- ◆ **Main objective:** To develop 7 km of urban road as a safe road in selected cities.

6.	<p>Partition Horrors Gallery: Ajmer</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">◆ 'Partition Horrors Gallery' will be established at the State Museum, Ajmer at a cost of ₹5 crore.◆ The Prime Minister had announced to celebrate 14 August in the year 2021 as Partition Horrors Remembrance Day.
7.	<p>12th Indian Industrial Fair: Bhiwadi</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">◆ Recently, the 12th Indian Industrial Fair was organized in Bhiwadi by Laghu Udyog Bharati.
8.	<p>Kodewala Out Post (Border Outpost)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">◆ Chief Minister Bhajan Lal Sharma visited the Kodewala Out Post (Border Outpost) of Khajuwala in Bikaner on the occasion of 79th Independence Day.
9.	<p>Kaman Utsav - 2025</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">◆ Recently, a two-day Kaman Utsav was organized by the Rajasthan Tourism Department at Kaman (Deeg) on the occasion of Shri Krishna Janmashtami.◆ Event: August 16-17, 2025
10.	<p>'Nayika' AI Chatbot: Arsh Chaudhary</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">◆ Arsh Chaudhary, a class 12 student from Jaipur, has developed an AI chatbot called 'Nayika' to help women start and expand businesses.◆ This chatbot provides information on bank loans and public-private schemes for women.◆ Arsh Chaudhary was recognized as one of the top-5 founders in the government's acceleration program at Rajasthan IT Day 2025.

National

Aunta-Simaria Project

➔ Why in News?

- On August 22, 2025, the Prime Minister will inaugurate the Aunta-Simaria Project in Gaya, Bihar.



➔ Key Points:

- The project consists of a nearly two kilometer long bridge over the Ganga river, which will provide direct connectivity between Mokama and Begusarai in Patna district.
- The bridge has been built parallel to the old 2-lane rail-cum-road bridge 'Rajendra Setu'.
- This new bridge will reduce the additional travel distance for heavy vehicles plying between the regions of North Bihar and South Bihar by up to 100 kilometers.
- **Foundation stone of the project:** By the Prime Minister in the year 2017.

Mines and Minerals (Development and Regulation) Amendment Bill, 2025

➔ Why in News?

- The Mines and Minerals (Development and Regulation) Amendment Bill, 2025 was passed in the Rajya Sabha on August 19, 2025.



➔ Key Points:

- The Lok Sabha has already passed this bill.
- This bill further amends the Mines and Minerals (Development and Regulation) Act, 1957.
- **Bill introduced:** Coal and Mines Minister G Kishan Reddy.

Key provisions of the Bill:

- Leaseholders can apply to the state government to include other minerals in the existing lease, no additional amount is required to be paid for inclusion of critical and strategic minerals, and other specified minerals. These include minerals such as lithium, graphite, nickel, cobalt, gold and silver.
- **National Mineral Exploration Trust:** This Act establishes the National Mineral Exploration Trust to finance mineral exploration in the country.
- **Economic Incentives:** The Bill also provides funds for the development of mines and minerals by expanding the scope of the trust. Under the Act, captive mines are allowed to sell up to 50 per cent of the minerals produced in a year, after meeting the end-use requirements.
- **Sale Limit:** The Bill removes the limit on the sale of minerals.
- **Establishment of Authority:** The Bill provides for the establishment of an authority for the registration and regulation of mineral exchanges.

Other Important Points:

- Transparent allocation of mines has brought Rs 6 lakh 85 thousand crore to the states from the Centre.
- India is the second largest coal producer and the second largest coal consumer.
- The country's coal production has crossed one billion tonnes for the first time.
- The government has identified 24 critical minerals under the exploration of critical minerals.

National Critical Mineral Mission:

- **Allocation:** Rs 32 thousand crore.

Indian Institutes of Management (Amendment) Bill, 2025

➡ Why in News?

- On August 19, 2025, the Lok Sabha has passed the Indian Institutes of Management (Amendment) Bill, 2025.



➡ Key Points:

- **Bill introduced:** By Union Education Minister Dharmendra Pradhan.
- The Bill will further amend the Indian Institutes of Management Act, 2017.
- **Provisions:** The Bill provides for the establishment of an Indian Institute of Management in Guwahati, Assam, along with a financial grant of Rs 550 crore has been allocated for IIM Guwahati.
- Currently, there are 21 IIMs functioning in the country.

28 new initiatives of Election Commission

➔ Why in News?

- Election Commission of India has taken 28 important initiatives during the last six months, which aim to make the electoral process more smooth, transparent and effective.



➔ Key Points:

	Category	Initiative
A.	Stakeholder Engagement	<ul style="list-style-type: none">■ All-party meetings by EROs, DEOs, and CEOs: 4,719 meetings held across India (40 by CEOs, 800 by DEOs, 3,879 by EROs) with participation from over 28,000 party representatives.■ Meetings with party leadership: 20 meetings held with presidents and senior leaders of national and state parties.

Daily Current Affairs

Date : 20 August, 2025



<p>B.</p> <p>Electoral System Strengthening & Cleansing</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Deregistration of inactive unrecognized political parties (RUPPs): 476 identified; 334 already removed from the list. ■ Defined roles of 28 stakeholders as per the Constitution, Representation of People Acts (1950 & 1951), and relevant rules & guidelines. ■ Photo ID cards for BLOs to boost transparency and trust. - EVM microcontroller testing: Post-result verification of 5% EVMs using SOPs for burn memory/microcontroller checks. ■ National conferences of legal advisors & CEOs to strengthen legal frameworks and improve representation. ■ Bilateral meetings with EMBs at the IDEA Stockholm Conference (June 2025) to enhance democratic collaboration.
<p>C.</p> <p>Enhanced Use of Technology</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Single digital portal - ECI-NET: Integration of 40+ apps/websites for voters, officials, and political parties. ■ 100% webcasting at polling stations for uninterrupted monitoring. ■ Real-time voter turnout updates: Presiding Officers to upload data every 2 hours via ECI-NET app. ■ Digital index cards & reports for improved access to constituency-level election data. ■ Mandatory VVPAT slip matching: In case of EVM-Form 17C mismatch or where mock poll data wasn't deleted.
<p>D.</p> <p>Electoral Roll Purification</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Special intensive revision in Bihar to ensure no eligible voter is left out or ineligible name retained. ■ Special summary revision before bypolls: For the first time in 20 years, revisions were done before bypolls in 4 states.

Daily Current Affairs

Date : 20 August, 2025



		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Integration with death registration data to help EROs proactively update voter lists. ■ Unique EPIC numbers for each individual voter to avoid duplication.
E.	Ease of Voting	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Mobile deposit counters set up outside polling stations for voters to securely deposit phones. ■ 1200 voter limit per polling station to reduce crowding and allow for additional booths in high-density areas. ■ Clear voter information slips with prominent serial and part numbers. ■ Candidate booths allowed 100 meters outside polling stations: For distributing informal slips when voters forget official ECI slips.
F.	Capacity Building	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Training at IIIDEM: Over 7,000 BLOs and observers trained at IIIDEM, New Delhi. ■ Increased honorarium: Doubled for BLOs; enhanced for supervisors, polling/counting staff, CAPF, monitoring teams, and micro-observers. ■ Training of BLAs: Booth Level Agents in Bihar, Tamil Nadu, and Puducherry trained on electoral roll management and appeal provisions under RP Act 1950. ■ Training for media & communication officers: Orientation for state-level officers to improve election-related public communication. ■ Training for police officers: Special sessions held for Bihar police to strengthen law and order preparedness. ■ Strengthening internal systems: Introduction of biometric attendance, e-office migration, and IIIDEM transfers for improved efficiency.

Important Days

Sadbhavna Diwas 2025 (Communal Harmony Day)

➔ Why in News?

- Sadbhavna Diwas is celebrated every year on 20 August in India with the aim of promoting peace, unity and harmony among different religions and communities.



➔ Key Points:

- **Objective:** To develop peace and understanding among different religious, ethnic and cultural communities as well as encourage inclusiveness, secularism, tolerance and mutual respect.
- Sadbhavna Diwas is celebrated to commemorate the birth anniversary of former Prime Minister of India Rajiv Gandhi.

Daily Current Affairs

Date : 20 August, 2025



- **Beginning:** From 20 August 1992.
- **First time organized:** Sadbhavna Diwas was first celebrated in the year 1992 after the assassination of Rajiv Gandhi in the year 1991.

Other Important Points:

Rajiv Gandhi:

- Sixth and youngest Prime Minister of India.
- **Tenure:** He held the post of Prime Minister from the year 1984 to 1989.
- **Contribution:** Strengthening of Panchayati Raj through National Education Policy (1986), 73rd and 74th Amendments, promoting regional cooperation (e.g., SAARC) and establishment of youth-focused Rajiv Gandhi National Institute of Youth Development.
- **Rajiv Gandhi National Sadbhavana Award:** Awarded to former member of Telangana Legislative Assembly Geeta Reddy in the year 2024.

Polity

Vice Presidential Candidates

➔ Why in News?

- After former Vice President Jagdeep Dhankhar resigned from his post on July 21, 2025, recently the National Democratic Alliance (NDA) declared Maharashtra Governor C.P. Radhakrishnan as the Vice Presidential candidate, while the opposition (I.N.D.I.A.) named former Supreme Court judge B. Sudarshan Reddy as the Vice Presidential candidate.



➔ Key Points:

- Votes will be cast for the post of Vice President on September 9, 2025.
- According to Article 66 of the Constitution, the Vice President is elected by the members of the electoral college consisting of members of both the Houses of Parliament by means of a single transferable vote in accordance with the proportional representation system.
- In this process, voters select candidates in order of preference.
- The Election Commission of India has appointed the Secretary General of the Rajya Sabha as the Returning Officer for the upcoming Vice Presidential election. The decision is in keeping with established practice where the roles are rotated between the Secretary-Generals of Lok Sabha and Rajya Sabha.
- The appointments were made under Section 3 of the Presidential and Vice-Presidential Elections Act, 1952, in consultation with the Union Ministry of Law and Justice and with the concurrence of the Deputy Chairman, Rajya Sabha.

Daily Current Affairs

Date : 20 August, 2025



Candidate Name	C.P. Radhakrishnan	Justice B. Sudarshan Reddy
		
Profession	Senior Politician	Eminent Jurist
Date of Birth	20 October 1957, Tiruppur, Tamil Nadu	8 July 1946, Ranga Reddy, Andhra Pradesh (now Telangana)
Education	BBA from V.O. Chidambaram College, Thoothukudi	LLB from Osmania University, Hyderabad
Career	Joined RSS at the age of 17 and Jan Sangh in 1974. Elected MP from Coimbatore in 1998 and 1999 on BJP ticket. Tamil Nadu BJP President (2004–2007). In-charge of Kerala BJP (2020–2022). Served as Governor of Jharkhand (2023–24). Also held charge of Puducherry and Telangana.	Began legal career on 27 December 1971. Appointed Judge of Andhra Pradesh High Court in 1995. Chief Justice of Guwahati High Court in 2005. Judge of the Supreme Court from 2007 to 2011. Key judgments include SIT formation on black money, declared <i>Salwa Judum</i> unconstitutional, and investigated allegations against Justice Soumitra Sen.
Current Position	Currently Governor of Maharashtra	Currently serves on the Trustee Board of International Arbitration and Mediation Centre, Hyderabad

Sports

--:23:--

Rashmika Sehgal

➔ Why in News?

- Rashmika Sehgal won the gold medal, India's third individual yellow medal, at the ongoing 16th Asian Shooting Championship 2025 in Shymkent, Kazakhstan.



-:24:-

Daily Current Affairs

Date : 20 August, 2025



➡ Key Points:


- Rashmika won the junior women's air pistol title with an impressive score of 241.9, finishing 4.3 points ahead of silver winner Korean Han Seunghyun.
- It was a double delight for Rashmika (qualification score 582) as she teamed up with Vanshika Chaudhary (573) and Mohini Singh (565) to win the team gold medal of the event

Other Points:

- Earlier, two-time Olympic bronze medallist Manu Bhaker won another individual international medal by finishing third with 219.7 points in the final of the women's 10m air pistol event.
- **India's performance so far:** Five gold, two silver and four bronze medals

-:25:-

News in Shorts

S. No.	News
1.	<p>South Central Railway: Five key departments headed by women</p>  <ul style="list-style-type: none">◆ For the first time in the history of South Central Railway (NCR), its five most important departments, operations, commercial, finance, security and medical, are currently headed by women officers.◆ These departments play a vital role in ensuring smooth rail operations, passenger safety, financial discipline and health services.