

August 16, 2026

DAILY MASTER CURRENT AFFAIRS

IBPS PO/Clerk | SBI PO/Clerk | RBI Grade B | NABARD

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Executive Summary of the Day

Welcome to the Daily Master Current Affairs! Today's digest covers essential updates across National Affairs, Banking & Economy, and Science & Technology, perfectly tailored for your upcoming banking examinations. This guide maintains strict factual accuracy and is optimized for quick, effective learning.

1. Banking, Finance & Economy Updates

RBI Monetary Policy (August 2026)

- **Repo Rate:** The Monetary Policy Committee (MPC) unanimously voted to keep the policy repo rate unchanged at **5.25%**.
- **Growth & Inflation:** Real GDP growth for 2026-27 is projected at **6.7%**. The CPI inflation projection for 2026-27 has been revised to **5.0%**.

Retail Inflation Data: According to MoSPI, India's CPI-based retail inflation rose to **4.45%** in July 2026 from 4.38% in June. Using the new 2024=100 base, rural inflation stood at 4.84% and urban inflation at 3.96%.

Indian Bank's 120th Foundation Day: Indian Bank approved nearly ₹500 crore in MSME loans during a Credit Outreach Programme in New Delhi as part of its 120th Foundation Day Fortnight Celebrations. The initiative enables faster, paperless loan processing with OTP-based digital documentation.



2. National News & State Affairs

80th Independence Day Theme: India will celebrate its 80th Independence Day on 15 August 2026. The theme of the celebrations is "**Yuva Shakti for Viksit Bharat@2047**".

300 GW Clean Energy Milestone: India officially crossed **300 GW** of installed non-fossil fuel-based electricity capacity, marking a 400% surge in renewable energy capacity over the last 12 years.

TRAI 1601-Series Numbers: TRAI initiated the phase-wise implementation of the **1601-series** numbering system for service and transactional voice calls by entities outside the BFSI and government sectors (such as utilities and logistics).

L&T AI Factory in Chennai: Larsen & Toubro (L&T) secured a Mega order to build India's largest single-cluster AI infrastructure at Vyoma's data-centre campus in **Chennai**, capable of supporting 10,000 NVIDIA B300 GPUs.

Monsoon Session Concludes: The Monsoon Session 2026 of Parliament was adjourned sine die after 19 sittings. A total of **12 Bills** were passed by both the Lok Sabha and Rajya Sabha.

3. Appointments & Resignations

- **Justice Abha Nayar Patel:** Became the first woman of Indian origin appointed as a Judge of the Supreme Court of **Zambia**.
- **Rahul Navin:** Granted a one-year extension as the Director of the **Enforcement Directorate (ED)** up to August 2027.
- **Dr. Bhooma VG:** Selected as the Vice-Chancellor of the Atal Bihari Vajpayee Institute of Public Service and Innovation (AIPSI) in **Mauritius**.
- **Gyanesh Bharti:** Appointed as the Chief Secretary of Andaman and Nicobar Islands.

4. Awards, Honours & Important Days

2026 Dirac Medal: Indian physicist **Deepak Dhar** was named a recipient of the 2026 Dirac Medal by the Abdus Salam International Centre for Theoretical Physics (ICTP) in Italy.

IAF Elite Fighter Combat Leader: Squadron Leader **Bhawana Kanth** became the first woman to graduate from the IAF's elite Fighter Combat Leader course.



GeM Award: DRDO received the Government e-Marketplace (GeM) Award for the Maximum Number of Orders Value to Micro & Small Enterprises (MSEs).

Important Days in August:

- **13 August:** International Left-Handers Day & World Organ Donation Day.
- **14 August:** Partition Horrors Remembrance Day & World Lizard Day.

5. Daily MCQs for Practice (Top 15)

Q1. What is the policy repo rate maintained by the RBI MPC in its August 2026 meeting?

- a. a) 5.00%
- b. b) 5.25%
- c. c) 5.50%
- d. d) 6.50%

Answer: b) 5.25%

Q2. What is the RBI's FY27 GDP growth projection announced in the August 2026 monetary policy?

- a. a) 6.5%
- b. b) 6.7%
- c. c) 7.0%
- d. d) 7.3%

Answer: b) 6.7%

Q3. According to MoSPI, what was India's retail inflation (CPI) in July 2026?

- a. a) 3.96%
- b. b) 4.38%
- c. c) 4.45%
- d. d) 4.84%

Answer: c) 4.45%



Q4. Which bank approved ₹500 crore in MSME loans during its 120th Foundation Day celebrations?

- a. a) State Bank of India
- b. b) Punjab National Bank
- c. c) Indian Bank
- d. d) Bank of Baroda

Answer: c) Indian Bank

Q5. What is the theme for India's 80th Independence Day celebrations in 2026?

- a. a) Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav
- b. b) Nation First, Always First
- c. c) Yuva Shakti for Viksit Bharat@2047
- d. d) Har Ghar Tiranga

Answer: c) Yuva Shakti for Viksit Bharat@2047

Q6. India recently crossed what major milestone in installed non-fossil fuel-based electricity capacity?

- a. a) 200 GW
- b. b) 300 GW
- c. c) 400 GW
- d. d) 500 GW

Answer: b) 300 GW

Q7. Which numbering series has TRAI rolled out for trusted service and transactional voice calls outside BFSI and Govt sectors?

- a. a) 1400-series
- b. b) 1500-series
- c. c) 1601-series
- d. d) 1800-series

Answer: c) 1601-series



Q8. Which company secured a Mega order to build India's largest single-cluster AI infrastructure in Chennai?

- a. a) TCS
- b. b) Infosys
- c. c) Larsen & Toubro (L&T)
- d. d) Reliance Jio

Answer: c) Larsen & Toubro (L&T)

Q9. How many Bills were passed by Parliament during the Monsoon Session 2026?

- a. a) 8
- b. b) 10
- c. c) 12
- d. d) 15

Answer: c) 12

Q10. Justice Abha Nayar Patel became the first woman of Indian origin to be appointed to the Supreme Court of which country?

- a. a) South Africa
- b. b) Kenya
- c. c) Zambia
- d. d) Mauritius

Answer: c) Zambia

Q11. Who has been granted a one-year extension as the Director of the Enforcement Directorate (ED)?

- a. a) Sanjay Kumar Mishra
- b. b) Rahul Navin
- c. c) Praveen Sood
- d. d) Tapan Deka

Answer: b) Rahul Navin



Q12. Dr. Bhooma VG has been selected as the Vice-Chancellor of AIPSI in which country?

- a. a) Maldives
- b. b) Seychelles
- c. c) Mauritius
- d. d) Sri Lanka

Answer: c) Mauritius

Q13. Which Indian physicist was awarded the 2026 Dirac Medal?

- a. a) Ashoke Sen
- b. b) C.V. Raman
- c. c) Deepak Dhar
- d. d) Jayant Narlikar

Answer: c) Deepak Dhar

Q14. Who became the first woman to graduate from the IAF's elite Fighter Combat Leader course?

- a. a) Avani Chaturvedi
- b. b) Mohana Singh
- c. c) Bhawana Kanth
- d. d) Shaliza Dhami

Answer: c) Bhawana Kanth

Q15. Partition Horrors Remembrance Day is observed annually in India on which date?

- a. a) 12 August
- b. b) 13 August
- c. c) 14 August
- d. d) 15 August

Answer: c) 14 August



★ ONE-PAGE QUICK REVISION ★

1. Economy & RBI Updates: RBI maintained the repo rate at 5.25%, with FY27 GDP growth projected at 6.7% and CPI inflation at 5.0%. Retail inflation (CPI) for July 2026 rose to 4.45%. Indian Bank approved ₹500 crore in MSME loans during its 120th Foundation Day.

2. National News: India crossed 300 GW of installed non-fossil fuel capacity. The 80th Independence Day theme is "Yuva Shakti for Viksit Bharat@2047". The Monsoon Session of Parliament concluded after 19 sittings, passing 12 Bills. L&T secured a Mega order for Chennai's AI infrastructure. TRAI rolled out the 1601-series for trusted service calls.

3. Appointments: Justice Abha Nayar Patel (Supreme Court of Zambia), Rahul Navin (ED Director extension), Dr. Bhooma VG (VC of AIPSI, Mauritius), Gyanesh Bharti (CS of A&N Islands).

4. Awards & Defence: Deepak Dhar won the 2026 Dirac Medal. Sqn Ldr Bhawana Kanth became the first woman graduate of the IAF's Fighter Combat Leader course. DRDO received the GeM Award for MSEs.

5. Important Days: 13 Aug (Intl. Left-Handers Day, World Organ Donation Day), 14 Aug (Partition Horrors Remembrance Day, World Lizard Day).

