



EVERYDAY CURRENT AFFAIRS – JULY 8, 2026

INTERNATIONAL

India and Indonesia Strengthen Strategic Partnership with 14 Agreements

- Prime Minister Narendra Modi visited Jakarta, Indonesia on 7 July 2026.
- India and Indonesia signed 14 agreements under their Comprehensive Strategic Partnership.
- The agreements cover defence, maritime security, trade, digital payments, education, space, healthcare, and critical minerals.
- Indonesia decided to procure BrahMos supersonic cruise missiles from India.
- It also approved the purchase of Astra Beyond-Visual-Range Air-to-Air Missiles (BVRAAMs).
- The defence deal is valued at over US\$600 million.
- Indonesia became the third Southeast Asian country to acquire BrahMos after the Philippines and Vietnam.
- Both nations reaffirmed support for a free, open, inclusive, and rules-based Indo-Pacific.
- The leaders emphasized ASEAN Centrality, maritime cooperation, and regional stability.
- The agreements further strengthen India's defence exports and strategic partnership with Indonesia.

NATIONAL

Kamarajar Port Becomes India's Second Port with 18-Metre Operational Draft

- Kamarajar Port is located in Tamil Nadu.
- It became India's second port with an 18-metre operational draft.
- The achievement followed completion of the ₹440-crore Capital Dredging Phase VI Project.
- Only Visakhapatnam Port had previously achieved this capability.
- The port can now handle fully loaded Capesize vessels.
- These vessels can carry up to 1,70,000 DWT cargo.
- Navigation channels and berth depths were significantly deepened.
- The port is now classified as Cape Compliant.
- The upgrade will reduce logistics costs and improve cargo handling.
- It will also strengthen India's maritime trade and EXIM competitiveness.

Four States Sign Narmada Project Payment Agreement to Resolve Financial Disputes

- Madhya Pradesh, Gujarat, Rajasthan and Maharashtra signed the agreement.
- The agreement was signed in New Delhi on 7 July 2026.
- It resolves long-pending financial issues under the NWDT Award.
- It covers the Sardar Sarovar and Indira Sagar projects.
- Issues include cost-sharing, compensation and rehabilitation expenses.
- The agreement also settles pending financial dues among states.
- The event was attended by Amit Shah and C. R. Patil.
- NWDT was constituted under the Inter-State Water Disputes Act.
- The agreement promotes better interstate water governance.
- It strengthens cooperative federalism among Narmada basin states.

Ministry of Tribal Affairs Launches TribeX, India's First Digital Platform for Tribal Heritage

- The Ministry of Tribal Affairs launched TribeX on 7 July 2026.
- TribeX is India's first digital learning platform dedicated to tribal heritage.
- It was inaugurated by Union Tribal Affairs Minister Jual Oram.
- The launch took place during the National Workshop on Strengthening Tribal Research Institutes in Bhubaneswar, Odisha.

- The platform promotes tribal arts, culture, languages, and traditional knowledge.
- It currently offers 20 free certificate courses.
- The number of courses will be expanded to more than 100.
- TribeX also provides five UGC-recognised one-year hybrid postgraduate diploma programmes.
- An MoU was signed with Sampurnanand Sanskrit University, Varanasi, for academic collaboration.
- The initiative supports research, employment opportunities, and preservation of tribal heritage.

SCHEMES

UP Mahila Samarthya Yojana 2026: Empowering Rural Women Through Skill Development

- UP Mahila Samarthya Yojana was launched in 2021 by the Government of Uttar Pradesh.
- The scheme is implemented through the Uttar Pradesh State Rural Livelihood Mission (UPSRLM).
- Its objective is to empower rural women through Self-Help Groups (SHGs).
- Eligible SHGs receive free skill training in eight employment-oriented sectors.
- Each eligible SHG is provided a ₹15,000 revolving fund.
- The scheme also offers entrepreneurship support and market linkages through Cluster Level Enterprises (CLEs).
- Beneficiaries include rural women aged 18–60 years who are members of registered UPSRLM SHGs.
- Priority is given to BPL families, SC/ST communities, women with disabilities, and Aspirational Districts.
- The initiative promotes women-led enterprises, financial inclusion, and rural employment.
- It contributes to sustainable livelihoods and socio-economic development in Uttar Pradesh.

SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY

DeepSeek Develops Custom AI Chip to Strengthen China's AI Ecosystem

- DeepSeek is a Chinese artificial intelligence startup based in Hangzhou.
- The company is developing a custom AI chip for AI inference workloads.
- The project began around July 2025.
- The chip aims to reduce China's dependence on foreign semiconductor technology.
- DeepSeek is working with Semiconductor Manufacturing International Corporation (SMIC).
- SMIC currently manufactures chips using a 7-nanometre process.
- The company's V4-Pro and V4-Flash AI models were released in April 2026.
- These models are optimized for Huawei Ascend processors.
- The development comes amid U.S. and Dutch restrictions on advanced chip exports to China.
- DeepSeek is seeking about US\$7 billion in funding at a valuation of US\$52–59 billion.

SPORTS

India Unveils Eco-Friendly Jute Apparel for Commonwealth Games 2026

- India will become the first country to use jute-viscose blended apparel at an international multi-sport event.
- The apparel has been developed for the Commonwealth Games 2026.
- The Games will be held in Glasgow, Scotland, from 23 July to 2 August 2026.
- The apparel was developed by the National Jute Board (NJB) under the Ministry of Textiles.
- It was created in collaboration with Gloster Jute Mills and NIFT.
- The fabric is made from 100% biodegradable jute-viscose blend.
- The initiative promotes sustainable textiles, eco-friendly natural fibres, and the Make in India campaign.
- India's 124-member contingent (78 men and 46 women) will wear the apparel during official ceremonies.
- The official kit was unveiled in New Delhi on 7 July 2026.

- Union Ministers Dr. Mansukh Mandaviya, Giriraj Singh, Raksha Khadse, and IOA President P. T. Usha attended the unveiling ceremony.

