

Highlights of 8 May 2026 Current Affairs

- Every year **May 8** is being celebrated as **World Thalassaemia Day**.
- **The Reserve Bank of India** has cancelled the licence of **Paytm Bank Limited** under Section 22(4) of the Banking Regulation Act, 1949.
- **The Joint Commanders' Conference** was attended by Chief of Defence Staff General **Anil Chauhan**, Army Chief General **Upendra Dwivedi**, Navy Chief **Admiral Dinesh K. Tripathi**, and Air Chief Marshal **A. P. Singh** at **Jaipur**.
- **Apple** is set to invest ₹100 crore in India for the “**India Clean**” initiative to develop more than **150 megawatts** of new renewable energy capacity in the country.
- **Skyroot Aerospace**, India's first **spacetech unicorn**, achieved this status with funding of **₹60 million**. Skyroot was founded in **2018** by former ISRO scientists **Pawan Kumar** and **Naga Bharath Daka**. It came into the news in **2022** when they launched **Vikram-S**, the first privately manufactured Indian rocket to reach space. With this achievement, Skyroot became the **fourth unicorn of India in 2026**, after AI startup **Neysa** and fintech companies **KreditBee** and **Justpay**.
- **Kotak Mahindra Bank** will acquire about **9.99% stake** in **AU Small Finance Bank and Federal Bank**, and the same has received approval from the RBI.
- The inaugural edition of the **World Yogasana Championship** will be hosted by India at **TransStadia in Ahmedabad**.
- **The National Highways Authority of India (NHAI)** will dedicate **pollination corridors** on the newly constructed **Delhi–Amritsar–Katra** National Highway with **bee-friendly vegetation**. The initiative, called *Trees for Bees*, aims to increase the honeybee and wild bee population by planting **Neem, Jamun, Arjun, Amaltas, Peepal, Kadam, Amla, and Neeli Gulmohar** along the highway.
- **Prime Minister Narendra Modi** gifted three items to **Vietnam's President To Lam** during his three-day visit to India. The first was **Banarasi silk fabric** from Varanasi, featuring floral and vine motifs woven in a jacquard pattern. The second was a **brass sculpture** depicting **Gautam Buddha** in a meditative posture beneath a Bodhi tree. The third was *Namoh 108*, a sacred creation with exactly 108 petals, considered holy across Hinduism, Buddhism, and Jainism. The name *Namoh* is derived from Sanskrit, meaning “salutation.”