

Highlights of 05 August 2026 Current Affairs

- The **joint currency intervention by the United States Treasury and Japan's Ministry of Finance**—the first bilateral coordinated intervention since 2011—marks a pivot in global forex markets. By directly purchasing Japanese Yen (JPY) and selling US Dollars (USD), both nations aim to halt the sharp depreciation of the yen and stabilize rising US Treasury yields. When the yen rapidly strengthens, it triggers ripple effects across global financial markets, with specific direct and indirect transmission channels into **Indian equities, bonds, currency, and trade**.
- Foundations co-founded by actor **Leonardo DiCaprio** and Amazon founder **Jeff Bezos** launched a **\$200 million** initiative called the **Phoenix Species Project**. Described as the largest single fund in history dedicated exclusively to species recovery, the project aims to prevent the extinction of **100 of the world's most critically endangered animals and plants**.
- **August 5** marks the anniversary of the 2019 abrogation of Article 370, which revoked **Jammu & Kashmir's** special status and bifurcated the state into two Union Territories. Regional leaders like Chief Minister Omar Abdullah view it as a "Black Day" and continue to press for the restoration of full statehood and constitutional rights. Conversely, the ruling government marks the day as a landmark turning point that brought national integration, stability, and development to the region.
- According to the **National Organ and Tissue Transplant Organisation (NOTTO) Annual Report 2025–26** released on the **16th Indian Organ Donation Day**, India achieved a historical milestone in 2025 by completing **20,138 total organ transplants**. This represents a **6.5% increase** over 2024 and a fourfold surge since 2013. **Tamil Nadu** emerged as the nation's leader in deceased organ donations with **266 deceased donors** in 2025, while ranking **second nationwide** in total transplants performed.
- At 18 years and 346 days old, **Nathan Thomas** broke a 306-year-old Guinness World Record to become the world's youngest male professor after being appointed to teach engineering at Miami Dade College. Having entered college at age 10 and earned both his Bachelor's and Master's degrees in Electrical Engineering by 18, he achieved faculty status well ahead of his peers. Now 21, Thomas continues teaching engineering while pursuing a Juris Doctor degree at the University of Miami School of Law.
- Indian astrophysicist **Dr. Annapurni Subramaniam**, Director of the Indian Institute of Astrophysics (IIA), has been awarded the COSPAR Vikram Sarabhai Medal 2026 at the 46th COSPAR Scientific Assembly in Florence, Italy. She is the first Indian female scientist and the fourth Indian overall to receive this award—conferred jointly by COSPAR and ISRO to honor outstanding contributions to space research by scientists from developing nations. Known for her research on stellar populations and galaxy evolution, her notable work includes serving as the lead calibration scientist for the UVIT instrument aboard India's AstroSat observatory.
- Under its 2026 BRICS Presidency, India's Department of **Personnel and Training (DoPT)** hosted the Second BRICS Anti-Corruption Working Group Meeting and Asset Recovery Expert Network Meeting in Hyderabad on August 4–5. Centered on the theme "Building for Resilience, Innovation, Cooperation and Sustainability," delegates focused on cross-border asset recovery, tracing fugitive financial offenders, and managing corruption risks tied to FinTech and digital assets. The final event under India's

presidency also featured a side event on tech-driven, ethical governance, emphasizing digital public procurement and transparency.

- The Central Government introduced major **UPSC and SSC recruitment reforms** to accelerate hiring, boost transparency, and prevent fraud, as announced by Union Minister Dr. Jitendra Singh. Under the new measures, SSC shortened its recruitment cycle from 15–18 months to 6–8 months, while UPSC reduced its timeline to ~13 months. Key upgrades include AI-driven attempt tracking, biometric face authentication, e-Dossier verification, a Sliding Mechanism for vacant posts, and provisional answer keys open to candidate feedback.
- To protect domestic industries from unfair trade practices, India's Finance Ministry—acting on DGTR recommendations—imposed a fresh 5-year anti-dumping duty (USD 42.95–128.83/tonne) on low ash **metallurgical coke imports** from six nations. Additionally, existing anti-dumping duties were extended on four key industrial inputs: untreated fumed silica, arylides, seamless tubes/pipes, and normal butanol. Aligned with WTO rules, these measures prevent underpriced foreign imports from hurting Indian manufacturers, encouraging local production and fair market competition.
- **The Department of Posts** released a commemorative postage stamp at Bikaner House, New Delhi, to mark the 100th birth anniversary of legendary artist, sculptor, muralist, and **architect Satish Gujral**. Unveiled by Union Minister Jyotiraditya M. Scindia, the stamp features a 2010 acrylic-on-canvas self-portrait—one of only four he painted—depicting him with a paintbrush. Designed by Anuj Kumar following a proposal by Gujral's daughter, Raseel Gujral Ansal (via the Raseel Gujral Art Legacy), the release was paired with an exhibition (August 4–9) and limited-edition collectible stamp sets honoring his enduring contributions to Indian modern art and philately.
- **The Ministry of Road Transport and Highways (MoRTH)** has proposed making **Vehicle-to-Vehicle (V2V)** communication mandatory for all new vehicles in Categories L, M, and N starting October 1, 2028, under the AIS-230 standard. Operating via Cellular **Vehicle-to-Everything (C-V2X)** technology, V2V allows vehicles to wirelessly share real-time data like speed, position, and sudden braking beyond direct line-of-sight. The phased rollout aims to significantly enhance connected mobility, reduce road accidents, and build the foundation for intelligent transportation systems across India.
- **India and Uzbekistan** set an ambitious goal to double bilateral trade to US\$3 billion within three years during the India-Uzbekistan Business Forum in New Delhi on August 3, 2026. Following a 30% trade surge to US\$1.32 billion last year, both nations agreed to explore a Bilateral Free Trade Agreement (FTA) to boost market access and investments across key sectors like mining, rare earth minerals, pharmaceuticals, and IT. Driven by India's "Connect Central Asia Policy," the partnership already features over 400 Indian firms in Uzbekistan and a joint project pipeline exceeding US\$5 billion.

Static GK – 05 August 2026

Entity	Details
USA President	Donald Trump
USA Capital	Washington D.C.
USA Currency	U.S. Dollar
Japan Prime Minister	Sanae Takaichi
Japan Capital	Tokyo
Japan Currency	Yen
Jammu & Kashmir Chief Minister	Omar Abdullah
Jammu & Kashmir Lieutenant Governor	Manoj Sinha
Ladakh Lieutenant Governor	Vinai Kumar Saxena
Tamil Nadu Chief Minister	C. Joseph Vijay
Tamil Nadu Governor	Rajendra Vishwanath Arlekar
Tamil Nadu Capital	Chennai

Entity	Details
Uzbekistan Capital	Tashkent
Uzbekistan Currency	Uzbekistani Som
Uzbekistan President	Shavkat Mirziyoyev