

Highlights of 11 August 2026 Current Affairs

- The Dergang Farmer Producer Organisation (FPO) in Tripura exported its maiden **1-metric-tonne consignment of mustard honey** to Dubai. **Institutional & Private Support:** The export was facilitated by the APEDA (Agricultural and Processed Food Products Export Development Authority) under the Ministry of Commerce and Industry, with technical and supply-chain support from **Salt Range Foods Pvt. Ltd.** Tripura Agriculture Minister **Ratan Lal Nath** flagged off the consignment alongside state officials and IFOAM Organics Asia representatives. The initiative aims to enhance price realization for local beekeepers and strengthen the North Eastern Region's organic agri-export ecosystem.
- The Forest Survey of India (FSI) has compiled an album identifying **45 major Invasive Alien Plant Species (IAPS)**, tracking their dense to moderate occurrence across Reserved Forests. The Botanical Survey of India (BSI) submitted a comprehensive state-wise inventory covering both forest and non-forest areas to the National Biodiversity Authority (NBA) to facilitate a unified **National Management Plan for Invasive Species**. State Governments and Union Territory administrations are tasked with executing targeted removal and habitat restoration. Under the **National Working Plan Code 2023**, the initiative emphasizes ecosystem-based forest management, restoring degraded landscapes, and prioritizing native flora during regeneration.
- **National Tribunals Commission (NTC)** passed by Parliament in August 2026, the Bill replaces the Tribunals Reforms Act, 2021 to establish an independent, judiciary-led NTC headquartered in New Delhi to oversee selection processes, performance reviews, and administrative oversight.
- Union Agriculture Minister Shivraj Singh Chouhan launched the ICAR NSP-DBT integration at ICAR-IARI, Pusa, transferring **₹21.35 crore** directly into the bank accounts of over **6,000 agriculture students and research fellows**. Replacing sporadic multi-month backlogs, the new National Scholarship Portal (NSP) framework establishes a streamlined **monthly Direct Benefit Transfer (DBT) cycle** to deliver timely financial assistance to students. The Minister urged students to pair classroom study with hands-on field experience, driving agtech innovation, research startups, and climate-smart solutions to improve farm yields and rural livelihoods.
- The V.O. Chidambaranar (VOC) Port Authority in Thoothukudi, Tamil Nadu, became India's first major port to be recognized as **Scope-2 Emission-Free**. Bureau Veritas conferred the Scope-2 Emission-Free recognition after independent verification confirmed its renewable generation exceeded electricity consumption in Q4 FY 2025–26. Additionally, the Indian Register Quality Systems (IRQS) awarded the port **ISO 50001:2018 certification** for its Energy Management System.
- The Gujarat Forest Department launched a **₹2.94 crore Plastic Waste Management Project** around the Ramsar-designated Nalsarovar Bird Sanctuary, supported by the Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) under the broader Project for Eco-Restoration in Gujarat. A dedicated waste collection and processing center has been set up at **Kayla village in Viramgam taluka**, serving surrounding villages across Ahmedabad and Surendranagar districts. Eco-Development Committees (EDCs) will appoint local villagers as *Swachhta Praharis* for door-to-door segregation and collection of dry plastic waste.

- The Jammu and Kashmir administration approved **₹10 crore** for the comprehensive repair, renovation, and structural restoration of **Rattan Garh Fort** in Bhaderwah, located in Doda district. Built in **1733 by Raja Sampat Pal**, the fort stands as the sole surviving structure among seven original bastions that historically guarded the Bhaderwah valley. Historical archives also record its later use as a local prison facility.
- President of Iran **Masoud Pezeshkian** appointed former Islamic Revolutionary Guard Corps (IRGC) commander **Mohsen Rezaei** as Secretary of the Supreme National Security Council (SNSC), succeeding Mohammad Bagher Zolghadr. Supreme Leader Ayatollah Mojtaba Khamenei simultaneously appointed Rezaei as his direct representative on the council.
- India presented **five young male peacocks** (*Pavo cristatus*) to the United Nations Office at Geneva (UNOG) during an official ceremony. India's Permanent Representative to the UN in Geneva, Ambassador Arindam Bagchi, handed over the birds to UNOG Director-General Tatiana Valovaya. The flock consists of **four iconic blue Indian peafowl and one rare white-feathered male** (leucistic variant). Their blue and white plumage reflects the official colors of the United Nations.
- The **Bankers' Books Evidence Bill, 2026** passed the Rajya Sabha by voice vote, replacing the 135-year-old colonial **Bankers' Books Evidence Act, 1891**. The legislation explicitly validates records maintained in physical, electronic, digital, cloud, backup, or disaster-recovery systems as legally enforceable evidence in court, provided system integrity and anti-tampering safeguards are met.
- Bengaluru-based Sarla Aviation received the Design Organisation Approval under CAR 21 Subpart J from the Directorate General of Civil Aviation (DGCA), handed over by Union Civil Aviation Minister K. Rammohan Naidu. Sarla Aviation is India's **third eVTOL DOA holder**. The milestone enables the company to proceed toward type certification and commercial production for its flagship eVTOL model, **Shunya**—a 7-seater aircraft (6 passengers + 1 pilot) powered by seven electric motors.
- India secured 17 medals (4 gold, 4 silver, and 9 bronze) on Day 1 of the U-23 Commonwealth Fencing Championship 2026 in Lagos, Nigeria. The squad achieved a podium finish in all six individual weapon events across foil, epee, and sabre.
- Hindustan Aeronautics Limited (HAL) has restarted the manufacturing line at its Nashik facility in Maharashtra to assemble **12 additional Su-30MKI fighter jets**. The contract—valued between ₹11,000 crore and ₹13,500 crore—was signed in December 2024 to replace aircraft lost in operational accidents over the years. The first aircraft is scheduled for delivery in **FY 2027–28**, with all 12 jets expected by **2029**. HAL previously manufactured 222 Su-30MKIs under licensed production. The new batch will feature higher local manufacturing content, estimated at **50% to 62.6%**.
- **Basant Kumar Meghwal** scripted history by becoming the first Indian athlete to win a high jump medal at the World Athletics U20 Championships, securing the silver medal with a lifetime-best clearance of 2.21 metres. Joining him on the podium, **Shahnavaz Khan** bagged the bronze medal in the men's long jump with a top effort of 7.84 metres, becoming the first Indian male long jumper to win a medal at the World U20 level.

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Entity	Details
Tripura Chief Minister	Manik Saha
Tripura Governor	Indrasena Reddy Nallu
Tripura Capital	Agartala
Tamil Nadu Chief Minister	C. Joseph Vijay
Tamil Nadu Governor	Rajendra Vishwanath Arlekar
Tamil Nadu Capital	Chennai
Gujarat Chief Minister	Bhupendrabhai Patel
Gujarat Governor	Acharya Devvrat
Gujarat Capital	Gandhinagar
Jammu & Kashmir Chief Minister	Omar Abdullah
Jammu & Kashmir Lieutenant Governor	Manoj Sinha
Jammu & Kashmir Capitals	Srinagar (Summer), Jammu (Winter)

Entity	Details
Iran President	Masoud Pezeshkian
Iran Capital	Tehran
Iran Currency	Rial
Nigeria President	Bola Ahmed Tinubu
Nigeria Capital	Abuja
Nigeria Currency	Naira
HAL Established	23 December 1940
HAL Headquarters	Bengaluru
HAL CMD	Ravi K.