

Highlights of 28 August 2026 Current Affairs

- The Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) successfully conducted a high-altitude trial of its indigenous **Military Combat Parachute System (MCPS)** at the Nyoma-Mudh drop zone in Ladakh.
- Hindustan Aeronautics Limited (HAL) and French aerospace major **Safran Helicopter Engines** have signed a landmark agreement to co-develop the **Aravalli helicopter engine**, a next-generation power plant destined for India's heavy military helicopters.
- The Meghalaya Legislative Assembly unanimously adopted a resolution rejecting the **exploration and mining of uranium** across the state.
- The United States Tennis Association (USTA) has announced a record total prize pool of **\$108 million** for the **US Open 2026**, making it the largest purse in Grand Slam history. Scheduled to run from **August 30 to September 13, 2026**, culminating with the men's singles final. The winners of both the men's and women's singles competitions will receive a historic payout of **\$5.5 million** each. Runners-up will take home \$2.8 million.
- The Government of Uttar Pradesh offers the **UP Shadi Anudan Yojana** to provide financial assistance to economically weaker families for the marriage of their daughters. Eligible families receive **₹20,000** per daughter, applicable for up to two daughters in a single family. The scheme caters to families belonging to the Scheduled Castes (SC), Scheduled Tribes (ST), Other Backward Classes (OBC), and economically weaker sections of the General category who are permanent residents of Uttar Pradesh.
- The Government of Bihar has launched the **Vidya Sathi App** to deliver free, round-the-clock digital academic support to students across the state. The initiative provides free 24x7 live academic support and personalized tutoring to nearly **3 lakh students in Classes 9 to 12**. Implemented across **700 model schools** spanning all **38 districts** of Bihar.
- Seventeen-year-old **Apoorv Kamble** won the FIDE-rated rapid chess tournament after scoring 8.5 points out of nine rounds. Held with a time control of 10 minutes + 5-second increment under the Swiss System, featuring a total prize pool of ₹4 lakh and over 700 participants. Sammed Jaykumar Shete and Vaidyanathan Kannan took the second and third spots, respectively.
- Today, **August 28, 2026**, marks the celebration of **Raksha Bandhan** across India and around the world, symbolizing the deep bond of love, care, and protection between siblings. Meaning "the bond of protection," Raksha Bandhan traditionally involves a sister tying a *rakhi* on her brother's wrist while praying for his well-being, with the brother offering a gift and a vow to protect her.
- India is set to host the **18th BRICS Summit**, marking a landmark diplomatic event as the bloc celebrates its 20th anniversary. The summit will take place from **September 12 to 13, 2026**, at **Bharat Mandapam, New Delhi**. India's 2026 chairship theme is **"Building for Resilience, Innovation, Cooperation and Sustainability"**, reflecting Prime Minister Narendra Modi's people-centric vision rooted in the principle of *"Humanity First"*.
- The launch of the **Uttar Pradesh Startup Mission Portal** and **Startup Policy 2026** by Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath marks a significant milestone in the state's economic and technological transformation.

- Grandmaster R. Praggnanandhaa made history by becoming the **first-ever Indian to win the prestigious Grand Chess Tour (GCT)**, defeating American Grandmaster Fabiano Caruana 15–13 in a thrilling final match at the Saint Louis Chess Club.
- The Government of Andhra Pradesh has approved the establishment of India's first dedicated **Quantum and AI University Campus** in Amaravati. Approved during a CRDA Authority meeting chaired by Chief Minister N. Chandrababu Naidu, the ₹730.7 crore project will be fully funded via grants-in-aid by the Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology (MeitY) through the National Institute of Electronics and Information Technology (NIELIT).
- Prime Minister Narendra Modi is embarking on a four-day diplomatic tour to **Uzbekistan and Kyrgyzstan** beginning August 29, 2026, primarily to participate in the **Shanghai Cooperation Organisation (SCO) Summit**. PM Modi will visit **Uzbekistan from August 29–30** for bilateral talks with President Shavkat Mirziyoyev, followed by a visit to **Bishkek, Kyrgyzstan, on August 31** for the 25th SCO Summit. He is also scheduled to inaugurate the 6th edition of the World Nomad Games during his Kyrgyzstan leg.
- **World Sanskrit Day** (also known as *Sanskrit Diwas* or *Vishva Sanskrit Diwas*) is observed to honor the culture, literature, and intellectual heritage of one of the world's most ancient classical languages. Celebrated on **Friday, August 28, 2026**, coinciding with the full moon (*Purnima*) day of the Hindu calendar month of Shravana (Shravana Purnima).

Static GK – 28 August 2026

Topic	Details
Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO)	Chairman – Rajesh Kumar Singh Headquarters – DRDO Bhawan, New Delhi Established – 1958
Hindustan Aeronautics Limited (HAL)	Chairman & MD – Ravi K Headquarters – Bengaluru Established – 1940
Meghalaya	Chief Minister – Conrad K. Sangma Governor – C.H. Vijayashankar Capital – Shillong

Topic	Details
United States of America	Capital – Washington, D.C. Currency – U.S. Dollar President – Donald Trump
Bihar	Chief Minister – Samrat Choudhary Governor – Syed Ata Hasnain Capital – Patna
Uttar Pradesh	Chief Minister – Yogi Adityanath Governor – Anandiben Patel Capital – Lucknow
BRICS	Full form – Brazil, Russia, India, China, South Africa Members – 11 (Brazil, Russia, India, China, South Africa, Iran, Egypt, Indonesia, Saudi Arabia, Ethiopia, UAE) Headquarters – Shanghai, China Inaugural Summit – Yekaterinburg, Russia (2009)
Andhra Pradesh	Chief Minister – N. Chandrababu Naidu Governor – Syed Abdul Nazeer Capital – Amaravati
Uzbekistan	President – Shavkat Mirziyoyev Capital – Tashkent Currency – Som
Kyrgyzstan	President – Sadyr Japarov Capital – Bishkek Currency – Som

Topic	Details
Shanghai Cooperation Organisation (SCO)	Full form – Shanghai Cooperation Organisation Headquarters – Beijing, China Members – China, Russia, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, Uzbekistan, India (2017), Pakistan (2017), Iran (2023), Belarus Formed – June 15, 2001