

Daily Current Affairs

27 August 2026

World Lake Day 2026

- World Lake Day for the year 2026 falls on the 27th of August, bringing worldwide recognition of the value of lakes and the critical need for their protection. Lakes go far beyond just being beautiful natural landscapes.
- They offer fresh water supplies, host biodiversity, sustain livelihoods, manage local environmental conditions and enhance food and water security.
- The observance of the day was established by the United Nations General Assembly under Resolution 79/142, which was adopted by the consensus on December 12th, 2024. August 27th was chosen in order to commemorate the convening of the first World Lake Conference in Shiga Prefecture, Japan, in 1984.



US Open 2026 Prize Money

- This time US Open 2026 will set to create the history in the Grand Slam for having the most generous prize money pool – \$108 million. The tournament starts on August 30, 2026, and will end up on September 13 with the men's singles final.
- According to the United States Tennis Association (USTA), this year the overall purse is 20 percent higher than that of the previous year. More importantly the

increased prize money for the singles tournaments only, whereas doubles and mixed doubles did not receive any significant additions.

- Special attention should be paid to the singles draw. Apart from the huge amounts that players can win during the early stages of the game, the champion will get \$5.5 million each.
- US Open is historically famous due to its equality since in 1973 it became the first Grand Slam to offer equal prize money for both males and females.
- The higher prize money helps all the participants during the competition, not only the winners. More money to be distributed during the qualification rounds and the early rounds of the main tournament would be helpful for many lower-ranked players due to their high costs related to traveling and training.



Kerala Officially Renamed Keralam

- Kerala was officially renamed Keralam through The Kerala (Alteration of Name) Act, 2026, which altered the State's entry in the First Schedule of the Indian Constitution.
- The change followed the constitutional procedure under Article 3, which governs the formation of new States and the alteration of names and areas of existing States.
- Article 3 of the Indian Constitution empowers Parliament to alter the name of a State after referring the proposal to the concerned State Legislature for its views. The President of India must refer such a Bill to the State Legislature before Parliament considers it for enactment.

- The Union Cabinet approved the proposal on 24 February 2026. The Kerala Legislative Assembly accepted the draft proposal in July 2026. Union Minister of State for Home Nityanand Rai introduced the Kerala (Alteration of Name) Bill, 2026 in the Lok Sabha on 10 August 2026.
- The Lok Sabha passed the Bill on 11 August 2026, and the Rajya Sabha passed it on 12 August 2026. President Droupadi Murmu gave assent on 14 August 2026, and the law was notified as The Kerala (Alteration of Name) Act, 2026, No. 18 of 2026.
- The Union Home Ministry issued a gazette notification on 25 August 2026 appointing 25 August 2026 as the date of commencement. The official transition to Keralam took effect on the same day.
- State renaming in India is a parliamentary function and does not require a constitutional amendment under Article 368 when the change is made under Article 3. The President's reference to the State Legislature is mandatory, but Parliament is not bound by the State's opinion.



DRDO Tests High-Altitude Combat Parachute System

- DRDO conducted a high-altitude trial of the indigenous Military Combat Parachute System (MCPS) at the Nyoma-Mudh Drop Zone in Ladakh's Leh district on 26 August 2026. The trial jump took place from 22,000 feet above mean sea level in temperatures of minus 15 degrees Celsius.
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- The Military Combat Parachute System is an indigenous parachute platform used by the Indian Armed Forces for high-altitude deployment. The system has been tested up to 32,000 feet in October 2025 and is the only parachute system in operational use by the Indian Armed Forces capable of such deployment.
- The MCPS was designed and developed by the Aerial Delivery Research and Development Establishment (ADRDE) in Agra. The project involved the Defence Bioengineering and Electromedical Laboratory (DEBEL) in Bengaluru, which worked on the system's physiological and operational components.



PM Jan Dhan Yojana Completes 12 Years

- Launched by Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi as one of his very first programmes on 28th August 2014, the Pradhan Mantri Jan Dhan Yojana (PMJDY) has completed 12 years.
- These 12 years of PMJDY have witnessed a transformation in India's financial landscape, and the scheme has become a torchbearer for financial inclusion worldwide.
- As the world's largest financial inclusion initiative, PMJDY continues to redefine access to banking for all Indians.
- The Ministry of Finance remains committed to supporting marginalised and economically disadvantaged sectors through robust financial inclusion schemes and outreach.
- Under PMJDY, 78% of the accounts have been opened in rural or semi-urban areas, and approximately 56% of accounts are owned by women, depicting the priority of the scheme, which was to bring the underprivileged living in far-flung areas of the country into the formal financial sector.

- As PMJDY enters its 13th year, it continues to be a beacon of inclusive growth, digital innovation, and economic empowerment. Its enduring success reflects India's commitment to ensuring that no citizen is left behind in the journey towards financial well-being.



REVIEW QUESTIONS

1. World Lake Day is observed annually on which date?

- A. 22 August
- B. 25 August
- C. 27 August
- D. 29 August

Answer: C. 27 August

2. World Lake Day was established by the United Nations General Assembly through which resolution?

- A. Resolution 79/142
- B. Resolution 78/142
- C. Resolution 79/124
- D. Resolution 80/142

Answer: A. Resolution 79/142

3. The first World Lake Conference, commemorated by World Lake Day, was held in:

- A. Tokyo, Japan
- B. Shiga Prefecture, Japan

- C. Kyoto, Japan
- D. Osaka, Japan

Answer: B. Shiga Prefecture, Japan

4. What is the total prize-money pool for the US Open 2026?

- A. \$90 million
- B. \$100 million
- C. \$108 million
- D. \$120 million

Answer: C. \$108 million

5. Under which Article of the Indian Constitution can Parliament alter the name of an existing State?

- A. Article 1
- B. Article 2
- C. Article 3
- D. Article 4

Answer: C. Article 3

6. What is the new official name of the State formerly known as Kerala, according to the provided current-affairs material?

- A. Keralam
- B. Kerala Pradesh
- C. Cheralam
- D. Malabar

Answer: A. Keralam

7. The Military Combat Parachute System (MCPS) was developed by which DRDO laboratory?

- A. DRDL, Hyderabad
- B. ADRDE, Agra
- C. LRDE, Bengaluru
- D. CVRDE, Chennai

Answer: B. ADRDE, Agra

8. The high-altitude trial of the Military Combat Parachute System on 26 August 2026 was conducted at:

- A. Siachen, Ladakh
- B. Nyoma-Mudh, Ladakh
- C. Leh Air Base
- D. Pokhran, Rajasthan

Answer: B. Nyoma-Mudh, Ladakh

9. Pradhan Mantri Jan Dhan Yojana (PMJDY) was launched on:

- A. 15 August 2014
- B. 26 January 2014
- C. 28 August 2014
- D. 2 October 2014

Answer: C. 28 August 2014

10. Approximately what percentage of PMJDY accounts are held by women?

- A. 46%
- B. 50%
- C. 56%
- D. 62%

Answer: C. 56%