

Daily Current Affairs: 8 May 2026 Important Current Affairs

The following report presents a well-organized list of important national and international events for May 8, 2026. This collection of current affairs will be highly beneficial for those preparing for competitive exams.

National News

01 Supreme Court Ruling on Acid Attack Victims

The Supreme Court has made a significant change to the definition of acid attack victims under the 'Rights of Persons with Disabilities Act 2016'. The court clarified that individuals who are forced to ingest acid will now also be classified as acid attack victims.

- The bench, led by the Chief Justice of India and other judges, passed this order invoking Articles 14 and 142 of the Indian Constitution.
- Even in the absence of external scars, these individuals will now be entitled to all government benefits and compensation, acknowledging the internal organ damage suffered.

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- **Chief Justice of the Supreme Court:** Justice Surya Kant (53rd).
- **Article 142:** Grants the Supreme Court special powers to pass orders for 'complete justice' in any pending matter.
- **RPwD Act 2016:** Increased the number of recognized disabilities from 7 to 21.

02 Annual Health Checkup Initiative for Workers

The Union Ministry of Labour and Employment has launched a 'Nationwide Annual Health Checkup Initiative' for workers over 40. Labour Minister Mansukh Mandaviya inaugurated this project from New Delhi on May 7, 2026.

- Regular health screenings have now become mandatory for workers in hazardous industries, regardless of their age.
- This initiative is part of the government's 'Shramev Jayate' vision, designed to ensure social security for the workforce.

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- **Current Minister of Labour and Employment:** Mansukh Mandaviya.
- **Role of ESIC:** These health screenings will primarily be conducted through Employees' State Insurance Corporation (ESIC) hospitals.

International News & Days

03 World Red Cross Day 2026

World Red Cross Day is observed globally on May 8 every year. It is a day dedicated to honoring the volunteers engaged in humanitarian service.

- **Founder:** Henry Dunant. The date May 8 was chosen to mark his birthday.
- **2026 Theme:** "Keeping Humanity Alive".
- **Fact:** Henry Dunant received the first-ever Nobel Peace Prize in 1901.

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- **Headquarters:** Geneva, Switzerland.
- **Founded:** February 9, 1863.
- **Indian Red Cross Society:** Established in India via a Parliamentary Act in 1920.

04 India-Vietnam Bilateral Trade Target

India and Vietnam have set a target to increase their bilateral trade to 25 billion US dollars by 2030. Currently, both nations trade extensively in pharmaceuticals, machinery, chemicals, and agricultural goods.

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- **Vietnam Capital:** Hanoi.
- **Vietnam Currency:** Dong.
- **ASEAN Membership:** Vietnam is an important member of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN).

Science & Environment

05 First International Big Cat Alliance Summit 2026

The first 'International Big Cat Alliance' (IBCA) summit is scheduled to be held in New Delhi on June 1-2, 2026. The Prime Minister launched this initiative from Mysore, Karnataka, in 2023.

- The core objective is to conserve seven species: tiger, lion, leopard, snow leopard, cheetah, jaguar, and puma.
- The 'Delhi Declaration' is expected to be adopted during this summit.

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- **IBCA Headquarters:** New Delhi.
- **Project Tiger:** Initiated on April 1, 1973.
- **Project Cheetah:** India reintroduced cheetahs from Namibia to Kuno National Park in 2022.

06 Hantavirus Outbreak on MV Hondius

An outbreak of Hantavirus has been detected on the Dutch cruise ship 'MV Hondius', prompting an investigation by the World Health Organization (WHO). Three deaths have already been reported.

- Hantavirus primarily spreads to humans through contact with rodent urine or saliva.
- It was first identified in the Andes mountain range of South America.

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- **World Health Organization (WHO):** Headquarters in Geneva, Switzerland; Current head is Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus.
- **Hantavirus Type:** The current outbreak has been identified as the 'Andes Hantavirus' strain.

Awards & Sports

07 Cambridge Dedicated Teacher Awards 2026

Soma Mondal, a science teacher at GD Goenka Public School, New Delhi, has won the South Asia regional title of the Cambridge Dedicated Teacher Awards 2026. She received this honor for raising awareness about climate change and creating a specialized curriculum.

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- **Awarding Organization:** Cambridge University Press & Assessment.
- **Selection Process:** She was chosen from over 12,000 nominations across 126 countries.

08 22nd Commonwealth Table Tennis Championship

This international event will be held at the Tyagraj Stadium in New Delhi from July 27 to August 2, 2026. More than 35 Commonwealth nations are set to participate.

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- **Table Tennis Federation of India (TTFI):** Current President is Meghna Ahlawat.
- **ITTF:** International Table Tennis Federation headquarters is in Lausanne, Switzerland.

09 Passing of Noted Racer Alex Zanardi

Former Italian Formula One racer and Paralympic gold medalist Alex Zanardi has passed away at the age of 59. Despite losing both legs in a 2001 accident, he showcased immense willpower by winning multiple medals in the Paralympics later in his career.

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- **Paralympic Success:** He won gold in hand-biking at the 2012 London and 2016 Rio Paralympics.
- **Other Achievements:** He was a two-time CART champion.

Archaeology & History

10 16th-Century Telugu Inscription Discovery in Andhra Pradesh

Important Telugu inscriptions from the Vijayanagara Empire era have been discovered in Tadipatri, Anantapur district, Andhra Pradesh. These inscriptions confirm that the Vijayanagara Empire's reach extended into modern-day Andhra Pradesh.

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- **Vijayanagara Empire:** Founded by Harihara and Bukka in 1336.
- **Capital:** Hampi (currently in Karnataka).
- **Study of Inscriptions:** The study of inscriptions is known as Epigraphy.

Important Revision (At a Glance)

Subject	Key Fact
Mission for Cotton Productivity	The Center has allocated ₹5,659 crore for 5 years.
Supreme Court Judge Count	The Center has approved increasing the number of judges to 38.
Best Railway Zone 2025-26	Southern Railway Zone received the Excellence Award.
World Athletics Day	Observed on May 7.
Startup Kadapa Initiative	Launched by the Andhra Pradesh government.
Brain Computer Interface Conference	Inaugurated by General Anil Chauhan.
ATP Masters 1000 Titles	Italy's Jannik Sinner has won five consecutive titles.

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