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# Current Affairs Today – June 22, 2026

22 June 2026 · **POLITY** · **GS2**

CURATED &amp; WRITTEN BY

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# Current Affairs Today — June 22, 2026

22 June 2026 · 8 min read ·

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## CURRENT AFFAIRS TODAY — JUNE 22, 2026

A quick-scan roundup of every major development for UPSC and State PCS aspirants. Each item carries a Why in News hook, the key data, and the UPSC angle. Six of these are expanded into full deep-dive articles in today's edition.

## BRICS NATIONAL SECURITY ADVISERS' MEETING IN NEW DELHI

*India is hosting the BRICS National Security Advisers' (NSA) Meeting in New Delhi on June 22-23, 2026, chaired by NSA Ajit Doval, as part of India's 2026 BRICS Chairship.*

### Key Data

- Theme: “Non-traditional security challenges confronting the world today”.
- Reviews Joint Working Groups on counter-terrorism and ICT/emerging-technology security.
- China to be represented by its Foreign Minister (who also functions as its NSA); a Doval-Wang bilateral (<https://ujyari.com/vocab/bilateral/>) is expected.
- India holds the BRICS Chairship for the fourth time (2012, 2016, 2021, 2026).

### UPSC Angle

Tests knowledge of BRICS membership (now 11 members), India's Chairship themes, and plurilateral security diplomacy under GS2 International Relations.

*India's 2026 BRICS theme: “Building for Resilience (<https://ujyari.com/vocab/resilience/>), Innovation, Cooperation and Sustainability”.*

## EAM JAISHANKAR'S VISIT TO MONGOLIA AND SOUTH KOREA

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*External Affairs Minister S. Jaishankar began a four-day visit to Mongolia (June 22-23) and South Korea (June 24-25), 2026.*

### Key Data

- In Mongolia he meets the leadership and Foreign Minister B. Battsetseg.
- In South Korea he meets ROK Foreign Minister Cho Hyun and delivers a keynote at the Jeju Forum for Peace and Prosperity.
- Focus areas: semiconductors, AI, **critical minerals** (<https://ujjiyari.com/terms/critical-minerals/>), supply-chain resilience, and review of the India-Korea CEPA (in force since 2010).

### UPSC Angle

Act East policy (<https://ujjiyari.com/terms/act-east-policy/>), Comprehensive Economic Partnership Agreement (CEPA), and India's "third neighbour" diplomacy with Mongolia.

*Mongolia is described as India's "spiritual" or "third neighbour" owing to shared Buddhist heritage.*

## TUSHAR MEHTA REAPPOINTED SOLICITOR GENERAL

*Tushar Mehta was reappointed Solicitor General of India for three years (ACC order June 20), effective July 1, 2026; five Additional Solicitors General for the Supreme Court were also reappointed.*

### Key Data

- Mehta has been SG since October 10, 2018.
- Law officers are appointed by the Appointments Committee of the Cabinet (ACC).
- The SG and ASGs are **statutory** (<https://ujjiyari.com/vocab/statutory/>) law officers, not constitutional posts.

### UPSC Angle

Only the Attorney-General for India under Article 76 is a constitutional law officer; the SG and ASGs are statutory. A classic Prelims distinction.

*Article 76 deals with the Attorney-General for India, the first law officer of the country.*

## KUDANKULAM UNIT-5 REACTOR PRESSURE VESSEL INSTALLED

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*The roughly 320-tonne Reactor Pressure Vessel (RPV) was installed at Kudankulam Unit-5 in Tamil Nadu by NPCIL in June 2026.*

### Key Data

- An India-Russia VVER-1000 project with Atomstroyexport (ASE).
- Installation followed AERB (<https://ujivari.com/terms/aerb-atomic-energy-regulatory-board/>) clearance for major-equipment erection.
- The full Kudankulam site has a potential of 6,000 MWe across six units.

### UPSC Angle

India-Russia civil nuclear cooperation, VVER (pressurised water reactor) technology, and the NPCIL-AERB operator-regulator split.

*NPCIL operates India's commercial nuclear plants; AERB is the independent regulator.*

## NATIONAL POLICY FOR GULF STUDENTS HIT BY CBSE EXAM CANCELLATION

*The Centre told the Supreme Court on June 22, 2026 that it had notified a national policy for students affected by the cancellation of CBSE Class XII examinations in the Gulf.*

### Key Data

- The 2026 Gulf crisis forced cancellation of CBSE Class XII board exams for private candidates in the region.
- The matter is before the Supreme Court.
- The policy was notified by the Union government.

### UPSC Angle

Right to education, the role of the executive during emergencies abroad, and diaspora (<https://ujivari.com/vocab/diaspora/>) welfare under GS2.

*The CBSE is a national board under the Ministry of Education conducting exams in India and abroad.*

## INST MOHALI'S ZINC-ION BATTERY BREAKTHROUGH

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*INST Mohali developed a BDIM electrolyte additive for aqueous zinc-ion batteries (AZIBs), reported in mid-June 2026.*

### Key Data

- The additive suppresses hydrogen evolution, corrosion, and zinc dendrites.
- Symmetric Zn//Zn cells lasted over 1,400 hours.
- The study appeared in ACS Electrochemistry.

### UPSC Angle

Grid-scale energy storage, alternatives to lithium-ion, and indigenous materials science (GS3).

*INST Mohali is the Institute of Nano Science and Technology, an autonomous body under the Department of Science and Technology (DST).*

## WEF ENERGY TRANSITION INDEX 2026: INDIA AT 70TH

*India climbed to 70th in the World Economic Forum's Energy Transition Index (ETI) 2026.*

### Key Data

- Score of 54.9, up two places, among the strongest improvers.
- The ETI weights System Performance 60% and Transition Readiness 40%.
- India's renewable-energy jobs stand at around 1.3 million.

### UPSC Angle

Energy security (<https://ujjiyari.com/terms/energy-security/>), equity and sustainability trilemma; India's 500 GW non-fossil target by 2030 and net-zero by 2070.

*The ETI is published annually by the World Economic Forum.*

## INDIA-FRANCE TRISHNA SATELLITE FOR 2027

*The India-France TRISHNA satellite was confirmed for a 2027 launch following PM Modi's announcement on June 18-19, 2026.*

### Key Data

- A joint ISRO-CNES thermal-infrared Earth-observation satellite.
- Approximately 57 m resolution with a roughly three-day revisit cycle.
- ISRO provides the platform and VNIR/SWIR instruments; CNES provides the thermal-infrared instrument.

### UPSC Angle

India-France space cooperation, Earth observation for food and water security (GS3).

*TRISHNA = Thermal infraRed Imaging Satellite for High-resolution Natural resource Assessment.*

## PARLIAMENTARY STANDING COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION REPORTS

*The Parliamentary Standing Committee on Education tabled its 379th-381st reports (presented June 17, 2026).*

### Key Data

- Education spending is stuck at 4.12% of GDP, below the NEP 6% target.
- It criticised the CUET MCQ-only format for humanities.
- It flagged inadequate **Anganwadi** (<https://ujivari.com/terms/anganwadi/>)-cum-creche day-care.

### UPSC Angle

Parliamentary oversight via standing committees, NEP 2020 targets, and the CUET-UG conducted by NTA.

*Standing committees are constituted under the Rules of Procedure of the Houses, not the Constitution.*

## CHAPEKAR BROTHERS: 129TH ANNIVERSARY

*June 22 marks the anniversary of the Chapekar brothers' assassination of British officials in Pune in 1897, regarded as an early act of revolutionary nationalism.*

### Key Data

- On June 22, 1897, during Queen Victoria's Diamond Jubilee, Damodar and Balkrishna Chapekar shot Pune Plague Committee chief W.C. Rand and Lt. Ayerst.
- Damodar Hari Chapekar was hanged on April 18, 1898, the first revolutionary so executed.
- The brothers were inspired by Tilak's Kesari writings.

### UPSC Angle

Roots of revolutionary nationalism, coercive colonial plague administration, and the 1897 Tilak sedition (<http://ujjari.com/vocab/sedition/>) trial (GS1).

*The Chapekar action is often called the first political assassination of the modern Indian freedom struggle.*

## OPERATION BARBAROSSA: 85TH ANNIVERSARY

*June 22, 2026 marks 85 years since Operation Barbarossa, Nazi Germany's 1941 invasion of the USSR.*

### Key Data

- Launched June 22, 1941 with around 3.8 million Axis troops along a roughly 2,900 km front.
- Opened the Eastern Front of World War II.
- Brought the USSR into the Allied camp; the largest land invasion in history.

### UPSC Angle

World History (GS1): turning points of WWII and the alignment of the Grand Alliance.

*Operation Barbarossa remains the largest land military operation ever mounted.*

## WOMEN'S T20 WORLD CUP: SOUTH AFRICA BEAT INDIA

*South Africa beat India by six wickets at Old Trafford, Manchester on June 21, 2026 in the Women's T20 World Cup.*

### Key Data

- India posted 158/7; South Africa chased 159 in 19.1 overs.
- Marizanne Kapp was 81 not out; Shree Charani took 3/24.
- The match marked Harmanpreet Kaur's 200th T20I.

### UPSC Angle

Sports current affairs for Prelims and interview general awareness.

*The Women's T20 World Cup is the premier short-format global tournament for women's cricket.*

## VAIBHAV SOORYAVANSHI'S RECORD LIST A FIFTY

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*Vaibhav Sooryavanshi (14) set the fastest List A fifty off 11 balls on June 21, 2026.*

### Key Data

- He scored 94 off 29 balls.
- India A made 377/9 and beat Sri Lanka A by 66 runs in the Tri-Series final at Dambulla.

### UPSC Angle

Sports awards and records in news.

*List A is the limited-overs equivalent of first-class cricket.*

## CPI INFLATION AND RBI REPO RATE

*CPI inflation rose to around 3.93% in May 2026, while the RBI held the repo rate (<https://ujjayari.com/terms/rep-o-rate/>) at 5.25%.*

### Key Data

- CPI rose from 3.48% in April to about 3.93% in May 2026, within the RBI band.
- The RBI held the repo rate at 5.25% for a third consecutive meeting with a neutral stance.
- CPI is compiled by MoSPI/NSO (<https://ujjayari.com/terms/nso-mospi-statistical-architecture/>); the repo rate is set by the Monetary Policy Committee.

### UPSC Angle

Inflation targeting, the RBI's 4% +/-2% band, and monetary policy (<https://ujjayari.com/terms/monetary-policy/>) transmission (GS3).

*The Monetary Policy Committee (<https://ujjayari.com/terms/monetary-policy-committee/>) (MPC) has a flexible inflation target of 4% within a 2-6% band.*

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BRICS now has 11 members: Brazil, Russia, India, China, South Africa, plus Egypt, Ethiopia, Iran, Indonesia, Saudi Arabia and the UAE.

India's 2026 BRICS theme: "Building for Resilience, Innovation, Cooperation and Sustainability".

The India-Korea CEPA has been in force since 2010.

Only the Attorney-General (Article 76) is a constitutional law officer; the Solicitor General and ASGs are statutory.

Kudankulam uses Russian VVER-1000 reactors; full site potential is 6,000 MWe across six units.

INST Mohali is an autonomous institute under the DST.

The WEF Energy Transition Index weights System Performance 60% and Transition Readiness 40%.

TRISHNA is an ISRO-CNES thermal-infrared Earth-observation mission set for 2027.

India's education spending is stuck at 4.12% of GDP against the NEP 6% target.

Operation Barbarossa (June 22, 1941) was the largest land invasion in history.

The RBI's flexible inflation target is 4% within a 2-6% band.

*Sources: Ministry of External Affairs (<https://www.mea.gov.in>), Press Information Bureau (<https://pib.gov.in>), The Hindu (<https://www.thehindu.com>), Indian Express (<https://indianexpress.com>)*

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India's regulatory body for nuclear and radiological safety,...

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A central legislation granting special powers to armed forces...

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