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Current Affairs Today, August 14, 2026

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August 14, 2026 marks the sixth observance of Partition Horrors Remembrance Day, on the eve of India's 80th Independence Day, alongside the minor international observance of World Lizard Day.

PARTITION HORRORS REMEMBRANCE DAY: SIXTH OBSERVANCE

India observed **Partition Horrors Remembrance Day (Vibhajan Vibhishika Smriti Diwas)** for the sixth time on **August 14, 2026**, with Prime Minister **Narendra Modi** issuing remembrance statements.

Background

The observance commemorates the suffering, displacement and loss of life during the **Partition of India in 1947**, deliberately marked on **August 14**, the eve of Independence Day, so it is not overshadowed by the following day's celebrations. It was announced by PM Modi and first observed on **August 14, 2021**. Partition was executed alongside independence on **August 15, 1947**, under the **Indian Independence Act, 1947** passed by the British Parliament, triggering one of the largest mass migrations in recorded history, with contested estimates of 10-20 million people displaced and several hundred thousand to roughly two million deaths. The **Radcliffe Line**, the boundary demarcating India and Pakistan, was announced by Sir Cyril Radcliffe only on **August 17, 1947**, after independence had already taken effect.

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PARTITION HORRORS REMEMBRANCE DAY:

Observed annually: August 14; first observed 2021; 2026 marks the 6th observance

Announced by: Prime Minister Narendra Modi

Indian Independence Act, 1947: British Parliament legislation providing for Partition, effective August 15, 1947

Radcliffe Line: boundary announced August 17, 1947, by Sir Cyril Radcliffe, after independence

Displacement estimates: 10-20 million people; deaths: contested, ranging from several hundred thousand to approximately 2 million

WORLD LIZARD DAY

World Lizard Day is observed internationally on **August 14** to raise awareness of lizards' ecological role in pest control, food-web function and as **bioindicators** of ecosystem health. India hosts significant reptilian biodiversity, including geckos, skinks, agamids and monitor lizards (genus *Varanus*), several of which are protected under the Schedules of the **Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972**.

Sources: *GKToday*, *PIB*

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