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**01 AUGUST 2026 — DAILY CURRENT AFFAIRS***Prepared by Rahein Education | UPSC · UPPCS · State PSC***TOPIC 1: Anti-Paper Leak Law Amendments***GS Paper 2 — Governance***Why in News**

The Union Cabinet has cleared changes to the Public Examinations (Prevention of Unfair Means) Act, 2024, aimed at tightening the fight against paper leaks and exam malpractice.

Key Points

- Proposes tougher penalties and mandatory fast-track courts so paper-leak cases are tried and resolved quickly.
- Targets organised cheating rackets that compromise recruitment and entrance exams, not just individual offenders.
- Covers exams run by UPSC, SSC, Railway Recruitment Boards, NTA, IBPS and central government departments.
- Offences remain cognizable, non-bailable and non-compoundable; investigation stays with DSP/ACP-rank officers or above.
- Goal: restore candidates' trust in merit-based selection while preserving the Act's original objective of fair exams.

TOPIC 2: Rules 176 & 267 of Rajya Sabha*GS Paper 2 — Polity***Why in News**

A procedural disagreement has surfaced in the Rajya Sabha over whether urgent public issues should be raised under Rule 176 or Rule 267.

Key Points

- Rule 176 permits a short-duration discussion (up to 2.5 hours) without disturbing the day's listed business; no voting occurs.
- Rule 267 is an extraordinary route that suspends the House's normal agenda entirely to debate an urgent matter immediately.
- Rule 267 needs the Chairman's prior consent and can end in a formal motion and vote; Rule 176 cannot.
- Rule 176 is comparable to Lok Sabha's Rule 193; Rule 267 is similar in spirit to the Lok Sabha's Adjournment Motion (Rule 56).
- The choice of rule shapes how urgently and how formally an issue gets debated in Parliament.

TOPIC 3: Women's Employment & Viksit Bharat*GS Paper 3 — Economy***Why in News**

With India targeting developed-nation status (Viksit Bharat) by 2047, policy focus has returned to raising women's participation in the workforce.

Key Points

- India's female Work Participation Rate (WPR) stays below 30% — among the lowest in the world.
- A 10-percentage-point rise in female WPR could add close to 2 percentage points to GDP growth.
- Low participation is linked to mechanisation in farming, weak labour-intensive manufacturing, and safety/mobility barriers.
- Southern states, especially Tamil Nadu, show that labour-intensive industry plus safe transport and hostels can lift participation.
- The real challenge is creating suitable jobs for women, not just expanding female education further.

TOPIC 4: BHAVYA Rasayan Scheme*GS Paper 3 — Economy / Industry*

**Why in News**

The Cabinet has approved the BHAVYA-Rasayan Scheme to set up three dedicated Chemical Parks with shared infrastructure across India.

Key Points

- A Central Sector Scheme running FY 2026-27 to FY 2030-31, implemented by the Department of Chemicals & Petrochemicals.
- States are picked through a Challenge Route; each park needs at least 2,000 acres of encumbrance-free land.
- Total outlay is ₹3,030 crore — up to ₹1,000 crore per park from the Centre, with states contributing at least ₹500 crore each.
- Shared infrastructure includes common effluent treatment plants, hazardous-waste facilities, pipelines and logistics hubs.
- Aim: cut production costs, ease environmental compliance, and strengthen India's position in global chemical value chains.

TOPIC 5: Project Kusha — LR-SAM

GS Paper 3 — Defence & Security

Why in News

DRDO has successfully carried out the first flight test of the indigenous Kusha Long-Range Surface-to-Air Missile (LR-SAM).

Key Points

- Developed under Project Kusha, part of India's push for an integrated air-defence shield popularly called Sudarshan Chakra.
- Three variants by range: M1 (up to 150 km), M2 (up to 250 km) and M3 (up to 350 km).
- System combines indigenous AESA radars, automated command-and-control centres and battle-management software.
- Designed to intercept aircraft, stealth fighters, cruise missiles and drones across varied altitudes.
- Reduces reliance on imported air-defence platforms and supports the Atmanirbhar Bharat defence goals.

