

## International & National News

1. Which day is celebrated globally on May 4th to recognize the bravery and sacrifice of emergency service professionals?

- A) World Press Freedom Day
- B) International Firefighters' Day (IFFD)
- C) World Red Cross Day
- D) International Day of Families

**Answer: B) International Firefighters' Day (IFFD)**

**Explanation:** Observed annually on May 4, IFFD honors the sacrifices made by firefighters to ensure their communities are safe. The day was established in 1999 following a tragic bushfire in Australia that claimed the lives of five firefighters. It also coincides with St. Florian's Day, the patron saint of firefighters.

2. As of May 4, 2026, which Indian state celebrated its 66th Statehood Day, having been formed on May 1st under the Bombay Reorganisation Act?

- A) Maharashtra
- B) Gujarat
- C) Both A and B
- D) Rajasthan

**Answer: C) Both A and B**

**Explanation:** Both Maharashtra and Gujarat were created on May 1, 1960, after the Bombay Reorganisation Act split the bilingual Bombay State. Events celebrating the 66th anniversary of their formation continued through the first week of May 2026 across both states.

3. In early May 2026, which Indian startup successfully launched a first-of-its-kind satellite aboard a SpaceX rocket, as highlighted in national news?

- A) Agnikul Cosmos
- B) Skyroot Aerospace
- C) Pixxel
- D) GalaxEye Space

**Answer: D) GalaxEye Space**

**Explanation:** GalaxEye, a SpaceTech startup from IIT Madras, successfully deployed a multi-sensor imaging satellite. This satellite is unique for combining SAR (Synthetic Aperture Radar) and optical sensors, allowing it to capture high-resolution images through clouds and at night.

## Economics & Banking

4. The Ministry of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSME) recently saw a change in leadership. Who assumed charge as the Secretary of MSME in May 2026?

- A) Vishvajit Sahay
- B) Bharat Khera
- C) Nitin Paranjpe
- D) Chanchal Kumar

**Answer: B) Bharat Khera**

**Explanation:** Shri Bharat Khera, a senior IAS officer, assumed the role of Secretary in the Ministry of MSME. This appointment is critical as the government pushes for "Vikasit Bharat" by strengthening the credit and infrastructure support for small businesses.

5. Which bank launched the "BHARAT" campaign (Banks Heralding Accelerated Rural & Agriculture Transformation) to fast-track agri-infrastructure loans?

- A) State Bank of India
- B) NABARD
- C) Reserve Bank of India
- D) Multiple Banks under Govt. Initiative

**Answer: D) Multiple Banks under Govt. Initiative**

**Explanation:** The "BHARAT" campaign is a collective initiative by the Ministry of Agriculture and various lending institutions. It aims to mobilize agriculture infrastructure project loans at a faster pace with a target of providing ₹1 Lakh Crore in financial assistance.

6. What is the current interest subvention provided to banks under the Agriculture Infrastructure Fund (AIF) for loans up to ₹2 Crores?

- A) 2%
- B) 3%
- C) 5%
- D) 7%

**Answer: B) 3%**

**Explanation:** To reduce the financial burden on farmers and agri-entrepreneurs, the government provides an interest subvention of 3% per annum for a maximum period of seven years on loans up to ₹2 Crores.

## Sports

7. In May 2026, who set a new Indian national record in the Men's Pole Vault with a jump of 5.41m in Bhubaneswar?

- A) Subramani Siva
- B) Kuldeep Kumar
- C) Jeswin Aldrin
- D) Tejaswin Shankar

**Answer: B) Kuldeep Kumar**

**Explanation:** Representing Madhya Pradesh, Kuldeep Kumar shattered the previous national record of 5.31m. His 5.41m jump occurred at the inaugural Indian Indoor Open Combined Events and Pole Vault Competition.

8. Which Indian national team participated in the World Athletics Relays 2026 held in Gaborone, Botswana, in early May?

- A) Archery Team
- B) Relay Sprint Team (4x100m and 4x400m)
- C) Shooting Team
- D) Wrestling Team

**Answer: B) Relay Sprint Team (4x100m and 4x400m)**

**Explanation:** A 21-member Indian squad competed in Gaborone, Botswana, aiming for Olympic qualification. The relay team's performance is vital for securing spots in the upcoming 2028 Olympic cycle events.

## Appointments, Awards & Honors

9. Who recently assumed charge as the Secretary (Defence Finance) in the Ministry of Defence?

- A) Vishvajit Sahay
- B) Vikram Misri
- C) Rajesh Kumar Singh
- D) Govind Mohan

**Answer: A) Vishvajit Sahay**

**Explanation:** Shri Vishvajit Sahay, an officer with extensive experience in the Indian Defence Accounts Service (IDAS), took over as Secretary (Defence Finance). His role involves overseeing the financial planning and budgeting for India's defense modernization.

10. "Coal Miners' Day" is observed on May 4. This day was first celebrated in India to commemorate the nationalization of coal mines in which year?

- A) 1972
- B) 1974
- C) 1950
- D) 1991

**Answer: B) 1974**

**Explanation:** While coal mining in India dates back to 1774 (Raniganj), May 4 is dedicated to recognizing the hard work and hazards faced by miners. In India, it gained prominence following the systematic nationalization of mines in the early 1970s.

## Books, Defense & MoUs

11. India and which European country recently exchanged a "Bilateral Military Cooperation Plan (MCP) 2026-27" during high-level talks in New Delhi?

- A) France
- B) Italy
- C) Germany
- D) Spain

**Answer: B) Italy**

**Explanation:** India and Italy exchanged the MCP for 2026-27 to enhance defense industrial collaboration and joint exercises, reflecting a growing strategic partnership in the Indo-Pacific region.

12. The "IN-SLN DIVEX 2026" is a bilateral diving exercise recently conducted between the navies of India and which other country?

- A) Singapore
- B) Sri Lanka
- C) Seychelles
- D) Saudi Arabia

**Answer: B) Sri Lanka**

**Explanation:** The India-Sri Lanka (IN-SLN) Dive Exercise focuses on interoperability in salvage operations, underwater repairs, and maritime security, strengthening the regional "SAGAR" (Security and Growth for All in the Region) initiative.

13. Which organization recently conducted the maiden launch of the NASM-SR (Naval Anti-Ship

**Missile-Short Range) in collaboration with the Indian Navy?**

- A) ISRO
- B) DRDO
- C) HAL
- D) BDL

**Answer: B) DRDO**

**Explanation:** The Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) and the Indian Navy conducted a successful flight test of the indigenously developed NASM-SR, significantly boosting the Navy's offensive capabilities.

### Govt Schemes & Important Days

**14. Under the PM-KISAN scheme, how much financial benefit is provided to eligible landholding farmers annually?**

- A) ₹2,000
- B) ₹4,000
- C) ₹6,000
- D) ₹8,000

**Answer: C) ₹6,000**

**Explanation:** The Pradhan Mantri Kisan Samman Nidhi (PM-KISAN) is a Central Sector Scheme providing ₹6,000 per year in three equal installments of ₹2,000 every four months directly into the bank accounts of farmers.

**15. What is the theme for World Press Freedom Day (May 3, 2026)?**

- A) Information as a Public Good
- B) Journalism under Digital Siege
- C) A Press for the Planet: Journalism in the Face of the Environmental Crisis
- D) Media for Democracy

**Answer: C) A Press for the Planet: Journalism in the Face of the Environmental Crisis**

**Explanation:** This theme highlights the critical role of journalism and freedom of expression in the context of the global environmental crisis and climate change reporting.

**16. The Staff Selection Commission (SSC) set the deadline for "SSC Selection Post Phase 14" applications as which date in 2026?**

- A) May 1
- B) May 4

- C) May 11
- D) June 1

**Answer: B) May 4**

**Explanation:** May 4, 2026 (11:00 PM) was the final deadline for candidates to submit online applications for the Phase-XIV/2026 Selection Posts recruitment drive.

**17. "World Laughter Day" 2026 was observed on which date? A) May 1**

- B) May 3
- C) May 4
- D) May 10

**Answer: B) May 3**

**Explanation:** World Laughter Day is celebrated on the first Sunday of May every year. In 2026, the first Sunday fell on May 3rd.

### Miscellaneous & International Days

**18. Which international organization recently announced its exit from OPEC and OPEC+ to focus on its own domestic energy goals? A) Qatar**

- B) Angola
- C) UAE
- D) Brazil

**Answer: C) UAE**

**Explanation:** In a major move affecting global oil economics, the UAE announced its exit from the OPEC+ alliance in early 2026 to pursue independent production targets and diversify its economy.

**19. Which ministry is responsible for the implementation of the "Critical Mineral Recycling Incentive Scheme," for which 58 companies were recently approved? A) Ministry of Earth Sciences**

- B) Ministry of Mines
- C) Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change
- D) Ministry of Commerce and Industry

**Answer: B) Ministry of Mines**

**Explanation:** The Ministry of Mines approved 58 companies to boost the circular economy and reduce India's dependency on imports for critical minerals like Lithium and Cobalt.

20. "Star Wars Day," celebrated on May 4, is based on which famous pun? A) May the Fourth Be With You

- B) Star Wars Forever
- C) The Force of May
- D) Jedis of May

**Answer: A) May the Fourth Be With You**

**Explanation:** This pop-culture holiday is celebrated annually on May 4. While not an official UN day, it has significant global cultural impact and is often referenced in general awareness sections of competitive exams.

major occupational hazard discussed on this day.

**3. Star Wars Day (International Pop-Culture Day)**

- **Origin:** Based on the famous pun, "May the Fourth be with you," a play on the catchphrase "May the Force be with you."
- **Significance:** While a pop-culture event, it is occasionally mentioned in exams under "Miscellaneous" or "International Awareness." In 2026, it saw significant global momentum due to major digital releases and anniversaries in the franchise.

**May 4th is a significant date**

**1. International Firefighters' Day (IFFD)**

- **Significance:** This day honors the courage and sacrifices of firefighters globally who risk their lives to protect people and the environment.
- **Background:** Established in 1999 following the death of five firefighters in a wildfire in Linton, Australia (1998).
- **Key Fact:** The date **May 4th** was chosen because it is the feast day of **St. Florian**, the patron saint of firefighters.
- **Symbol:** A **red and blue ribbon** (Red for fire, Blue for water).
- **2026 Focus:** In 2026, many commemorative events highlight the use of advanced technology and AI in modern firefighting and disaster management.

**2. Coal Miners Day (National/International)**

- **Significance:** Celebrated to recognize the hard work, sacrifice, and essential contribution of coal miners to the energy sector and industrial growth.
- **India Context:** India is the **2nd largest producer** of coal globally (as of 2026).
- **Historical Note:** Coal mining in India began in **1774** at Raniganj Coalfield (West Bengal).
- **Key Exam Data:**
  - **Mines Act, 1952:** Governs the health and safety of miners in India.
  - **Health Risk:** "Black Lung Disease" (Coal Workers' Pneumoconiosis) is a

**Connected Events (Nearby Dates for Exams)**

Since exam questions often cluster dates, keep these in mind:

- **May 1:** International Labour Day / May Day (Also Maharashtra & Gujarat Statehood Day).
- **May 3 (2026): World Laughter Day** (First Sunday of May).
  - **2026 Theme:** "World Peace through Laughter."
  - **Founder:** Dr. Madan Kataria (1998).
- **May 3: World Press Freedom Day.**
  - **2026 Theme:** "A Press for the Planet: Journalism in the Face of the Environmental Crisis."

**Quick Table for Revision**

Date	Important Day	Primary Theme/Significance
May 4	International Firefighters' Day	Bravery, sacrifice, and St. Florian's Day.
May 4	Coal Miners Day	Honouring miners; Energy security awareness.
May 3 (Sun)	World Laughter Day	Mental well-being and World Peace.
May 3	World Press Freedom Day	Free press & Environmental journalism.

