

## 1. National News

**Viksit Bharat Act Update:** A significant expansion of the rural employment framework has been announced. Under the new guidelines, guaranteed rural employment days have been increased from **100 to 125 days**. The funding pattern has also shifted to a **60:40** ratio between the Centre and States.

**Waste Management Milestone:** Mumbai's Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj International Airport (CSMIA) reported achieving **99% waste diversion** from landfills, a major step toward its Net Zero Carbon Emissions goal.

**Big Cat Conservation:** Ahead of the first International Big Cat Alliance (IBCA) summit in June, India reaffirmed its commitment to the "**Delhi Declaration**," focusing on harmonized monitoring standards for seven big cat species.

**Solid Waste Management Rules 2026:** New rules under the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986, are now being actively enforced at the municipality and Gram Panchayat levels to improve scientific disposal.

## 2. International News

**G20 Environmental Leadership:** Canada became the first G20 nation to officially ratify the proposed **Global Plastic Pollution Treaty**, which aims to end plastic pollution across its entire lifecycle.

**Scientific Diplomacy:** The banner of the Inter-University Centre for Astronomy and Astrophysics (IUCAA) will now be displayed at the Southern African Large Telescope (SALT) in South Africa, symbolizing a new era of Indo-African astronomical partnership.

**Biodiversity Alert:** An international consortium released a report on May 12 highlighting accelerated biodiversity loss in the **Himalayan region** due to melting glaciers and habitat destruction.

## 3. Economics & Banking

**Digital Rupee (₹) Framework:** The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) unveiled a new framework for the **digital rupee (₹)** to be used in the interbank lending

market. This move is designed to reduce settlement risks and enhance market liquidity.

**Central Banking MoU:** The RBI and the **European Central Bank (ECB)** signed a Memorandum of Understanding to boost cooperation in central banking operations and financial stability.

**India's GDP Projections:** Fresh economic reports project India's real GDP growth for **FY27 at 6.6%**, while nominal GDP is estimated to reach **11%**.

**RuPay 'On-The-Go':** Delhi Metro (DMRC) partnered with Airtel Payments Bank to launch co-branded **National Common Mobility Cards (NCMC)** made from 99% recycled plastic.

## 4. Sports News

**IPL 2026 Update:** In a key match at the Narendra Modi Stadium, the **Gujarat Titans** defeated Sunrisers Hyderabad by 82 runs. Kagiso Rabada was named Player of the Match.

**Archery World Cup:** The Indian women's recurve team (Deepika Kumari, Ankita Bhakat, and Kumkum Mohod) won the **Gold Medal** by defeating China 5-4 in a dramatic shoot-off.

**World Yogasana Championship:** Ahmedabad has been confirmed as the host for the first-ever competitive World Yogasana event in June 2026.

## 5. Appointments & Awards

**West Bengal Leadership:** **Suvendu Adhikari** was sworn in as the 9th Chief Minister of West Bengal, marking the state's first BJP-led government.

**Puducherry CM:** **N. Rangasamy** began his record 5th term as Chief Minister.

**India's Best Gram Panchayat:** The **New Napam Gaon Panchayat** in Assam was awarded the top rank under the NDSPSVP 2025 with a ₹1.5 crore prize.

## 6. Defense, Science & Technology

**Hypersonic Progress:** India successfully conducted ground tests for an advanced **active-cooled scramjet combustor**, a critical component for the Hypersonic Cruise Missile Development Programme.

**ISRO Milestone:** ISRO successfully placed the **EOS-7** (Earth Observation Satellite) into orbit, providing advanced data for weather forecasting and disaster management.

## 7. Important Days (May 12)

**International Nurses Day:** Observed annually on the birth anniversary of Florence Nightingale.

- **2026 Theme:** "Our Nurses. Our Future. Empowered Nurses Save Lives."

**National Technology Day (Observed):** While celebrated on May 11, high-level policy discussions regarding "Sovereign AI" and indigenous innovation continued through May 12 across major scientific institutions.

## Multiple Choice Questions (MCQs) for May 12, 2026

### Section 1: International & National Days

**1. What is the theme for International Nurses Day observed on May 12, 2026?**

- A. Nurses: A Voice to Lead
- B. Our Nurses. Our Future. Empowered Nurses Save Lives.
- C. Invest in Nursing and Respect Rights
- D. Nursing the World to Health

**Answer: B. Our Nurses. Our Future. Empowered Nurses Save Lives.**  
**Explanation:** International Nurses Day is celebrated annually on the birth anniversary of Florence Nightingale. The 2026 theme highlights the critical role of empowering the nursing workforce to ensure healthcare resilience.

**2. World Migratory Bird Day 2026 was celebrated on May 11 (the second Saturday of May). What is the theme for 2026?**

- A. Protect Birds: Be the Solution to Plastic Pollution
- B. Sing, Fly, Soar – Like a Bird!
- C. Every Bird Counts – Your Observations Matter
- D. Water: Sustaining Bird Life

**Answer: C. Every Bird Counts – Your Observations Matter**  
**Explanation:** This day is observed twice a year (May and October). The 2026 theme

emphasizes citizen science and the importance of individual observations in tracking bird migration patterns.

### Section 2: National News & Governance

**3. Which city hosted the 169th anniversary of the Revolt of 1857 on May 11, 2026?**

- A. Delhi
- B. Meerut
- C. Jhansi
- D. Barrackpore

**Answer: B. Meerut**  
**Explanation:** While the sparks flew in Barrackpore with Mangal Pandey, the organized revolt officially began in Meerut on May 10, 1857. Commemoration events were held across Uttar Pradesh on May 11 to mark the sepoys' march to Delhi.

**4. India has recently emerged as the world's \_\_\_\_\_ largest country in terms of installed renewable energy capacity.**

- A. 2nd
- B. 3rd
- C. 4th
- D. 5th

**Answer: B. 3rd**  
**Explanation:** As of May 2026, India trails only China and the USA in total installed renewable capacity, crossing the milestone of 200 GW (excluding large hydro).

**5. APEDA recently facilitated the first-ever export of 20 Metric Tons of ODOP honey from which district?**

- A. Baksa, Assam
- B. Wayanad, Kerala
- C. Kangra, Himachal Pradesh
- D. Muzaffarpur, Bihar

**Answer: A. Baksa, Assam**  
**Explanation:** This marks a major milestone for the "One District One Product" (ODOP) initiative, bringing premium organic honey from Assam to international markets.

**6. Which state government recently implemented the 'Panchayat Advancement Index' (PAI) to rank local bodies?**

- A. Karnataka
- B. Maharashtra
- C. Uttar Pradesh

D. Gujarat

**Answer: A. Karnataka****Explanation:** Karnataka led the 2026 rankings in holistic Panchayat performance, focusing on digital literacy and sustainable development goals at the village level.

### Section 3: Appointments, Awards & Honors

**7. Who has been appointed as the new Chief of Defence Staff (CDS) of India, succeeding General Anil Chauhan?**

- A. Lt Gen Upendra Dwivedi
- B. Lt Gen NS Raja Subramani
- C. Vice Admiral Krishna Swaminathan
- D. General Manoj Pande

**Answer: B. Lt Gen NS Raja Subramani****Explanation:** Lt Gen NS Raja Subramani (Retd.) was appointed as the 3rd CDS. He previously served as the Vice Chief of the Army Staff and was a key strategist during *Operation Sindoor*.

**8. Vice Admiral Krishna Swaminathan has been appointed as the next \_\_\_\_?**

- A. Chief of the Air Staff
- B. Chief of the Naval Staff
- C. Director General of Coast Guard
- D. Chief of Integrated Defence Staff

**Answer: B. Chief of the Naval Staff****Explanation:** He will succeed Admiral Dinesh Kumar Tripathi on May 31, 2026. He is a specialist in Communication and Electronic Warfare and commanded the aircraft carrier INS Vikramaditya.

**9. Who was sworn in as the 9th Chief Minister of West Bengal on May 9, 2026?**

- A. Suvendu Adhikari
- B. Abhishek Banerjee
- C. Dilip Ghosh
- D. Sukanta Majumdar

**Answer: A. Suvendu Adhikari****Explanation:** Following a historic shift in the 2026 Assembly Elections, Suvendu Adhikari took the oath as the CM at the Brigade Parade Grounds in Kolkata.

**10. Which news organization won the 2026 Pulitzer Prize for Public Service?**

- A. The New York Times
- B. The Guardian
- C. ProPublica

D. Reuters

**Answer: C. ProPublica****Explanation:** ProPublica was recognized for its investigative work on judicial ethics and the influence of wealth on high-court decisions.

### Section 4: Economics & Banking

**11. The Central Government has notified \_\_\_\_ FDI in the insurance sector via the automatic route in May 2026. A. 49% B. 74% C. 100% D. 51%** **Answer: C. 100%****Explanation:** This policy change aims to attract global insurance giants to set up wholly-owned subsidiaries in India, increasing insurance penetration.

**12. Apple Inc. recently announced a ₹100 crore investment to strengthen renewable energy infrastructure in India by partnering with which firm?**

- A. Tata Power
- B. CleanMax
- C. Adani Green
- D. ReNew Power

**Answer: B. CleanMax****Explanation:** The partnership aims to add 150 MW of solar and wind capacity across six states to power Apple's growing operations in India.

**13. Which bank was penalized by the RBI on May 11, 2026, for non-compliance with KYC/AML norms?**

- A. HDFC Bank
- B. YES Bank
- C. ICICI Bank
- D. Axis Bank

**Answer: B. YES Bank****Explanation:** The RBI imposed a monetary penalty following lapses in "Know Your Customer" and "Anti-Money Laundering" verification discovered during statutory audits.

**14. What is the current "Currency in Circulation" (CiC) in India as reported in May 2026?**

- A. ₹31.10 Lakh Crore
- B. ₹42.12 Lakh Crore
- C. ₹28.50 Lakh Crore
- D. ₹35.00 Lakh Crore

**Answer: B. ₹42.12 Lakh Crore****Explanation:** Despite the increase in digital transactions (UPI), cash

demand has reached a new record high, nearly doubling since 2016.

### Section 5: Defense & Science

15. DRDO successfully flight-tested an advanced Agni missile with MIRV technology. What does MIRV stand for?

- A. Multiple Independent Re-entry Vehicle
- B. Multiple Independently Targetable Re-entry Vehicle
- C. Multi-stage Intermediate Re-entry Valve
- D. Modular Independently Targeted Robotic Vehicle

**Answer: B. Multiple Independently Targetable Re-entry Vehicle**  
**Explanation:** MIRV technology allows a single missile to carry multiple nuclear warheads, each capable of hitting a different target.

16. Which Indian Navy sail training ship concluded a port call at Mindelo, Cape Verde, on May 10, 2026?

- A. INS Tarangini
- B. INS Sudarshini
- C. INS Mhadei
- D. INS Varuna

**Answer: B. INS Sudarshini**  
**Explanation:** The visit is part of the "Bridges of Friendship" initiative to enhance maritime cooperation with African nations.

17. What is the name of the indigenous "low-cost precision strike" weapon system flight-tested by DRDO and IAF recently?

- A. RUDRAM
- B. TARA
- C. HELINA
- D. PINAKA-ER

**Answer: B. TARA (Tactical Advanced Range Augmentation)**  
**Explanation:** TARA is a modular glide weapon that converts unguided bombs into precision-guided smart weapons with a range of 80+ km.

18. DRDO inaugurated the CBRN Field Training & Demonstration Centre in which city?

- A. Pokhran
- B. Bengaluru
- C. Delhi
- D. Chandipur

**Answer: C. Delhi (Burari)**  
**Explanation:** This center focuses on Chemical, Biological, Radiological, and Nuclear (CBRN) defense training for the armed forces and disaster management teams.

### Section 6: Sports

19. Which city is set to host the 2026 Asian Weightlifting Championships after 44 years?

- A. Gandhinagar
- B. New Delhi
- C. Pune
- D. Hyderabad

**Answer: A. Gandhinagar**  
**Explanation:** Gujarat's capital is hosting the event, marking the return of this prestigious championship to India for the first time since 1982.

20. Which IPL team is currently at the top of the points table as of May 12, 2026?

- A. Sunrisers Hyderabad
- B. Gujarat Titans
- C. Royal Challengers Bengaluru
- D. Mumbai Indians

**Answer: B. Gujarat Titans**  
**Explanation:** Following an 82-run victory over SRH, the Gujarat Titans led by Shubman Gill secured the top spot in the league stage.

21. Indian shuttlers Satwiksairaj Rankireddy and Chirag Shetty are currently competing in which international tournament?

- A. Malaysia Open
- B. Thailand Open
- C. All England Open
- D. Swiss Open

**Answer: B. Thailand Open**  
**Explanation:** The duo advanced to the second round at the Nimibutr Stadium in Bangkok after a hard-fought opening match.

22. Which Indian boxer recently entered the finals of the Asian Under-15 Boxing Championships in Tashkent?

- A. Lakshya Chahar
- B. Seven Indian boxers (Multiple)
- C. Sanjeet Kumar
- D. Amit Panghal

**Answer: B. Seven Indian boxers**  
**(Multiple)Explanation:** India showed dominance in the youth category, with several pugilists entering the gold medal matches in Uzbekistan.

### Section 7: Government Schemes & MoUs

**23. The 'Jan Suraksha' schemes (PMSBY, PMJJBY, and APY) completed how many years of service on May 9, 2026?**

- A. 5 years
- B. 10 years
- C. 11 years
- D. 12 years

**Answer: C. 11 years****Explanation:** Launched in 2015, these schemes have provided affordable social security to over 94 crore people in India.

**24. Which Indian state launched the 'Swasth Bharat Portal' to integrate all health mission data?**

- A. Kerala
- B. Tamil Nadu
- C. Central Government (Union Level)
- D. Rajasthan

**Answer: C. Central Government (Union Level)****Explanation:** Union Minister J.P. Nadda launched the portal to provide a unified dashboard for all digital health programs in India.

**25. India signed an MoU with which country to enhance maritime and scientific cooperation using the research vessel INS Sagardhwani?**

- A. Indonesia
- B. Vietnam
- C. Maldives
- D. Mauritius

**Answer: B. Vietnam****Explanation:** This MoU, signed in Cam Ranh, focuses on oceanographic research and sharing maritime data under the SAGAR initiative.

### Section 8: Books, Science & Environment

**26. Who is the author of the recently released book *The Silicon Heartland*?**

- A. Satya Nadella
- B. Rajeev Chandrasekhar
- C. Nandan Nilekani
- D. S. Jaishankar

**Answer: B. Rajeev Chandrasekhar****Explanation:** The book outlines India's transformation into a \$1 trillion digital economy and its rise as a global semiconductor hub.

**27. A rare 'Gharial' (*Gavialis gangeticus*) was recently spotted in which national park after several decades?**

- A. Jim Corbett
- B. Kaziranga
- C. Manas
- D. Ranthambore

**Answer: B. Kaziranga****Explanation:** The sighting in Kaziranga (Assam) confirms the presence of this Critically Endangered species in the Brahmaputra river system.

**28. Which Indian institute launched its first international center in the USA to boost deep-tech startups?**

- A. IIT Delhi
- B. IIT Madras
- C. IIT Bombay
- D. IISc Bengaluru

**Answer: B. IIT Madras****Explanation:** IIT Madras launched its US center to facilitate global collaboration in AI, semiconductors, and green energy.

**29. The PRITHVI Scheme, often mentioned in Earth Sciences news, is an umbrella scheme for which ministry?**

- A. Ministry of New and Renewable Energy
- B. Ministry of Earth Sciences
- C. Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change
- D. Ministry of Science and Technology

**Answer: B. Ministry of Earth Sciences****Explanation:** PRITHVI (PRITHvi Vigyan) integrates five sub-schemes to monitor Earth's vital signs and climate research.

**30. Which astronomical body's banner will now be displayed at the Southern African Large Telescope (SALT)?**

- A. ISRO
- B. IUCAA
- C. IIA Bangalore
- D. TIFR

**Answer: B. IUCAA (Inter-University Centre for Astronomy and Astrophysics)****Explanation:** Pune-based IUCAA's partnership with SALT signifies deepening Indo-African scientific diplomacy in the field of astronomy.