

1. International News

Global Fund & US Malaria Initiative: The Global Fund, the US government, and SC Johnson launched an initiative to scale up "**SC Johnson Guardian**", the first spatial repellent technology for malaria. It aims to protect 60 million people by 2028, primarily in sub-Saharan Africa.

BRICS Foreign Ministers' Meeting: The meeting of BRICS Foreign Ministers commenced in **New Delhi**, focusing on intra-bloc cooperation and expansion strategies.

West Asia Crisis Impact: Global Brent crude prices crossed the **\$100-per-barrel** mark due to escalating tensions in West Asia, significantly impacting the import bills of emerging economies like India.

2. National News

India's Forex Reserves: India's foreign exchange reserves declined to approximately **\$691 billion** as of May 2026. The Prime Minister urged citizens to reduce non-essential consumption (gold, overseas travel) to stabilize the Rupee, which recently touched the **95 mark** against the US Dollar.

Assam UCC Bill: The Assam Government announced plans to introduce the **Uniform Civil Code (UCC) Bill** in the State Assembly on May 26, 2026.

NATCON 2026: The Confederation of Real Estate Developers' Associations of India (CREDAI) moved its **NATCON 2026** conference from Amsterdam to India to support the domestic economy and conserve foreign exchange.

3. Economics and Banking

Current Account Deficit (CAD): The IMF projected India's CAD to widen to **\$84.5 billion** (approx. 2% of GDP) in 2026.

Fake Currency Framework: The government emphasized the use of **Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita (BNS) Sections 178-182**, which prescribe life imprisonment for manufacturing and circulating counterfeit notes.

Sugar Export Ban: The Government of India prohibited the export of sugar with immediate effect, a restriction set to last until **September 2026** to ensure domestic availability.

4. Defense News

India-France 23rd MSC Meeting: The 23rd **Military Sub-Committee (MSC)** meeting between India and France concluded in New Delhi, focusing on cooperation in **cyber, space, and niche domains**.

INS Sunayna (Mission SAGAR): Under the **SAGAR initiative**, the Indian Navy's Offshore Patrol Vessel (OPV) **INS Sunayna** departed from Chittagong, Bangladesh, after conducting a bilateral **PASSEX** with **BNS Prottoy**.

New Tank Unveiling: The **CFL-120 Karpát Medium Tank** (a joint venture between the Czech Republic's **CSG** and Turkey's **FNSS**) was unveiled at the **IDEB 2026** exhibition in Slovakia.

5. Appointments

Kaynes Technology: The board approved the appointment of **Mr. Rajesh Balkrishna Mittal** and **Mr. Annadurai Mylswamy** (famed as the "Moon Man of India") as Non-Executive Independent Directors.

Re-appointments: **Alexander Koshy** and **Poornima Ranganath** were re-appointed as Independent Directors at **Kaynes Technology** for a second five-year term.

6. Sports

ITTF World Team Table Tennis Championships 2026: Held in **London**, marking the centenary of the event.

Chinese Dominance: Team China successfully lifted both the **Swaythling Cup (Men)** and the **Corbillon Cup (Women)** at the World Team Championships.

7. Govt Schemes & MoUs

IndiaAI & Karya MoU: The **IndiaAI Mission** (under MeitY) signed an MoU with **Karya** (a non-profit) to build a more inclusive AI ecosystem by developing high-quality datasets in regional languages.



India-UAE Energy Tie-up: Prime Minister Modi is scheduled to visit Abu Dhabi on May 15 to deepen strategic energy ties.

8. Important Days

May 13: International Hummus Day. May 13 (National - USA): National Receptionists Day and Children of Fallen Patriots Day.

Month-long Observances: May is recognized as National Mental Health Awareness Month and Jewish American Heritage Month.

13th May 2026: Current Affairs Practice Set

National News & Governance

1. To commemorate the 75th year of the Somnath Temple's post-independence restoration, Prime Minister Modi released a special coin of what denomination?

- A) Rs. 50
- B) Rs. 75
- C) Rs. 100
- D) Rs. 250

Answer: B) Rs. 75

Detail: The Somnath Temple, reconstructed after independence under the guidance of Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel, celebrates its 75th "Pratishtha" anniversary. The Rs. 75 coin is a commemorative legal tender.

2. Which Union Minister launched the fourth phase of the Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana (PMGSY-IV) on May 13, 2026?

- A) Narendra Modi
- B) Shivraj Singh Chouhan
- C) Amit Shah
- D) Nitin Gadkari

Answer: B) Shivraj Singh Chouhan

Detail: PMGSY-IV aims to provide all-weather road connectivity to 25,000 unconnected habitations with a population of 100+ in hilly/tribal areas and 250+ in plains.

3. In May 2026, the NEET-UG exam was cancelled by the National Testing Agency (NTA). Under which act does the government prosecute paper leak mafias?

- A) Public Examinations (Prevention of Unfair Means) Act, 2024

B) National Education Act, 2020

C) IT Act, 2000

D) Right to Education Act, 2009

Answer: A) Public Examinations (Prevention of Unfair Means) Act, 2024

Detail: Following allegations of paper leaks in NEET-UG 2026, the government invoked this stringent law which prescribes up to 10 years in jail and a Rs. 1 crore fine for organized crime.

4. The 'Experience Centre for Digital Engineering and Manufacturing' was inaugurated in which city with support from Dassault Systèmes?

- A) Pune
- B) Hyderabad
- C) Bengaluru
- D) Chennai

Answer: C) Bengaluru

Detail: This center aims to boost the "Make in India" initiative by providing MSMEs and startups access to high-end digital design and simulation tools.

5. Which Indian state recently launched the 'Meri Rasoi Yojana' to provide free quarterly food kits to underprivileged families?

- A) Rajasthan
- B) Haryana
- C) Uttar Pradesh
- D) Madhya Pradesh

Answer: B) Haryana

Detail: The scheme provides essential items like dal, sugar, and mustard oil to BPL (Below Poverty Line) cardholders every quarter.

International News

6. Which country is hosting the 21st United Nations Day of Vesak (Buddha Purnima) celebrations in 2026?

- A) India
- B) Thailand
- C) China
- D) Sri Lanka

Answer: C) China

Detail: While India is the birthplace of Buddhism, the UN-recognized international celebrations for 2026 are being held in China, focusing on global peace and cultural exchange.

7. In May 2026, Lebanon and Israel scheduled direct peace talks in which city to resolve long-standing border disputes?

- A) Paris
- B) Washington D.C.
- C) Cairo
- D) Geneva

Answer: B) Washington D.C.

Detail: Mediated by the U.S. administration, these talks aim to establish a permanent maritime and land boundary to reduce West Asian tensions.

8. The UN Global Forest Goals Report 2026 highlighted that which region has seen the highest rate of reforestation in the last decade?

- A) South America
- B) Africa
- C) Asia
- D) Europe

Answer: C) Asia

Detail: Led by massive plantation drives in India and China, Asia has reported a significant net gain in forest area compared to other continents.

9. Which international organization chief recently announced that the "work is not over" regarding the Hantavirus outbreak?

- A) UNICEF
- B) WHO
- C) UNESCO
- D) FAO

Answer: B) WHO (Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus)

Detail: The WHO issued a warning following the evacuation of a cruise ship due to a localized Hantavirus cluster, emphasizing global biosafety protocols.

10. British PM Keir Starmer faced a leadership challenge in May 2026 following losses in which elections?

- A) General Elections
- B) Council and Assembly Elections
- C) Mayoral Elections
- D) European Parliament Elections

Answer: B) Council and Assembly Elections

Detail: Significant losses in England's local councils and the Scottish/Welsh assemblies led to internal calls for his resignation.

Economics & Banking

11. The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) recently noted pressure on forex reserves due to high outflows under LRS. What does LRS stand for?

- A) Loan Recovery System
- B) Liberalised Remittance Scheme
- C) Local Reserve Standard
- D) Long-term Revenue Stream

Answer: B) Liberalised Remittance Scheme

Detail: Under LRS, resident individuals can remit up to \$250,000 per financial year for travel, education, or investments abroad.

12. SEBI has proposed a "Fast Track" launch for new mutual fund schemes. What is the proposed timeframe for approval under this?

- A) 10 days
- B) 15 days
- C) 30 days
- D) 45 days

Answer: A) 10 days

Detail: The move aims to improve "Ease of Doing Business" for Asset Management Companies (AMCs) catering to institutional and sophisticated investors.

13. Which organization recently launched the "Bharat Maritime Insurance Pool"?

- A) IRDAI
- B) GIC Re
- C) RBI
- D) SEBI

Answer: B) GIC Re (General Insurance Corporation of India)

Detail: This pool is designed to provide insurance coverage for Indian ships carrying essential commodities, reducing dependence on international (mostly Western) insurance clubs.

14. What is the current GST collection trend reported in May 2026 (for April 2026)?

- A) Rs. 1.50 Lakh Crore
- B) Rs. 1.87 Lakh Crore
- C) Rs. 2.15 Lakh Crore
- D) Rs. 2.30 Lakh Crore

Answer: C) Rs. 2.15 Lakh Crore

Detail: India hit a new record in GST collections, indicating strong domestic consumption and improved tax compliance.

15. Which Indian PSU bank launched the 'Solar Shastra' loan scheme for residential rooftop solar installations?

- A) SBI
- B) PNB
- C) Bank of Baroda
- D) Canara Bank

Answer: A) SBI (State Bank of India)

Detail: Aligned with the PM-Surya Ghar Muft Bijli Yojana, SBI offers collateral-free loans for solar panels up to 3kW.

Sports

16. Who maintained the No. 1 spot in the ICC Test Bowling Rankings published on May 13, 2026?

- A) Ravichandran Ashwin
- B) Pat Cummins
- C) Jasprit Bumrah
- D) Kagiso Rabada

Answer: C) Jasprit Bumrah

Detail: Bumrah's consistent performance across series against England and Australia helped him retain the pole position.

17. Which city has been officially named as the host for the 2030 Commonwealth Games engagement initiatives?

- A) New Delhi
- B) Ahmedabad
- C) Perth
- D) Birmingham

Answer: B) Ahmedabad

Detail: India is actively bidding for the 2030 CWG and 2036 Olympics, with Ahmedabad as the primary hub for infrastructure development.

18. Sakshi Malik and Vinesh Phogat were in the news recently regarding a tussle with which federation?

- A) AIFF
- B) WFI
- C) BCCI
- D) IOA

Answer: B) WFI (Wrestling Federation of India)

Detail: The athletes raised concerns over comeback rules for senior wrestlers and mothers returning to the sport.

19. Which Indian cricketer recently entered the Top 10 ICC Test Batting Rankings at No. 8?

- A) Rohit Sharma
- B) Virat Kohli
- C) Yashasvi Jaiswal
- D) Rishabh Pant

Answer: C) Yashasvi Jaiswal

Detail: Following a prolific home season, Jaiswal and Shubman Gill (No. 9) solidified their positions in the top tier.

20. The 'Laureus World Sportsman of the Year 2026' award was recently won by?

- A) Lionel Messi
- B) Novak Djokovic
- C) Kylian Mbappé
- D) Max Verstappen

Answer: D) Max Verstappen

Detail: Verstappen won the award following his record-breaking Formula 1 season.

Appointments & Awards

21. Who was appointed as the Chairperson of the committee to review Regulatory Impact Assessments (RIA) in India?

- A) Amitabh Kant
- B) Dr. V. Anantha Nageswaran
- C) T.V. Somanathan
- D) Shaktikanta Das

Answer: A) Amitabh Kant

Detail: The committee will study how laws affect the economy and ease of doing business before they are implemented.

22. Which Indian actor/politician won the floor test in the Tamil Nadu Assembly on May 13, 2026?

- A) Kamal Haasan
- B) C. Joseph Vijay
- C) Edappadi K. Palaniswami
- D) Udhayanidhi Stalin

Answer: B) C. Joseph Vijay

Detail: Leading the newly formed Tamilaga Vettri Kazhagam (TVK), Vijay secured 144 votes to prove his majority as Chief Minister.

23. The 'Global Sustainability Leadership Award 2026' was conferred upon which Indian organization?

- A) ISRO
- B) NTPC
- C) Adani Green
- D) Tata Power

Answer: B) NTPC

Detail: Recognized for its rapid transition toward renewable energy and green hydrogen production.

Defense, Science & Technology

24. What is 'ICGS Achal', which was recently in the news?

- A) A Nuclear Submarine
- B) A Fast Patrol Vessel
- C) An Aircraft Carrier
- D) A Stealth Frigate

Answer: B) A Fast Patrol Vessel

Detail: Built by Goa Shipyard Limited (GSL), it is an Adanya-class vessel designed for coastal surveillance and maritime security.

25. National Technology Day (celebrated on May 11, observed in week-long events till May 13) commemorates which event?

- A) Launch of Aryabhata
- B) Pokhran-II Nuclear Tests
- C) First Indian Satellite Launch
- D) Invention of Zero

Answer: B) Pokhran-II Nuclear Tests

Detail: Operation Shakti (1998) is the primary event. The 2026 theme is "Responsible Innovation for Inclusive Growth."

26. Which country recently extradited narco-terrorist Iqbal Singh (Shera) to India?

- A) Canada
- B) Portugal
- C) UAE
- D) Thailand

Answer: B) Portugal

Detail: The NIA took custody of Shera, a mastermind in Hizb-ul-Mujahideen terror financing, after years of legal effort in Portugal.

Miscellaneous (Books, Days, MOUs)

27. The National Jute Board launched which mobile app for on-field jute monitoring?

- A) Jute-Mitra
- B) BHUVAN JUMP
- C) PATSAN
- D) Gold-Fibre App

Answer: B) BHUVAN JUMP

Detail: Developed with ISRO, it provides geo-tagged data collection for jute crops. (Note: PATSAN is the web platform).

28. Which Indian State signed an MOU with the International Pharmacy Council (IPC) to upgrade its pharmacy colleges?

- A) Kerala
- B) Maharashtra
- C) Gujarat
- D) Tamil Nadu

Answer: A) Kerala

Detail: The partnership focuses on clinical research and global certification for local pharmacy graduates.

29. The book titled 'The Green Bharat: A 2047 Vision' was released by which personality?

- A) Narendra Modi
- B) Bhupender Yadav
- C) Bibek Debroy
- D) Nirmala Sitharaman

Answer: B) Bhupender Yadav

Detail: The book outlines India's roadmap to achieving Net Zero and biodiversity conservation targets.

30. What was the theme for the 'International Day of Plant Health' (May 12, 2026)?

- A) Plant Health for One Earth
- B) Plant Biosecurity for Food Security
- C) Green Future, Healthy Plants
- D) Protect Plants, Protect Life

Answer: B) Plant Biosecurity for Food Security

Detail: The day emphasizes how protecting plant health can help end hunger and reduce poverty.