

Part 1: National News & Defense Updates

Q1. General N.S. Raja Subramani officially took charge as India's new Chief of Defence Staff (CDS). What is the primary structural mandate assigned to him?

- A) The creation of a unified cyber-warfare commands network
- B) The execution of the ambitious military theaterisation plan and tri-service synergy
- C) Overseeing the absolute indigenization of all naval submarine fleets
- D) The complete restructuring of border paramilitary intelligence arrays

Answer: B) The execution of the ambitious military theaterisation plan and tri-service synergy

Detailed Explanation:

General N.S. Raja Subramani, a renowned military strategist with deep operational expertise along the Northern and Western borders (China and Pakistan fronts), officially assumed office as India's new Chief of Defence Staff (CDS). His primary operational mandate is to accelerate and implement the military theaterisation plan, which aims to reorganize India's standalone army, navy, and air force commands into unified, theater-specific combat commands to maximize operational synergy and response times.

Q2. In May 2026, the Protection of Children from Sexual Offences (POCSO) Act was clarified by the Supreme Court regarding which specific legal intersection?

- A) It does not apply if the minor is residing in community shelters

B) It strictly applies if the victim of commercial sex trafficking is a minor

C) It completely supersedes all regular cross-border immigration bail norms

D) It exempts juveniles aged between 16 and 18 from mandatory arrests

Answer: B) It strictly applies if the victim of commercial sex trafficking is a minor

Explanation:

The Supreme Court delivered a landmark ruling confirming that the stringent provisions of the POCSO Act are fully applicable in cases where a minor is subjected to commercial sexual exploitation and trafficking. The apex court noted that the protective statutory umbrella of POCSO cannot be diluted or bypassed by charging offenders solely under regular sections of the Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita (BNS) or the Immoral Traffic (Prevention) Act.

Q3. The Union Defence Minister inaugurated the newly constructed "Nausena Shaurya Vatika" in which Indian city?

- A) Visakhapatnam
- B) Lucknow
- C) Kochi
- D) New Delhi

Answer: B) Lucknow

Explanation:

The Defence Minister inaugurated the "Nausena Shaurya Vatika" (Naval Valour Park) in Lucknow, Uttar Pradesh. This specialized memorial displays decommissioned naval assets, missiles, and sensory equipment. It serves to honor the Indian Navy's historical maritime achievements and inspire youth in landlocked regions to pursue careers in the armed forces.

Q4. The Central Government has approved the major Chenab–Beas Link Tunnel infrastructure project. In which State/UT is this project situated?

- A) Jammu & Kashmir
- B) Himachal Pradesh
- C) Uttarakhand
- D) Arunachal Pradesh

Answer: B) Himachal Pradesh

Explanation:

The Central Government cleared the technical and financial blueprints for the Chenab–Beas Link Tunnel project in Himachal Pradesh. This massive river-linking engineering project is designed to redirect surplus water allocations from the Chenab river basin into the Beas river channel, boosting year-round hydropower generation capacity and optimizing irrigation networks.

Q5. From June 1, 2026, the South Coast Railway Zone (SCoR) is scheduled to officially start its administrative and technical operations. Where is its headquarters located?

- A) Secunderabad
- B) Visakhapatnam
- C) Bhubaneswar
- D) Vijayawada

Answer: B) Visakhapatnam

Explanation:

The newly created South Coast Railway Zone (SCoR) will begin operational activities from its headquarters in Visakhapatnam, Andhra Pradesh. This establishes SCoR as the 18th official railway zone of the Indian Railways network, directly fulfilling a long-standing infrastructural commitment to the region.

Q6. The Central Board of Secondary Education (CBSE) recently addressed security concerns regarding vulnerabilities in which of its operational portals?

- A) Pariksha Sangam
- B) OnMark Portal
- C) Saransh Platform
- D) CBSE-Vidya

Answer: B) OnMark Portal

Explanation:

CBSE issued an official notification stating that potential digital security "vulnerabilities" detected within the "OnMark portal"—an interface run by its external IT services provider for handling digital evaluations—were swiftly contained. The board confirmed that comprehensive technical audits are underway to eliminate any further exploitable weaknesses.

Part 2: International Relations & Global News

Q7. The prominent "Shangri-La Dialogue," which concluded its sessions recently, serves as the premier multilateral defense and security forum for which geographical region?

- A) Euro-Atlantic Region
- B) Asia-Pacific Region
- C) Middle East & North Africa
- D) Latin American Block

Answer: B) Asia-Pacific Region

Explanation:

The Shangri-La Dialogue, organized annually in Singapore by the International Institute for Strategic Studies (IISS), is the most influential independent security exchange platform for the

Asia-Pacific region. It gathers defense ministers, military chiefs, and global security experts to discuss regional flashpoints, freedom of navigation, and Indo-Pacific geopolitical strategies.

Q8. Which European nation's parliament elected veteran leader Janez Janša as Prime Minister for a historic fourth term?

- A) Slovakia
- B) Slovenia
- C) Bulgaria
- D) Latvia

Answer: B) Slovenia

Explanation:

The Parliament of Slovenia elected Janez Janša to serve as the nation's Prime Minister for a fourth term. Janša's return to power reshapes Central European coalition dynamics, bringing a renewed legislative focus to regional border security, energy independence, and economic adjustments within the European Union.

Q9. India signed a landmark defense deal to export its indigenously developed BrahMos supersonic cruise missiles to which Southeast Asian nation?

- A) Philippines
- B) Vietnam
- C) Indonesia
- D) Malaysia

Answer: B) Vietnam

Explanation:

India successfully closed a major defense export contract to supply BrahMos supersonic cruise missiles to Vietnam. Concurrently, high-level missile procurement negotiations with

Indonesia have entered advanced stages, marking a significant milestone in India's target to position itself as a major exporter of advanced precision hardware.

Q10. A highly publicized diplomatic and rhetorical rift occurred when US President Donald Trump publicly criticized Pope Leo XIV following the Pontiff's Vatican meeting with the mayor of which American city?

- A) New York City
- B) Chicago
- C) Los Angeles
- D) Houston

Answer: B) Chicago

Explanation:

US President Donald Trump initiated a sharp rhetorical critique against Pope Leo XIV following the Pope's diplomatic meeting at the Vatican with Chicago Mayor Brandon Johnson. The friction highlights deep-seated political divisions between the US executive branch and metropolitan administrations over urban management policies.

Q11. Which two sovereign nations are competing in a close vote scheduled at the UN Headquarters to secure the Presidency of the upcoming 81st Session of the UN General Assembly (UNGA)?

- A) India and Oman
- B) Bangladesh and Cyprus
- C) Vietnam and Maldives
- D) Slovenia and Latvia

Answer: B) Bangladesh and Cyprus

Explanation:

The diplomatic election for the President of the 81st Session of the United Nations General Assembly (UNGA) is scheduled at the UN Headquarters in New York, featuring a direct contest between Bangladesh and Cyprus. The position rotates annually among geographical regions, with member states voting to elect the presiding diplomat.

Part 3: Economics, Banking & Corporate Governance

Q12. In May 2026, the landmark Insolvency and Bankruptcy Code (IBC) reform framework completed how many years of its rollout and enforcement in India?

- A) 5 Years
- B) 8 Years
- C) 10 Years
- D) 12 Years

Answer: C) 10 Years

Explanation:

The Insolvency and Bankruptcy Code (IBC) marked 10 years since its historic legislative enactment in 2016. Over the past decade, the IBC has driven a recovery of over ₹4 lakh crore of distressed corporate debt, significantly improving India's credit culture, resolving non-performing assets (NPAs), and elevating business confidence.

Q13. Which major international economic treaty, aimed at offering duty-free access to 98.08% of tariff lines for Indian exports, officially comes into force from June 1, 2026?

- A) India-UAE CEPA
- B) India-Oman CEPA
- C) India-Australia ECTA
- D) India-UK FTA

Answer: B) India-Oman CEPA

Explanation:

The Comprehensive Economic Partnership Agreement (CEPA) between India and Oman officially enters into force on June 1, 2026. The treaty provides Indian exporters with immediate, duty-free market access for 98.08% of its tariff lines, significantly benefiting domestic textiles, agriculture, engineering goods, gems and jewelry, and pharmaceuticals.

Q14. What critical corporate development triggered the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) to grant a three-month extension to Ketan Merchant as the Interim CEO of Fino Payments Bank?

- A) The bank's scheduled merger with a public sector giant
- B) The arrest of former MD & CEO Rishi Gupta in a GST tax evasion case
- C) A sudden cyber-attack compromising retail transaction ledgers
- D) A mandatory regulatory transition into a Small Finance Bank

Answer: B) The arrest of former MD & CEO Rishi Gupta in a GST tax evasion case

Explanation:

The RBI approved a three-month extension for Ketan Merchant to continue as the Interim CEO of Fino Payments Bank, effective May 27, 2026. This stop-gap arrangement became necessary after the bank's former MD & CEO, Rishi Gupta, was arrested in connection with a major GST tax evasion case, leading to his subsequent resignation through voluntary retirement.

Q15. Every quarter, the Morgan Stanley Capital International (MSCI) reviews and rebalances its Emerging Markets Index. Which country currently holds the highest weightage in the

MSCI EM index due to the global AI and semiconductor rally?

- A) India
- B) China
- C) Taiwan
- D) South Korea

Answer: C) Taiwan

Explanation:

Following the latest MSCI Emerging Markets (EM) index rebalancing, Taiwan's weightage climbed to a dominant 24.84%, driven by the massive global stock rally in AI chips and advanced hardware manufacturers like TSMC. China holds 23.05%, South Korea stands at 18.69%, while India's structural absence of mega-cap pure-play AI semiconductor firms saw its relative weightage adjust to 11.94%.

Q16. Which public market entity received official approval from the Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI) for the appointment of Amit Mahajan and Nayana Ovalekar as its new Executive Directors?

- A) National Stock Exchange (NSE)
- B) Central Depository Services (India) Limited (CDSL)
- C) National Securities Depository Limited (NSDL)
- D) Bombay Stock Exchange (BSE)

Answer: B) Central Depository Services (India) Limited (CDSL)

Explanation:

SEBI formally approved the appointment of Amit Mahajan and Nayana Ovalekar as Executive Directors on the board of Central Depository Services (India) Limited (CDSL). They will oversee critical depository functions,

investor safety mechanisms, and risk infrastructure across India's expanding capital markets.

Q17. Which public financial institution launched the new "New Jeevan Sathi" joint life insurance plans tailored specifically for couples?

- A) State Bank of India (SBI)
- B) Life Insurance Corporation of India (LIC)
- C) Punjab National Bank (PNB)
- D) HDFC Life Insurance

Answer: B) Life Insurance Corporation of India (LIC)

Explanation:

The Life Insurance Corporation of India (LIC) launched two joint life insurance policies named "New Jeevan Sathi-Single Premium" and "New Jeevan Sathi-Limited Premium." Developed for married couples, these plans combine long-term savings with dual-life risk protection and guaranteed maturity benefits.

Part 4: Government Schemes & Portals

Q18. The India Semiconductor Mission (ISM) launched a dedicated web platform to strengthen investor confidence and streamline capital inflows. What is the name of this portal?

- A) Semicon Connect
- B) Investors Support Portal
- C) CHIP-India Gateway
- D) Digital Fab Accelerator

Answer: B) Investors Support Portal

Explanation:

The India Semiconductor Mission (ISM), functioning under the Ministry of Electronics

and Information Technology (MeitY), launched the "Investors Support" portal. This platform acts as a centralized digital interface providing real-time data on regulatory approvals, financial subsidies, infrastructure links, and direct fiscal incentives to global and domestic semiconductor fabricators.

Q19. The Union Ministry of Coal has set a national target of gasifying 100 million tonnes of coal by which target year?

- A) 2028
- B) 2030
- C) 2035
- D) 2040

Answer: B) 2030

Explanation:

The Ministry of Coal has institutionalized a target to achieve the clean gasification of 100 million tonnes of domestic coal by 2030. To meet this target, the government has backed a financial incentive scheme to gasify 75 million tonnes of coal and lignite, helping to produce syngas, synthetic natural gas, urea, and clean methanol domestically.

Q20. Which state government launched the ₹236-crore, three-year transformative initiative titled "Mission Queen Pineapple" to aggressively boost global fruit exports?

- A) Assam
- B) Tripura
- C) Manipur
- D) Meghalaya

Answer: B) Tripura

Explanation:

Union Minister Jyotiraditya Scindia and state officials launched the ₹236-crore "Mission Queen Pineapple" in Tripura. Spanning three years, this agricultural initiative aims to modernize harvesting techniques, expand processing plants, and scale up international export channels for Tripura's premium GI-tagged Queen Pineapple variety.

Part 5: Science, Technology & Environment

Q21. Clinicians at Xijing Hospital of the Chinese Air Force Medical University achieved a medical milestone by performing what surgical procedure on a 53-year-old brain-dead patient?

- A) The world's first simultaneous artificial heart and lung 3D print install
- B) The world's first simultaneous transplant of two gene-edited pig kidneys and one pig liver
- C) A completely autonomous robotic neural-link pathway bypass
- D) A full-scale synthetic laboratory-grown skin graft replacement

Answer: B) The world's first simultaneous transplant of two gene-edited pig kidneys and one pig liver

Explanation:

In a major advancement for xenotransplantation, Chinese surgeons successfully transplanted two gene-edited pig kidneys and one pig liver into a 53-year-old brain-dead human patient. The organs functioned normally without immediate hyperacute immune rejection, offering new possibilities for addressing global human organ shortages.

Q22. India's National AI Ethics Council issued a comprehensive set of governance guidelines.

What is the primary area of focus in these new recommendations?

- A) Enforcing total cross-border data localization
- B) Algorithmic transparency and accountability
- C) Capping the maximum revenue generated by AI firms
- D) Mandating government approval for basic open-source code scripts

Answer: B) Algorithmic transparency and accountability

Explanation:

The newly formed National AI Ethics Council unveiled its core regulatory guidelines, focusing on algorithmic transparency and accountability. The rules mandate that enterprise-grade AI deployments must provide explainable, unbiased, and fair processing pathways, ensuring public safety and preventing algorithmic discrimination.

Q23. According to the latest data from the National Family Health Survey-6 (NFHS-6), which North-eastern state recorded a significant drop in child stunting, with numbers falling from 46.5% down to healthier baselines?

- A) Nagaland
- B) Mizoram
- C) Meghalaya
- D) Arunachal Pradesh

Answer: C) Meghalaya

Explanation:

The NFHS-6 report highlighted a major public health victory for Meghalaya, where child stunting among children under the age of five fell sharply from 46.5% recorded in the previous survey window. This improvement is attributed to targeted grassroots nutritional

interventions under the state's POSHAN Abhiyaan models.

Part 6: Sports, Appointments & Obituaries

Q24. Which major football club secured back-to-back UEFA Champions League titles after a dramatic penalty shootout (4-3) victory against Arsenal in the finals held in Budapest?

- A) Real Madrid
- B) Paris Saint-Germain (PSG)
- C) Manchester City
- D) Bayern Munich

Answer: B) Paris Saint-Germain (PSG)

Explanation:

Paris Saint-Germain (PSG) claimed consecutive European club football crowns by defeating Arsenal 4-3 on penalties in a highly competitive final in Budapest, after the match ended 1-1 following extra time. Captain Marquinhos led the team during their successful title defense.

Q25. Senior IAS Officer P. Jawahar formally assumed charge as the Chairman of which apex Indian trade promotion and regulatory body?

- A) APEDA
- B) MPEDA
- C) FSSAI
- D) NABARD

Answer: B) MPEDA

Explanation:

Senior IAS officer P. Jawahar took charge as the Chairman of the Marine Products Export Development Authority (MPEDA). MPEDA is India's apex statutory body under the Ministry of Commerce and Industry responsible for

promoting, expanding, and regulating seafood and marine product exports.

Q26. Veteran Indian Olympian Shyam Lal Meena passed away at the age of 61. In which sporting discipline did he represent India at the historic 1988 Seoul Olympics?

- A) Weightlifting
- B) Archery
- C) Boxing
- D) Athletics

Answer: B) Archery

Explanation:

Pioneering Indian Olympian Shyam Lal Meena passed away at 61 after a prolonged illness. Meena was a key member of the Indian recurve archery team that won a historic bronze medal at the 1987 Asian Archery Championships, which secured India's qualification berth for the 1988 Seoul Olympics.

Q27. Who assumed additional charge as the Chief Public Relations Officer (CPRO) of the newly operationalized South Coast Railway zone?

- A) Ketan Merchant
- B) Y. Balaji Kiran
- C) P. Jawahar
- D) Amit Mahajan

Answer: B) Y. Balaji Kiran

Explanation:

Y. Balaji Kiran, an Indian Railway Traffic Service (IRTS) officer of the 2013 batch, took additional charge as the Chief Public Relations Officer (CPRO) of the South Coast Railway (SCoR) zone. He will lead the public relations and media

engagement strategies as the zone begins full operations from Visakhapatnam.

Part 7: Important Days, Themes & Anniversaries

Q28. Every year, May 31 is observed globally as World No Tobacco Day. What is the official global theme designated by the WHO for World No Tobacco Day 2026?

- A) "Commit to Quit"
- B) "Tobacco: Threat to our Environment"
- C) "Unmasking the Appeal: Exposing Industry Tactics on Tobacco and Nicotine Products"
- D) "Protecting children from tobacco industry interference"

Answer: C) "Unmasking the Appeal: Exposing Industry Tactics on Tobacco and Nicotine Products"

Explanation:

World No Tobacco Day is observed annually on May 31 to raise awareness about the health hazards of tobacco use and advocate for effective tobacco control policies. The official theme for 2026, "Unmasking the Appeal: Exposing Industry Tactics on Tobacco and Nicotine Products," focuses on countering deceptive marketing strategies that target younger generations with alternative nicotine products.

Q29. Prime Minister Narendra Modi addressed the nation during his monthly radio broadcast "Mann Ki Baat" on May 31, 2026. What primary issue did he urge citizens to take precautions against?

- A) Microplastic accumulation in household water
- B) Intense heatwaves and scorching summer temperatures across the country

- C) Sudden digital banking phishing links
D) Monsoon-related vector-borne diseases

the official 25th state of India (while Daman and Diu remained a Union Territory).

Answer: B) Intense heatwaves and scorching summer temperatures across the country

Explanation:

During the monthly broadcast of *Mann Ki Baat*, Prime Minister Narendra Modi expressed serious concern over the intense heatwaves affecting several states. He urged citizens to stay well-hydrated and follow public health guidelines to prevent heatstroke and related complications when stepping outdoors.

Q30. Consider the following statements regarding the International Day of the Potato and Goa Statehood Day:

1. International Day of the Potato is observed annually on May 30 to highlight its role in global food security.
2. Goa Statehood Day is celebrated on May 30 to mark the day it became the 25th state of the Indian Union in 1987.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- A) 1 only
B) 2 only
C) Both 1 and 2
D) Neither 1 nor 2

Answer: C) Both 1 and 2

Explanation:

Both statements are completely correct. May 30 marks the UN-backed International Day of the Potato, which highlights the crop's contribution to global agriculture and poverty alleviation. May 30 is also celebrated as Goa Statehood Day, commemorating the day in 1987 when Goa transitioned from a Union Territory to become