

Weekly One Liners 25th to 31st May, 2026

Government Unveils BHAVYA Scheme Guidelines

The Union Government of India has released the detailed guidelines for the BHAVYA Scheme. This scheme which aims to build the 100 world class industrial park across pan India. This guidelines are announced by the Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade (DPIIT) and the total financial outlay for this scheme around the ₹33,660 crore.

What Is the BHAVYA Scheme?

The BHAVYA Scheme is the Central Sector Scheme which put main focused on to creating integrated industrial ecosystems that are ready to attract domestic and global manufacturers. The scheme aligns with the major national initiatives like Make in India, PM Gati Shakti and manufacturing growth strategy. The main goal around this scheme is to make the industrial investment easier, faster and globally competitive.

100 Industrial Parks Planned Across India

Under the scheme, total 100 industrial parks will be developed between the 2026-27 and 2031-32.

The first phase will focus on up to 50 industrial parks, which are selected through a competitive challenge based process.

All the States-UTS and eligible agencies will compete based on the infrastructure quality, connectivity and investment potential.

The competitive model is also expected to improve project quality and execution speed.

Key Features of BHAVYA Scheme

The major highlight of BHAVYA is its strong focus on to the plug-and-play industrial infrastructure.

This means that investors can start operations quickly without waiting years for basic facilities.

The industrial parks will includes the,

- Multimodal logistics connectivity
- Reliable water and electricity supply
- Underground utility systems
- Renewable energy infrastructure
- Worker housing facilities
- Skill development centres
- Waste management and treatment systems
- Testing laboratories

The idea is to create the complete industrial ecosystems not just on land parcels.

Greenfield and Brownfield Development Allowed

The scheme supports the both greenfield and eligible brownfield industrial parks.

Minimum land requirements includes the,

- 100 acres for non-hilly states
- 25 acres for hilly states, northeastern states, Union Territories and smaller states

Larger industrial parks up to 1000 acres can also be considered.

This flexibility allows the wider regional participation.

How Will BHAVYA Be Implemented?

Each industrial park will be developed through the Special Purpose Vehicle (SPV) under the Companies Act, 2013.

These SPVs will manage the areas like planning, development, investor support and long-term operations.

The National Industrial Corridor Development Corporation (NICDC) will act as the Project Management Agency (PMA).

Monitoring will include the,

- GIS-based tracking
- Audit systems
- Progress reporting
- Oversight by a National Steering Committee

This structure is designed to improve accountability and transparency.

What Is SARTHAK-PDS? Key Features and Benefits of the New PDS Scheme

The Union Cabinet has approved the SARTHAK-PDS scheme,, it is an integrated umbrella program which aimed at to modernizing and streamlining the Public Distribution (PDS). This scheme have backing of ₹25,530 crore budget outlay for the next five years as this scheme combines the financial support for the foodgrain transportation with the advanced technology-driven reforms.

What is SARTHAK-PDS?

SARTHAK-PDS stands for the,

Scheme for Assistance in Ration Transport and Handling-Income with Automation in PDS

The scheme has been approved by the Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs (CCEA) chaired by the Honorable Prime Minister Narendra Modi.

It integrates two existing schemes such as the,

- Assistance to State Agencies for intra-State movement of food grains and FPS dealers margin under NFSA
- SMART PDS (Scheme for Modernization and Reforms through Technology in Public Distribution System)

The merged scheme will operate until the 31 March 2031.

Main Objective of SARTHAK-PDS

The scheme aims to create a more efficient, transparent and technology driven Public Distribution System.

Its major objectives includes the,

- Strengthening the food security delivery
- Improving a last-mile food grain distribution
- Reducing leakages in PDS
- Supporting Fair Price Shop (FPS) dealers
- Enhancing digital governance in food distribution

The government also aims to ensure the seamless services for beneficiaries covered under NFSA.

₹25,530 Crore Central Outlay Approved

The Centre will spend around the ₹25,530 crore over the next five years till 2031.

This amount represents the Central government's share under the scheme.

The Cabinet has also approved the revised norms for the,

- Intra-state transportation of food grains
- Handling charges
- FPS dealer margins

This financial support is expected to improve the operational efficiency and ensure sustainable delivery systems.

Technology-Driven Public Distribution System

One of the major highlights of SARTHAK-PDS is its focus on to the advanced technology integration.

The scheme plans to modernize PDS operations using the,

- Artificial Intelligence (AI)
- Machine Learning (ML)
- Natural Language Processing (NLP)
- Blockchain technology

The aim is to create an intelligent and interoperable food distribution ecosystem.

Key Technological Features of SARTHAK-PDS

The scheme proposes the several major digital reforms.

These includes the,

- Unified national PDS databases
- Real-time monitoring systems
- AI-driven grievance redressal
- Predictive analytics systems
- State Command and Control Centres
- ISO-certified operational processes

These measures are designed to improve the transparency, accountability and efficiency in ration distribution.

Focus on Last-Mile Delivery

A key priority of this scheme is to improve the last-mile foodgrain delivery to beneficiaries.

The scheme will ensure the,

- Better coordination between the Centre and States
- Timely food grain transportation
- Faster distribution mechanisms
- Improved support for Fair Price Shops

The government also aims to reduce delays and prevent diversion or leakages in the supply chain.

Importance Under National Food Security Act (NFSA)

The SARTHAK-PDS scheme supports the India's commitments under the National Food Security Act, 2013.

The NFSA currently covers the, 81.35 crore beneficiaries.

The scheme aims to strengthen access to the,

- Food security
- Nutritional support
- Affordable food grain supply

The government had described the food security as both a social and legal responsibility.

National Affairs

- **Indian Railways** has launched the **CHIRAG Centre (Centre for HR Information Systems, Research and Analytics in Governance)** at **Moula-Ali, Hyderabad**, to modernize workforce management through digital technologies. The centre will strengthen **HRMS platforms**, enable **AI-based analytics**, improve policy research, and support predictive workforce planning, including **retirement forecasting** and **skill gap analysis**. Envisioned as a national hub for **data-driven HR governance**, CHIRAG will also provide advanced workforce training and administrative support. The initiative reflects Indian Railways' transition toward smarter, technology-enabled governance, with full operationalization targeted by **May 2028**.
- **Mission Karmayogi 2.0** marks the next phase of India's civil services reform under the **National Programme for Civil Services Capacity Building (NPCSCB)**. The initiative focuses on **AI-driven governance**, competency-based learning, role-specific training, and citizen-centric administration. At its core is the **iGOT Karmayogi platform**, which provides scalable digital learning resources and standardized training modules for civil servants. Guided by the **Capacity Building Commission** under **S. Radha Chauhan**, the mission aims to strengthen institutional governance, improve frontline service delivery, enhance AI readiness, and promote global cooperation in digital capacity building.
- The **Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR)** organized the **Medical Innovations Patent Mitra: Innovators-to-Industry (I2I) Connect**, India's largest biomedical innovation and technology transfer event, at the **Manekshaw Centre**. During the event, **41 public health technologies** were transferred to industry partners, including **vaccines, diagnostic technologies, and medical devices**. A major highlight was India's first-ever transfer of biomaterials related to **Kyasanur Forest Disease (KFD)** and **Chandipura virus**. The initiative seeks to strengthen technology commercialization, reduce healthcare import dependence, and accelerate access to indigenous medical innovations across the country.

Test Prime

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- The Government of India has launched the **PM-AJAY Portal** and **AJAY Mobile App** under the **Pradhan Mantri Anusuchit Jaati Abhyuday Yojana (PM-AJAY)** to improve transparency and real-time monitoring of welfare schemes for **Scheduled Castes (SCs)**. Introduced by **Virendra Kumar**, the digital platforms will track development activities in over **47,000 SC-majority villages** and benefit more than **40 lakh individuals**. Features include **geo-tagged monitoring**, digital beneficiary management, mobile surveys, village development planning, and real-time fund tracking, aimed at enhancing welfare delivery and socio-economic development.
- India has intensified **cybersecurity assessments** to evaluate risks associated with advanced **Artificial Intelligence (AI)** systems such as **Mythos**, reportedly linked to **Anthropic**. The testing focuses on critical sectors including **banking networks**, government digital infrastructure, cloud systems, payment platforms, and enterprise software. Authorities are examining potential threats such as automated vulnerability discovery, cyber reconnaissance, code manipulation, and advanced social engineering. Indian cybersecurity agencies and technology companies are collaborating to strengthen **AI governance**, threat simulations, incident response, and infrastructure security, reflecting India's growing emphasis on digital resilience and cyber preparedness.
- The **India Semiconductor Mission (ISM)** under the **Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology (MeitY)** has launched the **Investors Support Portal** to accelerate growth in India's semiconductor ecosystem. The platform offers **single-window support** through policy guidance, regulatory assistance, project information, and grievance redressal mechanisms. Supporting the **Semicon India Programme**, under which **12 fabrication and packaging projects** and **24 chip design projects** have already been approved, the portal aims to boost investor confidence, strengthen semiconductor manufacturing, and improve supply-chain resilience while coordinating with central and state agencies for faster project implementation.
- **Yoga Mahotsav 2026** was organized at the iconic **Khajuraho Temples** in **Madhya Pradesh**, marking the **25-day countdown** to the **12th International Day of Yoga (IDY) 2026**. Conducted by the **Morarji Desai National Institute of Yoga (MDNIY)** under the **Ministry of Ayush**, the event promoted holistic wellness, preventive healthcare, and global awareness about yoga. The government is also conducting a **100-day nationwide campaign** featuring yoga demonstrations, awareness drives, and free training programs under the **Yoga 365 Days Initiative**, reinforcing yoga's importance for physical fitness and mental well-being.
- The **Supreme Court of India** has upheld the **Election Commission of India's (ECI) Special Intensive Revision (SIR)** of electoral rolls in **Bihar** and other states, declaring it constitutional and legally valid under **Article 324** of the Constitution and the **Representation of the People Act, 1950**. The judgment, delivered by a Bench led by **Chief Justice Surya Kant**, affirmed that SIR is a special revision permitted under **Section 21(3)** of the Act and distinct from routine updates. The Court also approved document verification measures, including **Aadhaar**, while directing safeguards against wrongful deletion of eligible voters.
- The **National Health Accounts (NHA) Estimates 2022-23**, released by the **Union Health Ministry**, reveal significant improvements in India's healthcare financing system. Prepared by the **National Health Accounts Technical Secretariat (NHATS)** under the **National Health Systems Resource Centre (NHSRC)**, the report shows **Government Health Expenditure (GHE)** rising from **1.15% of GDP in 2013-14** to **1.43% in 2022-23**, while per capita health expenditure increased from **₹1,042 to ₹2,786**. Importantly, **Out-of-Pocket Expenditure (OOPE)** declined from **64.2% to 43.4%**, indicating stronger financial protection and wider healthcare coverage.
- The **International Day of Yoga (IDY) 2026** celebrations will be hosted in **Kolkata, West Bengal**, as announced during **Yoga Mahotsav 2026** at **Khajuraho, Madhya Pradesh**. The theme, **"Yoga for Healthy Ageing,"** emphasizes preventive healthcare, mental wellness, and physical fitness. The **Ministry of Ayush** also launched the **Yoga Sangam Portal** and **Yoga Park Portal** to improve accessibility and public participation. Thousands joined the **Common Yoga Protocol (CYP)** demonstration, highlighting yoga's growing role in promoting wellness, healthy lifestyles, and India's cultural diplomacy on the global stage.
- Prime Minister **Narendra Modi** chaired the **51st PRAGATI (Pro-Active Governance and Timely Implementation) Meeting** to review major infrastructure projects worth nearly **₹30,000 crore** across nine states. The review covered projects in the **railways, power, and road sectors**, along with discussions on **rooftop solar expansion**, the **Ken-Betwa River Inter-linking Project**, **Swachh Bharat Mission-Urban 2.0**, and **Vadhavan Port** development. The Prime Minister emphasized innovative solutions such as installing solar panels over canals and called for stronger monitoring, faster execution, and improved coordination between central and state agencies.
- In the landmark case **SaveLIFE Foundation vs Union of India**, the **Supreme Court** recognized access to **trauma care** as a part of the **Right to Life under Article 21** of the Constitution. The Court directed the Centre and States to integrate emergency services with **112**, establish a **National Trauma Registry**, enforce the **National Ambulance Code**, and strengthen protections for **Good Samaritans**. It also ordered effective implementation of the **PM RAHAT Scheme** for cashless treatment of road accident victims, significantly strengthening India's emergency healthcare and trauma response infrastructure.

- India's **Total Fertility Rate (TFR)** has declined to **1.9**, falling below the **replacement level of 2.1** for the first time, according to the **Sample Registration System Statistical Report 2024** released by the **Office of the Registrar General and Census Commissioner**. The sharp decline from **4.6 in 1985** reflects a major demographic transition driven by improved education, urbanization, and family planning awareness. While **Delhi** recorded the lowest fertility rate at **1.2**, **Bihar** remained highest at **2.9**, highlighting regional disparities. The report also noted rising ageing populations in southern states, declining birth rates, and improved institutional deliveries across the country.
- **Shrey Parikh**, a **14-year-old Indian-origin student** from **California**, won the prestigious **Scripps National Spelling Bee 2026** title after correctly spelling **32 words in 90 seconds** during the decisive spell-off round. He defeated **Ishaan Gupta**, who correctly spelled 25 words, while **Sarv Dharavane** secured third place. The competition featured **247 contestants** from across the United States and several other countries. Along with the coveted **Scripps Cup**, Shrey received a **\$50,000 cash prize** and national recognition, continuing the remarkable legacy of Indian-origin students in one of the world's most prestigious academic competitions.
- **Indian Railways** will operationalize the **South Coast Railway (SCoR)** on **1 June 2026**, making it the country's **18th railway zone**. Headquartered in **Visakhapatnam**, the new zone has been created by reorganizing parts of the **East Coast Railway** and **South Central Railway**. It will include the **Guntakal, Guntur, Vijayawada, and Visakhapatnam divisions**, improving railway administration and operational efficiency in southern India. To mark the occasion, Indian Railways unveiled a new **18-star logo** representing all railway zones. The headquarters at **Mudasarlova** is being developed at a cost of **₹183.58 crore**.
- **Kempegowda International Airport, Bengaluru**, became India's **second-busiest domestic airport** in **April 2026**, handling **3.28 million domestic passengers**, surpassing **Mumbai's Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj International Airport**, which recorded **2.89 million passengers**. Bengaluru's growth is attributed to its position as a major **technology and business hub**, along with modern airport infrastructure and a **parallel runway system** supporting higher traffic volumes. Meanwhile, Mumbai continues to face capacity constraints and slot saturation, with a portion of future traffic expected to shift to **Navi Mumbai International Airport**.
- **Indira Gandhi International Airport (IGIA), Delhi**, has launched the advanced **SkyCast System** under **Mission Mausam** to improve aviation safety and weather forecasting. Inaugurated by **Jitendra Singh**, the system uses technologies such as **Radar Wind Profiler, SODAR, Microwave Radiometer, and Lidar-based Ceilometer** to monitor fog, visibility, turbulence, and atmospheric

conditions in real time. SkyCast is expected to reduce flight delays, diversions, and cancellations, particularly during Delhi's winter fog season, while helping pilots and airport authorities make informed operational decisions.

- The **Department of Financial Services (DFS)** has launched the **Common Landing Portal** to help citizens locate and claim **unclaimed financial assets** through a single digital platform. Developed in collaboration with the **PSB Alliance**, the portal supports the campaign "**आपकी पूँजी, आपका अधिकार (Your Money, Your Right)**". Citizens can search for unclaimed **bank deposits, insurance claims, shares, mutual funds, and unpaid dividends** without visiting multiple websites. The initiative aims to enhance financial awareness, transparency, and convenience while simplifying the recovery of rightful financial assets.
- India's **Cold Water Fisheries** sector is emerging as a major contributor to the country's **Blue Economy Vision**, promoting sustainable development and employment opportunities in Himalayan and hill regions. Activities such as **trout farming in Jammu & Kashmir**, aquaculture expansion in **Ladakh**, and fisheries development in the **Northeast** are enhancing food security and local livelihoods. India has identified around **278 cold-water fish species**, highlighting its rich aquatic biodiversity. Supported by the **Pradhan Mantri Matsya Sampada Yojana (PMMSY)**, increasing trout production and modern aquaculture practices are transforming the sector into a dynamic and investment-oriented growth area.

States in the News

- **Kumbhalgarh Fort** in **Rajsamand district, Rajasthan**, has gained global recognition as the site of the **world's second longest continuous wall**, stretching approximately **36 km**, after the **Great Wall of China**. Built in the **15th century** by **Rana Kumbha** and designed by renowned architect **Mandan**, the fort is a masterpiece of **Rajput military architecture**. Recognized by **UNESCO** under the **Hill Forts of Rajasthan**, it houses over **360 temples**, the famous **Badal Mahal**, and is celebrated as the **birthplace of Maharana Pratap**, making it one of India's most significant historical and cultural landmarks.
- To combat extreme summer conditions in the **Little Rann of Kutch**, the **Gujarat Forest Department** has intensified the **Jal-Parab Campaign** to support wildlife during severe water scarcity. With temperatures exceeding **42–43°C**, authorities have installed artificial water troughs, deployed water tankers, and placed hydration containers for birds. The initiative primarily benefits species such as the **Indian Wild Ass, nilgai**, and migratory birds. By ensuring water availability within protected habitats, the campaign reduces the risk of human-wildlife conflict and strengthens conservation efforts in one of India's most fragile desert ecosystems.

- The **Assam Uniform Civil Code (UCC) Bill, 2026** has been introduced in the state assembly to establish uniform laws governing **marriage, divorce, inheritance, live-in relationships**, and **child custody**, while exempting **Scheduled Tribes (STs)**. Presented by **Atul Bora** on behalf of **Himanta Biswa Sarma**, the bill mandates registration of marriages and live-in relationships, fixes the legal marriage age at **18 years for women** and **21 years for men**, and criminalizes **polygamy, child marriage**, and fraudulent marriages. The proposed legislation aims to strengthen legal transparency and uniform civil governance.
- **Oil India Limited (OIL)** has discovered a new **natural gas-bearing zone** in Rajasthan's **Dandewala field**, marking a significant advancement in India's domestic energy exploration efforts. The discovery was made in the **Sanu Formation** of the hydrocarbon-rich Rajasthan Basin and was announced by **Petroleum Minister Hardeep Singh Puri**. The find is expected to strengthen India's energy security by reducing dependence on imported fuels, as the country currently imports over **85% of crude oil** and nearly **50% of natural gas**, supporting the broader goal of energy self-reliance.
- **Kerala** has inaugurated its first private medical museum, the **Museum of Medical Archives**, in **Ulloor, Thiruvananthapuram**, founded by **A. Sivaraman**. The museum features anatomical models, embryology exhibits, microbiology archives, medical paintings, and scientific teaching materials designed to simplify complex medical concepts. Key attractions include **3D human anatomy models** demonstrating fetal circulation, embryonic development, mitosis, tooth formation, and heart structure. The initiative promotes scientific literacy, medical awareness, and public understanding of healthcare while providing an immersive educational experience for students and visitors.
- **Oil India Limited (OIL)** has discovered a new **natural gas-bearing zone** in Rajasthan's **Dandewala Field**, strengthening India's domestic energy exploration efforts. According to **Union Petroleum Minister Hardeep Singh Puri**, gas flow was successfully unlocked from the **Sanu Formation**, significantly enhancing the hydrocarbon potential of Rajasthan's sedimentary basin. The discovery is particularly important as India imports over **85% of its crude oil** and nearly **50% of its natural gas** requirements. The development supports India's energy security strategy by promoting domestic production and reducing vulnerability to global energy market disruptions.
- **Telangana** has launched **India's first women-operated solar power plant** at **Venkatapuram village** in **Khammam district** under the **Indira Mahila Shakti Scheme**. The **1 MW solar project**, developed at a cost of around **₹3 crore**, is fully managed by **Women Self-Help Groups (SHGs)**. Besides generating renewable energy, the initiative promotes women's economic empowerment and rural livelihood creation. Participating SHGs are expected to earn around **₹4.5–5 lakh per month** through power supply agreements with DISCOMs, contributing to Telangana's goal of achieving **20,000 MW solar capacity by 2030**.
- **Sikkim** has become **India's fifth fully literate state** under the **ULLAS (Understanding of Lifelong Learning for All in Society) Initiative**, announced in the presence of President **Droupadi Murmu** at **Sikkim University, Gangtok**. The achievement places Sikkim alongside **Mizoram, Goa, Tripura, and Himachal Pradesh**. Implemented under the **Nav Bharat Saaksharta Karyakram** and aligned with **NEP 2020**, the programme focuses on adult education, literacy, skill development, and lifelong learning. The milestone was achieved through extensive community participation, volunteer efforts, and educational outreach in remote regions.
- **Siddaramaiah** has resigned as the **Chief Minister of Karnataka**, formally submitting his resignation to Governor **Thaawarchand Gehlot**. The move is viewed as part of a planned leadership transition within the **Indian National Congress**. Deputy Chief Minister **D. K. Shivakumar** is widely expected to assume the role of Chief Minister. While stepping down, Siddaramaiah expressed gratitude to Congress leaders **Sonia Gandhi, Rahul Gandhi, and Mallikarjun Kharge** for the opportunity to serve the state, marking a significant political development in Karnataka.
- The **Assam Legislative Assembly** has passed the **Uniform Civil Code (UCC) Bill, 2026**, making Assam the **first Northeastern state** and the **third state in India** to enact UCC legislation. The law establishes a common civil framework for **marriage, divorce, succession, and live-in relationships**, while prohibiting **polygamy, child marriage**, and fraudulent marriages. The legislation mandates registration of marriages and live-in relationships and provides legal safeguards related to child custody. However, tribal communities, customary practices, and religious rituals remain exempt from its provisions.
- Union Minister **Jyotiraditya M. Scindia** launched the **₹236 crore Mission Queen Pineapple** in **Tripura** to transform the state's **GI-tagged Queen Pineapple** into a premium international brand. Implemented under the **Ministry of Development of North Eastern Region (MDoNER)**, the initiative will run from **FY2026 to FY2028** and focus on cultivation, processing, branding, packaging, logistics, and exports. Through cold-chain infrastructure, digital traceability systems, and processing hubs, the mission aims to enhance farmer incomes, reduce post-harvest losses, and create employment opportunities in rural areas.

- The **Sikkim Police** has been awarded the prestigious **President's Police Colour**, one of the highest honours bestowed upon police forces in India. The award was presented by President **Droupadi Murmu** during a ceremony in **Gangtok** on **28 May 2026**. The recognition honours the force's distinguished service, professionalism, and contribution to maintaining public safety since its establishment in **1897**. During the event, President Murmu highlighted the importance of **citizen-centric policing**, transparency, accountability, and sensitivity toward vulnerable communities while praising Sikkim Police for fostering peace, social harmony, and public trust.
- The **Government of Odisha**, **Intel Corporation**, and **3D Glass Solutions** have signed a **\$3.3 billion Memorandum of Understanding (MoU)** to establish an advanced **glass core substrate manufacturing facility** in the **Bhubaneswar-Khurda region**. The plant will manufacture **advanced packaging substrates, high-density interconnect (HDI) substrates**, and next-generation semiconductor components. Supported by the **India**
- **Semiconductor Mission**, the project aims to strengthen India's semiconductor ecosystem, reduce import dependence, and enhance domestic capabilities in advanced electronics and chip packaging technologies.
- The **Department of Commerce** has approved **two new Special Economic Zones (SEZs)** in **Puducherry**, expected to attract investments exceeding **₹1,975 crore**. One project is an **IT/ITES SEZ** developed by **Oulgaret Municipality**, making it India's first municipality-developed SEZ, while another multi-sector SEZ will be established by the **Pondicherry Industrial Promotion Development and Investment Corporation** at **Karasur village**. These projects are expected to boost exports, employment, and industrial development while strengthening
- Puducherry's position as an emerging technology and manufacturing hub.
- **Kerala** has announced India's first dedicated **Department for Senior Citizens' Welfare**, aimed at addressing challenges associated with ageing, healthcare, and social isolation. The state cabinet also approved the **Kerala State Policy for Senior Citizens 2026** and proposed the **Oommen Chandy Health Insurance Scheme**, providing health coverage of up to **₹25 lakh per family annually**. With nearly **18.7%** of its population above the age of 60, Kerala has the highest proportion of elderly citizens in India and has also introduced the country's first dedicated **Elderly Budget**.

International Affairs

- Ahead of the **Quad Foreign Ministers Meeting**, External Affairs Minister **S. Jaishankar** held important discussions with **Marco Rubio**, strengthening the **India-US Comprehensive Global Strategic Partnership**. The talks focused on cooperation in **Artificial Intelligence (AI)**, **defence**, **trade**, **energy security**, **critical minerals**, and

counter-terrorism. India also expressed concerns regarding recent **US visa and immigration policy changes** impacting students and professionals. Both countries reaffirmed their commitment to **Indo-Pacific security, maritime stability**, and **supply chain resilience**, reflecting the growing strategic significance of the **Quad grouping** comprising **India, the United States, Japan, and Australia**.

- India has emerged as the global leader in issuing **Internationally Recognised Certificates of Compliance (IRCCs)** under the **Nagoya Protocol**, accounting for nearly **60% of worldwide certificates**. According to the **Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change**, India has issued **3,556 IRCCs**, ensuring fair **Access and Benefit Sharing (ABS)** for genetic resources and traditional knowledge under the **Biological Diversity Act, 2002**. The initiative has generated around **₹263 crore** through ABS approvals, with substantial funds distributed to local communities, farmers, and Biodiversity Management Committees for conservation and livelihood support.
- Under its **BRICS Chairship 2026**, India launched the **BRICS Tourism Cooperation Agenda** during the first virtual meeting of the **BRICS Tourism Working Group (TWG)**. The agenda focuses on **resilience, innovation, sustainability**, and people-to-people connectivity among member nations. India highlighted priorities such as the use of **Artificial Intelligence in tourism**, sustainable tourism development, and tourism skill enhancement. The next **BRICS Tourism Working Group Meeting** and **BRICS Tourism Ministers Meeting** will be hosted in **Jaipur** in **August 2026**, further advancing cooperation in the tourism sector.
- India has overtaken the **United Kingdom** to become **Sri Lanka's second-largest export destination** during the **January–April 2026** period. According to the **Sri Lanka Export Development Board**, exports to India reached **USD 364.15 million**, recording an annual growth of **8.9%**. The development reflects strengthening **India–Sri Lanka economic relations** and growing regional trade integration. Sri Lanka's export performance was driven by sectors such as **coconut-based products, activated carbon**, and **ICT services**, despite challenges faced by traditional export sectors like apparel and tea.
- The **Quadrilateral Security Dialogue (Quad)** unveiled **five major Indo-Pacific initiatives** during its Foreign Ministers Meeting in **New Delhi**, signaling a transition from strategic discussions to practical cooperation. Key announcements focused on **maritime surveillance, energy security, critical minerals**, and **port infrastructure development**. A major highlight was the expansion of the **Indo-Pacific Maritime Domain Awareness (IPMDA)** initiative to improve vessel tracking and maritime security. The Quad also launched the **Ports of the Future Partnership**, with **Fiji** selected for the pilot project, reinforcing a free and rules-based Indo-Pacific.

- Prime Minister **Narendra Modi** showcased India's **cultural diplomacy** by presenting world leaders with gifts reflecting the country's rich tribal and indigenous heritage. **Crown Princess Victoria of Sweden** received a traditional **Gond painting** from Madhya Pradesh, while Italian Prime Minister **Giorgia Meloni** was gifted Assam's **GI-tagged Muga Silk stole** and a **Shirui Lily-inspired stole** crafted by Manipur's **Tangkhul Naga community**. The **Queen Mother of the UAE** received **Chak-Hao (black rice)** from Manipur. These gifts highlighted India's soft power, regional diversity, and commitment to promoting indigenous craftsmanship globally.
- The **3rd India-Nordic Summit 2026** held in **Oslo** marked a significant advancement in relations between India and the Nordic nations—**Denmark, Finland, Iceland, Norway, and Sweden**. Both sides agreed to establish a **Green Technology and Innovation Strategic Partnership** focusing on **green hydrogen, clean energy, climate action, digital innovation, Arctic research, and the blue economy**. Discussions also emphasized cooperation in **Artificial Intelligence, 6G technology, cybersecurity, sustainable development, and trade**, reflecting rapidly growing economic and technological collaboration between India and the Nordic region.
- India and **Canada** are accelerating negotiations for the **Comprehensive Economic Partnership Agreement (CEPA)** with the objective of finalizing the deal by **2026**. The proposed agreement aims to strengthen cooperation in energy, technology, pharmaceuticals, education, agriculture, manufacturing, and services. Both countries have set a target of increasing bilateral trade from **\$17 billion to \$50 billion by 2030**. The Free Trade Agreement is expected to reduce trade barriers, improve investment flows, and deepen economic integration, strengthening long-term strategic and commercial ties between the two nations.
- At the **Canada-India Trade and Investment Forum 2026**, India and Canada reaffirmed their commitment to conclude negotiations for the **Comprehensive Economic Partnership Agreement (CEPA)** by the end of **2026**. Led by **Piyush Goyal** and **Maninder Sidhu**, the discussions focused on expanding trade, investment, and market access across sectors such as **technology, energy, pharmaceuticals, and agri-food products**. The agreement is expected to deepen economic cooperation, strengthen supply chains, and improve business opportunities, further enhancing the long-term strategic and commercial partnership between the two countries.
- **Janez Janša** has returned as **Prime Minister of Slovenia** for a **fourth term** after securing majority support in the country's **National Assembly** through a coalition led by the **Slovenian Democratic Party**. He received backing from **51 of 87 lawmakers** following extensive post-election negotiations. His return signals the growing influence of **right-wing and nationalist politics** in Europe. The **European**

Union, including Commission President **Ursula von der Leyen**, welcomed the outcome and expressed support for continued cooperation on economic stability, security, climate policy, and regional development.

- **Myanmar President Min Aung Hlaing** will undertake an official visit to India from **30 May to 3 June 2026** at the invitation of Prime Minister **Narendra Modi**. The visit aims to strengthen **India-Myanmar relations** through discussions on trade, connectivity, regional security, and cultural cooperation. Meetings in **New Delhi** will focus on economic partnerships and strategic collaboration, while visits to **Bodh Gaya** and **Mumbai** highlight cultural and economic engagement. Myanmar remains strategically important for India under its **Neighbourhood First Policy, Act East Policy, and MAHASAGAR Initiative**.
- The **United Nations** has added **Israel** to its annual list of parties linked to **Conflict-Related Sexual Violence (CRSV)**, citing allegations involving abuse of Palestinian detainees and gender-based violence during the ongoing conflict. The watchlist aims to strengthen accountability, monitor violations of international humanitarian law, and enhance civilian protection. Israel strongly rejected the allegations, with Ambassador **Danny Danon** accusing the UN of bias and announcing the suspension of engagement with the office of **UN Secretary-General António Guterres**. The UN maintained that its conclusions were based on documented evidence and established verification procedures.

Banking/Economy/Business News

- **Karnataka Grameena Bank** has received an award from the **Pension Fund Regulatory and Development Authority (PFRDA)** for exceptional performance under the **Atal Pension Yojana (APY)**. The bank achieved **2,49,185 enrolments** against a target of **1,75,500**, registering an impressive **142% achievement rate**, the highest among banks in Karnataka. The award was presented in **New Delhi** by **M. Nagaraju** and **S. Ramann** to **Shreekant M. Bhandiwad**. The recognition highlights the bank's contribution toward **financial inclusion, pension awareness, and social security coverage** in rural India.

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ALL EXAMS ONE SUBSCRIPTION

IBPS, SBI, RBI, LIC, and other bank logos.

- The **Reserve Bank of India (RBI)** has introduced stricter governance norms for **Urban Co-operative Banks (UCBs)** through the **Urban Co-operative Banks Governance Amendment Directions, 2026**. Under the new framework, directors can serve a maximum of **10 consecutive years**, followed by a mandatory **three-year cooling-off period** before rejoining the same board. The amendment aims to improve **corporate governance**, ensure leadership rotation, and prevent misuse of loopholes through temporary resignations and reappointments. Effective immediately, the reform aligns with the **Banking Laws (Amendment) Act, 2025** and strengthens accountability within the co-operative banking sector.
- The **Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation (MoSPI)** has proposed a major overhaul of the **Index of Industrial Production (IIP)** to improve measurement of industrial growth. The reforms include changing the **base year from 2011–12 to 2022–23**, introducing a **chain-linked methodology**, and expanding the industrial basket from **407 to 463 item groups**. New sectors such as **gas supply, water supply, waste management, and renewable energy** will also be incorporated. The proposed changes aim to better reflect India's evolving industrial structure and provide more accurate economic data.
- India's **Insolvency and Bankruptcy Code (IBC)** has completed **10 years** since its introduction in **2016**, marking a decade of significant reforms in debt resolution and financial discipline. The legislation replaced lengthy insolvency procedures with a **time-bound, creditor-driven framework** aimed at reviving stressed companies and maximizing asset value. By **March 2026**, over **8,987 cases** had been admitted, with more than **7,100 closures** and numerous successful corporate resolutions. The IBC has contributed to reducing **Non-Performing Assets (NPAs)**, improving recovery rates, strengthening creditor rights, and enhancing India's overall credit culture and financial stability.
- The **Reserve Bank of India (RBI)** is considering the introduction of **polymer-based currency notes** through a pilot project aimed at improving the durability and efficiency of Indian banknotes. Compared with traditional paper currency, polymer notes offer greater resistance to moisture, tearing, and wear, resulting in lower replacement and printing costs. The initiative comes amid rising cash circulation despite the rapid expansion of digital payment systems such as **UPI**. The proposed move is also expected to improve security features, reduce disposal of soiled notes, and strengthen overall currency management.
- The **Reserve Bank of India (RBI)** has projected India's **real GDP growth at 6.9% for FY27**, reaffirming confidence in the country's strong macroeconomic fundamentals despite global uncertainties. According to the RBI, factors such as robust domestic demand, increasing private investment, and sustained government infrastructure expenditure will continue to drive economic growth. However, the central bank cautioned that geopolitical tensions, particularly in

West Asia, could lead to higher crude oil prices, inflationary pressures, and supply-chain disruptions. The RBI also projected **CPI inflation at 4.6%**, maintaining India's position among the fastest-growing major economies.

- The **Reserve Bank of India (RBI)** and the **State Bank of Vietnam** have signed a **Memorandum of Understanding (MoU)** to strengthen cooperation in **digital payments, fintech innovation, and cross-border payment systems**. The agreement focuses on promoting **QR code-based payment connectivity**, enabling seamless transactions for tourists, businesses, and consumers in both countries. It also covers regulatory cooperation, information sharing, and payment infrastructure development. The partnership is expected to improve payment efficiency, lower transaction costs, and deepen economic and financial relations between **India and Vietnam**.

Appointments/Resignations

- **Raghav Chadha** has been appointed Chairman of the **Rajya Sabha Committee on Petitions** following its reconstitution by **C. P. Radhakrishnan**. The committee plays an important role in examining **citizen petitions**, addressing **public grievances**, and reviewing legislative concerns brought before Parliament. Effective from **20 May 2026**, the panel includes ten members from different political backgrounds. As chairman, Chadha will oversee recommendations aimed at improving governance, strengthening **democratic accountability**, and encouraging public participation in parliamentary affairs, thereby enhancing transparency and responsiveness within India's legislative and policy-making framework.
- The **Supreme Court Collegium**, headed by **Chief Justice Surya Kant**, has recommended the appointment of **five new judges** to the Supreme Court following the expansion of its sanctioned strength from **34 to 38 judges**. The recommendations include **Justice Sheel Nagu, Justice Shree Chandrashekhar, Justice Sanjeev Sachdeva, Justice Arun Palli**, and senior advocate **V. Mohana**. If approved, the appointments will significantly reduce vacancies and help address case pendency. Notably, **V. Mohana** is set to become only the **second woman directly elevated from the Bar** to the Supreme Court after **Justice Indu Malhotra**.

Books & Authors News

- The book **"Apnapan: Narendra Modi Sang Mere Anubhav"**, authored by **Shivraj Singh Chouhan**, was launched in **New Delhi** by **M. Venkaiah Naidu** and **H. D. Deve Gowda**. The book recounts Chouhan's long association with **Prime Minister Narendra Modi**, highlighting his leadership style, governance philosophy, organizational skills, and human-centric approach. It also reflects on significant political events, including the **1991 Ekta Yatra**, which Chouhan describes as an important movement promoting national unity, patriotism, and public engagement beyond conventional political campaigns.

- Defence Minister **Rajnath Singh** has unveiled a commemorative book on **Operation Sindoor**, documenting the experiences of **100 military personnel** involved in the mission. Compiled under the guidance of **Chief of Defence Staff Anil Chauhan**, the publication highlights India's **joint military capabilities**, operational preparedness, and coordination among the **Army, Navy, and Air Force**. Unlike traditional military histories, the book presents first-hand accounts from soldiers, sailors, airmen, and support staff, serving both as a historical record and a tribute to the professionalism and sacrifices of India's armed forces.

Defence News

- India achieved a major defence milestone with the launch of **Suryastra**, the country's first indigenous **300-km Universal Rocket Launching System**, by Defence Minister **Rajnath Singh**. The launch coincided with the inauguration of a major defence manufacturing complex by **NIBE Limited** in **Shirdi, Maharashtra**. Designed to enhance **long-range precision strike capability**, **Suryastra** strengthens India's military preparedness and strategic autonomy. Supported by initiatives such as **Make in India, Aatmanirbhar Bharat**, and **iDEX**, the project promotes self-reliance in defence production while advancing innovation in **missile systems, artillery platforms, and autonomous defence technologies**.
- The **Indian Army** has launched two advanced digital platforms, **Kautilya** and **Q-FORCE**, to enhance **AI-driven warfare capabilities**, battlefield intelligence, and logistics management. **Kautilya** is an AI-enabled decision support system utilizing **data analytics** and **Natural Language Processing (NLP)** to improve situational awareness and military decision-making. **Q-FORCE** focuses on inventory management, operational logistics, and supply-chain optimization. These initiatives align with the Army's vision of **2026 as the "Year of Networking and Data Centricity"** and **2027 as the year of full AI-integrated military operations**, supporting modern network-centric warfare.
- Vice Admiral Ajay Kochhar** assumed charge as the **48th Vice Chief of the Naval Staff (VCNS)** of the **Indian Navy** on **29 May 2026**. With more than **37 years of distinguished service**, he has extensive experience in naval warfare, strategic planning, and fleet operations. Previously serving as **Commander-in-Chief of the Andaman and Nicobar Command**, he is a specialist in **Gunnery and Missile Systems** and has commanded major naval platforms, including **INS Vikramaditya**. He has been honoured with the **PVSM, AVSM, and Nau Sena Medal** for his exceptional service.
- Following the retirement of **Dr. Samir V. Kamat**, the Government of India has appointed **Rajesh Kumar Singh** as the additional **Secretary, Department of Defence Research and Development**, and **Chairman of DRDO** with effect from **31 May 2026**. Approved by the **Appointments Committee of the Cabinet (ACC)**, Singh will continue to serve as **Defence Secretary** while overseeing India's premier

defence research organization. During Kamat's tenure, **DRDO** made significant advancements in **quantum technologies, stealth UCAVs, EMALS, electric propulsion systems, and space-based intelligence and surveillance capabilities**.

Awards and Recognitions

- Major Abhilasha Barak** has been honoured with the **2025 United Nations Military Gender Advocate of the Year Award** for her exceptional contribution to **women empowerment, gender sensitization**, and community outreach during her service with the **United Nations Interim Force in Lebanon (UNIFIL)**. As Commander of the **Female Engagement Team**, she worked closely with women and girls in conflict-affected communities while promoting inclusive peacebuilding efforts. A pioneering **combat helicopter pilot** in the Indian Army, she became **India's third recipient** of this prestigious award, highlighting India's growing contribution to **gender-inclusive peacekeeping operations** worldwide.
- The **Sansad Ratna Awards 2026** recognized outstanding contributions by Members of Parliament and Parliamentary Committees in legislative work and public service. This year, **10 Lok Sabha MPs, 2 Rajya Sabha MPs, and 4 Parliamentary Standing Committees** received the honour. Notable awardees included **Medha Kulkarni** and **Smita Uday Wagh**. Established in **2010** by the **Prime Point Foundation** and inspired by **Dr. A. P. J. Abdul Kalam**, the awards are based on measurable parliamentary indicators such as **attendance, debates, questions raised, and committee participation**, encouraging greater accountability and effectiveness in parliamentary functioning.
- President **Droupadi Murmu** conferred the **Padma Awards 2026** on **66 distinguished personalities** during the first Civil Investiture Ceremony at **Rashtrapati Bhavan**. The awards included **2 Padma Vibhushan, 6 Padma Bhushan, and 58 Padma Shri** honours across fields such as arts, sports, medicine, public affairs, and industry. Legendary actor **Dharmendra** received the **Padma Vibhushan posthumously**, while celebrated violinist **N. Rajam** was honoured for her contribution to Indian classical music. Other notable recipients included **Harmanpreet Kaur, Uday Kotak, and Bhagat Singh Koshyari**.
- The **United Nations** will posthumously honour Indian peacekeepers **Harbhajan Singh** and **Sujit Kumar Pradhan** with the prestigious **Dag Hammarskjöld Medal** for sacrificing their lives during peacekeeping missions in the **Democratic Republic of the Congo** and **South Sudan**. Additionally, **Major Abhilasha Barak** will receive the **2025 Military Gender Advocate Award** for promoting gender inclusion and women's participation in peacekeeping operations in **Lebanon**. India remains one of the largest contributors to UN peacekeeping efforts, with more than **4,200 personnel** currently serving in missions across the world.

Ranks & Reports News

- The **National Family Health Survey-6 (NFHS-6)** released by the **Ministry of Health and Family Welfare** highlights significant improvements in healthcare and social indicators across India. Conducted across **6.79 lakh households** in **715 districts**, the survey recorded increases in **institutional deliveries, antenatal care coverage, and child immunization rates**. It also reported declines in **child stunting and severe wasting**, while health insurance coverage expanded substantially. The report further noted growing **digital inclusion**, with more women owning bank accounts, using mobile phones, and accessing the internet, reflecting progress in financial and social empowerment.
- The **Ministry of Ports, Shipping and Waterways** has launched the **Logistics Port Performance Index (LPPI)**, a national framework designed to measure and improve the efficiency of Indian ports. Announced by **Sarbananda Sonowal** during the **37th Foundation Day of Jawaharlal Nehru Port Authority**, the initiative aligns with **PM Gati Shakti, Maritime India Vision 2030, and Maritime Amrit Kaal Vision 2047**. Alongside LPPI, four digital maritime platforms were launched to improve governance, ship registration, seafarer welfare, and ship recycling, strengthening India's maritime competitiveness and logistics performance.

Sports News

- Football icon **Lionel Messi** has officially entered the billionaire club, becoming only the second footballer after **Cristiano Ronaldo** to surpass **\$1 billion net worth**, according to the **Bloomberg Billionaires Index**. His wealth has been built through football contracts, endorsements, investments, and business ventures during his time with **FC Barcelona, Paris Saint-Germain, and Inter Miami CF**. Messi's move to the United States has significantly boosted the popularity of **Major League Soccer (MLS)**. His illustrious career includes **8 Ballon d'Or awards** and leading Argentina to victory in the **2022 FIFA World Cup**.
- The **IPL 2026 Playoffs** lineup has been finalized with **Royal Challengers Bengaluru, Gujarat Titans, Sunrisers Hyderabad, and Rajasthan Royals** securing qualification. Rajasthan Royals confirmed their playoff berth after defeating **Mumbai Indians**, resulting in the elimination of **Punjab Kings** and **Kolkata Knight Riders**. RCB finished at the top of the standings based on superior **Net Run Rate (NRR)** and will face Gujarat Titans in **Qualifier 1**. Sunrisers Hyderabad will meet Rajasthan Royals in the Eliminator, while the final is scheduled at **Narendra Modi Stadium** on **31 May 2026**.
- Indian sprinter **Gurindervir Singh** created history at the **Federation Cup 2026** in **Ranchi** by clocking **10.09 seconds** in the men's 100m final, becoming the **fastest Indian**

sprinter ever. The achievement broke the national record and brought India closer to the prestigious **sub-10-second barrier** in sprinting. His performance also intensified competition with fellow athlete **Animesh Kujur**, who had previously set a record of **10.15 seconds**. The milestone reflects the growing impact of advanced coaching methods, sports science, and high-performance training systems in Indian athletics.

- **Kimi Antonelli** continued his outstanding Formula One season by winning the **Canadian Grand Prix 2026** for **Mercedes-AMG Petronas Formula One Team**. The victory came after teammate **George Russell** retired from the lead due to a power unit failure. Antonelli capitalized on a key **Virtual Safety Car** phase to secure his **fourth consecutive Formula One victory**, extending his championship lead to **43 points**. **Lewis Hamilton** finished second for **Scuderia Ferrari**, while **Max Verstappen** claimed third position in a race marked by several retirements and strategic twists.
- The **Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports** has notified operational rules for the **National Sports Board (NSB)** and **National Sports Tribunal (NST)** under the **National Sports Governance Act**. The NSB will oversee governance compliance, financial monitoring, recognition of sports bodies, and ethical standards, ensuring greater accountability within sports federations. The NST will introduce a fully digital dispute-resolution mechanism featuring online filing, virtual hearings, digital notices, and online publication of decisions. These reforms aim to modernize sports administration through transparency, independent oversight, and faster resolution of sports-related disputes.
- India delivered a strong performance at the **Asian Under-23 Wrestling Championships 2026** held in **Da Nang**, securing **two gold medals** in men's freestyle wrestling. **Mohit Kumar** won the **65 kg category** by defeating Kyrgyzstan's **Oskonbai A. Abdisamatov**, while **Chandermohan** captured the **79 kg title** with a narrow victory over Kazakhstan's **Yerkhan Abil**. India also secured two silver medals through **Punit Kumar** and **Lacky**, along with a bronze medal by **Sachin Mor**. The results highlight India's expanding talent pool and growing prominence in international wrestling.
- India has launched the global promotional campaign for the **1st World Yogasana Championship 2026**, with **Mansukh Mandaviya** unveiling the championship's official film, mascot, and jersey in **New Delhi**. The event will be hosted in **Ahmedabad** and aims to establish **Yogasana** as a globally recognized competitive sport that combines physical fitness, flexibility, discipline, concentration, and mental wellness. With registrations from nearly **75 countries** and over **500 international participants** expected, the championship represents a significant step in promoting India's yoga heritage through sports diplomacy and cultural outreach.

- Fifteen-year-old cricket prodigy **Vaibhav Sooryavanshi** created history during the **IPL 2026 Eliminator** by breaking **Chris Gayle's** long-standing record for the most sixes in a single IPL season. Representing **Rajasthan Royals**, Vaibhav smashed **65 sixes**, surpassing Gayle's previous record of **59 sixes** set in 2012. He also became the **youngest player to score 600 runs in an IPL season**, breaking **Rishabh Pant's** record. Earlier in the season, he achieved another milestone by becoming the **fastest batter to hit 100 T20 sixes**, reaching the mark in just **515 deliveries**.
- Indian shooter **Esha Singh** created history at the **ISSF World Cup Munich** by winning the **women's 25m pistol gold medal** with a **world-record score of 43 points**. The **21-year-old** surpassed the previous record of **42 points**, set by **Kim Yeji** in 2024. During the competition, Esha outperformed several elite shooters, including **Olympic champion Yang Jinn** and former world champion **Doreen Vennekamp**. Her remarkable consistency, composure under pressure, and technical excellence underline India's growing strength in international shooting and add another significant achievement to the country's sporting success.

Science & Technology News

- China successfully launched the **Shenzhou 23 Mission** on **25 May 2026** from the **Jiuquan Satellite Launch Center**, sending three astronauts to the **Tiangong Space Station**. The crew includes **Zhu Yangzhu**, **Zhang Zhiyuan**, and **Lai Kaying**, who became the **first astronaut from Hong Kong** to travel to space. A major objective of the mission is a planned **one-year stay in orbit** by one astronaut to study long-duration human survival in space. The mission will also conduct research in **space biology, medicine, and materials science**, supporting China's future ambitions in **Moon exploration** and deep-space missions.
- Researchers at the **Jawaharlal Nehru Centre for Advanced Scientific Research (JNCASR)** have developed **CLEAR (Cleavable Light-Erased Antibody Reporter)**, an advanced imaging technology capable of mapping multiple proteins within the same biological sample using a single fluorescent marker. The platform employs an innovative **"erase and reuse"** technique in which fluorescent signals are removed using a **365 nm LED light pulse** without damaging tissue samples. Led by **Sarit S. Agasti** in collaboration with the **Indian Institute of Science (IISc)**, the breakthrough could significantly advance **precision medicine**, cancer research, immunology, diagnostics, and drug discovery.
- Indian astrophysicist **Dr. Ronaldo Laishram** has led the discovery of the ancient **Loktak Protocluster**, a massive galaxy structure that existed approximately **12.6 billion years ago**, when the universe was only **1.2 billion years old**. Described as a **"city of galaxies" under construction**, the structure provides crucial insights into the formation

and evolution of galaxies in the early universe. Discovered using the **Subaru Telescope** and the **James Webb Space Telescope**, the protocluster was named after **Loktak Lake** in Manipur and published in **The Astrophysical Journal Letters**.

- **Blue Origin**, the aerospace company founded by **Jeff Bezos**, suffered a setback after its **New Glenn rocket** exploded during a routine engine firing test at the **Cape Canaveral Space Force Station**. The incident occurred shortly before a planned mission carrying **Amazon internet satellites**. Although no injuries were reported, the explosion has raised concerns regarding the future timeline of the **New Glenn programme**, potential impacts on **NASA's Artemis Moon missions**, and Amazon's ambitions to compete with **SpaceX's Starlink** satellite internet network.
- India's **Bellatrix Aerospace** has signed a **Memorandum of Understanding (MoU)** with South Korea's **TelePIX** to develop a **Very Low Earth Orbit (VLEO) satellite mission**, strengthening India-South Korea cooperation in the space sector. The partnership will integrate TelePIX's high-resolution optical payload **"Chouette"** with Bellatrix's advanced satellite platform to enhance Earth observation capabilities. Operating at altitudes between **180 and 450 km**, VLEO satellites provide sharper imagery and faster data collection but require advanced propulsion systems to overcome atmospheric drag, highlighting the growing role of private space companies in next-generation satellite technology.

Important Days News

- Observed annually on **25 May**, **World Thyroid Day** aims to raise awareness about thyroid health, early diagnosis, and effective treatment of thyroid disorders. The **thyroid gland** plays a crucial role in regulating metabolism, growth, energy levels, and hormone balance. In India, nearly **4.2 crore people** are estimated to suffer from thyroid-related conditions, with women being more vulnerable. Common disorders include **hypothyroidism, hyperthyroidism, goitre, Hashimoto's thyroiditis**, and **thyroid cancer**. Health experts emphasize adequate **iodine intake**, regular screening, and healthy lifestyle habits for prevention and early detection.
- On the birth anniversary of **Rash Behari Bose**, India remembers one of the most influential revolutionaries of the freedom movement. Born on **25 May 1886** in present-day **West Bengal**, he played a significant role in the **Ghadar Movement** and the **Delhi Conspiracy Case** against British rule. Later, he founded the **Indian Independence League** in Japan and laid the foundation of the **Indian National Army (INA)** before leadership was assumed by **Subhas Chandra Bose**. His efforts helped transform India's freedom struggle into a broader international anti-colonial movement.

- The world observed **World Football Day** on **25 May 2026**, celebrating football's role in promoting peace, unity, and social inclusion. Established by the **United Nations** through **Resolution A/RES/78/281** in **2024**, the observance commemorates the centenary of the first global football tournament held during the **1924 Summer Olympics**. The day highlights football's contribution to **gender equality, youth empowerment, public health**, and the achievement of the **Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)**. Supported by **FIFA** and global football organizations, the sport continues to serve as a powerful tool for diplomacy and international cooperation.
- **Eid-ul-Adha (Bakrid) 2026** will be observed on **28 May 2026**, subject to the sighting of the moon. One of the most important festivals in Islam, it commemorates **Prophet Ibrahim's** devotion and willingness to sacrifice his son in obedience to **Allah's command**. The festival is marked by **Qurbani (animal sacrifice)**, special congregational prayers, charitable acts, and sharing food with relatives and the underprivileged. Coinciding with the annual **Hajj pilgrimage** in **Mecca**, Eid-ul-Adha symbolizes faith, sacrifice, compassion, and social responsibility.
- The **International Day of United Nations Peacekeepers** is observed annually on **29 May** to honour the courage, sacrifice, and service of peacekeepers deployed in conflict zones worldwide. Established by the **United Nations General Assembly** in **2002**, the day commemorates the first UN peacekeeping mission, **UNTSO**, launched in 1948. The observance recognizes the contribution of military personnel, police officers, and civilian staff who work to maintain peace, protect civilians, and support post-conflict recovery in some of the world's most challenging environments.

- **Goa Statehood Day 2026** marks **39 years** since **Goa** became **India's 25th state** on **30 May 1987**. After its liberation from Portuguese rule through **Operation Vijay (1961)**, Goa was administered as a Union Territory before achieving full statehood. The day celebrates Goa's unique **cultural, linguistic, and historical identity**, with cultural programs, official events, and tributes to freedom fighters held across the state. Known for its tourism industry, high literacy rate, and rich heritage, **Panaji** serves as the capital while **Konkani** remains the official language.

Obituaries News

- Renowned **Urdu poet Bashir Badr** passed away in **Bhopal** at the age of **91** after a prolonged battle with dementia. Celebrated for his simple yet deeply emotional **ghazals**, Bashir Badr played a crucial role in making Urdu poetry accessible to a wider audience. Born in **Ayodhya**, he authored acclaimed works such as **Aahat** and **Kulliyate Bashir Badr** and was honoured with several prestigious awards, including the **Padma Shri**. His passing marks the end of an era in Urdu literature, prompting tributes from literary figures, including **Javed Akhtar**.
- **Dhanendra Kumar**, the first Chairman of the **Competition Commission of India (CCI)**, passed away at the age of **80** following a fire accident at his residence in **Hauz Khas, New Delhi**. A retired **IAS officer** from the **1968 Haryana cadre**, he played a pivotal role in shaping India's modern competition law framework and strengthening fair market practices. Appointed as the founding Chairman of the CCI in **2009**, Kumar helped establish mechanisms to protect consumer interests and promote healthy competition. His contributions left a lasting impact on India's regulatory and economic landscape.

Static Takeaways

Aspect	Details
Rajasthan	Governor: Haribhau Bagade , CM: , Capital: Bhajanlal Sharma Jaipur
Gujarat	Governor:Aacharya Devrat , CM: Bhupendra Patel, Capital: Gandhinagar
Assam	Governor: Laxman Prasad Aacharya , CM: Himanta Sarma , Capital: Dispur
Kerala	Governor: R Arlekar, CM: VD Satheeshan , Capital: Thiruvananthapuram
Telangana	Governor: Shiv Pratap Shukla, CM: Revanth Reddy , Capital: Hyderabad
Sikkim	Governor: Jay Prakash Mathur, CM: Prem Singh Tamang, Capital: Gangtok
Puducherry	Governor: K. Kailashnathan, CM: N. Rangasamy, Capital: Puducherry
RBI	Governor: Sanjay Malhotra
Sweden	PM: Ulf Kristersson Capital: Stockholm
Canada	PM: Mark Carney Canada: Ottawa
Myanmar	President: Min Aung Hlaing Capital: Naypidaw
USA	President: Donald Trump Capital: Washington D.C.
Supreme Court Of India	CJI: Surya Kant