



**Shakthii**  
Academy

₹ 50/-

# SHAKTHII ACADEMY

Increasing Confidence; Reaching Goals



## MONTHLY CURRENT AFFAIRS BOOSTER



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ShakthiiAcademyChennai/playlists



Jun-2025

## Shakthii Academy

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Dear Aspirant,

I welcome you on behalf of the whole institute and thank you for showing your interest in us.

For years we have been educating young men and women who entered its community and attained their transformation into responsible citizens and leaders of corporations. By joining us, you are embarking on an education system that is meant to be transformative – academically, socially, and personally. “Excellence and Values” are our guiding principles which are reflected in every activity of the Institute.

Our Handbook plays a bigger role in many competitive and government exams. It holds the power of making or breaking your chance of success. Therefore, the candidates should cover Current Affairs thoroughly and smartly. Our Handbook is divided into different sections keeping in mind the need for various exams. Presentation of the given Current Affairs has been planned meticulously. It has been planned in such a way that it remains in the minds of readers for a longer duration.

Our mission is to provide a safe, secure environment in which every student will acquire the skills and knowledge necessary to become accomplished, productive members of the ever-changing, global community. Our faculty is a very dedicated group of individuals who continue to focus on providing the best possible instruction for our students.

Once again, welcome to our community of shared principles and values. Wish you happy, healthy, and fruitful years ahead.

Looking forward to welcoming you to the Institute.



**Jun-2025**



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## Important Personalities

- Who has been appointed as the new CII Odisha Chairman for 2025-26? **Sunil Gupta**
- Who is the new Vice Chairman of CII Odisha? **Suresha G**
- Who has been appointed as the new Chief Secretary of Telangana in April 2025? **K Ramakrishna Rao**
- Who has been appointed as the Country Managing Director for YouTube India in 2025? **Gunjan Soni**
- Who has been appointed as the Executive Director of Reliance Industries Ltd for a five-year term starting May 1, 2025? **Anant Ambani**
- Who has been appointed as the new Police Commissioner of Mumbai in 2024? **Deven Bharti**
- Who was elected as an International Honorary Member of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences (AAAS) in 2025? **Prof. Ajay K. Sood**
- Who has been recently appointed as a member of the Union Public Service Commission (UPSC)? **Sujata Chaturvedi**
- Who has been nominated as the next US Ambassador to the United Nations by President Donald Trump? **Mike Waltz**
- Who was appointed as the Revenue Secretary in the Finance Ministry? **Arvind Shrivastava**
- Who has recently assumed charge as the Deputy Governor of the Reserve Bank of India (RBI)? **Dr. Poonam Gupta**
- Who has been appointed as the Air Officer Commanding-in-Chief (AOC-in-C) of South Western Air Command (SWAC)? **Air Marshal Nagesh Kapoor**
- Who was re-elected as the Prime Minister of Australia in 2025, securing a second consecutive term? **Anthony Albanese**
- Who was appointed as Yemen's new Prime Minister after Ahmed Awad bin Mubarak's resignation? **Salem Saleh Bin Braik**
- Which political party recently won its 14th consecutive general election in Singapore? **People's Action Party (PAP)**
- Who has been appointed as the vice-president of the Gabonese government? **Alexandre Barro Chambrier**
- Who has been appointed as the chair of the IOC's Coordination Commission for Brisbane 2032? **Mikaela Cojuangco Jaworski**
- Whom does Mikaela Cojuangco Jaworski replace as the chair of the Coordination Commission for Brisbane 2032? **Kirsty Coventry**
- Who has been re-elected as the president of the Indian Deaf Cricket Association (IDCA) for the 2025–2029 term? **Sumit Jain**
- Who has recently been appointed as the Managing Director of the National Film Development Corporation (NFDC)? **Prakash Magdum**
- Who is the newly elected Chancellor of Germany? **Friedrich Merz**



01 MAY

INTERNATIONAL  
LABOUR DAY

### Importance

To mark the proclamation by the first international congress of socialist parties in Europe on July 14th 1889 in Paris, France. The date was chosen due to events on the other side of the Atlantic.

In 1884 the American Federation of Organized Trades and Labor Unions demanded an eight-hour workday, to come in effect as of May 1st 1886.

### Motto

To honour the contributions of the labourers or working class people.

### Note

• Peter J. McGuire, a carpenter and labor union leader, was the person who came up with the idea for Labor Day.

• It is also known as May Day and is a public holiday in many countries across the world.

- Who has been appointed as the 52nd Chief Justice of India, succeeding Justice Sanjiv Khanna? **Justice Bhushan Ramkrishna Gavai**
- Who has been appointed as the new Commander-in-Chief of the Northern Army Command? **Lt Gen Pratik Sharma**
- Who has been appointed as the new head of the National Security Advisory Board (NSAB) after its 2024 reconstitution? **Alok Joshi**



- Who is the CBI Director whose tenure was extended by one year beyond April 2025 by the Appointments Committee of the Cabinet? **Praveen Sood**
- Who has been elected as the first American Pope and will be known as Pope Leo XIV? **Robert Francis Prevost**
- Who has been named as the successor to Chief Justice of India Sanjiv Khanna? **Justice B.R. Gavai**
- Who will become the 52nd Chief Justice of India? **Justice B.R. Gavai**
- Who has been appointed as the new Chairman of the Union Public Service Commission (UPSC)? **Dr. Ajay Kumar**
- Who has been appointed as Chief Football Officer at the English Football Association? **Dan Ashworth**
- Who has been appointed as the new Ambassador of India to Sweden? **Anurag Bhushan.**
- Who appointed Kamil Idris as Sudan's Prime Minister? **General Abdel Fattah al-Burhan**
- Who is the first Pakistani army chief to be promoted to Field Marshal since 1959? **General Asim Munir.**
- Which country assumed the Chairmanship of the Asian Productivity Organization (APO) for the 2025–26 term? **India**
- Who has been appointed as the Chief Justice of the Manipur High Court in May 2025? **Justice Kempaiah Somashekar**
- From which High Court was Justice K. Somashekar transferred to become Chief Justice of Manipur High Court? **Karnataka High Court**
- Who has been appointed as the new head of Israel's Shin Bet security agency? **Major General David Zini**
- Who has been appointed as the Deputy Prime Minister of Australia and also serves as the Minister for Defence? **Richard Marles**
- Which Indian origin professor has been named president of TAMEST (Texas Academy of Medicine, Engineering, Science and Technology)? **Ganesh Thakur**
- Who was the former ISRO Chairman who passed away at the age of 84 in Bengaluru? **Dr. K. Kasturirangan**
- M.G.S. Narayanan was the former Chairperson of which national research body, who recently passed away? **Indian Council of Historical Research (ICHR)**
- Which veteran Malayalam filmmaker, known for Piravi and Swaham, recently passed away at the age of 73? **Shaji N Karun**
- Which former national shooting coach and Dronacharya awardee, who mentored shooters like Abhinav Bindra and Gagan Narang, passed away recently at the age of 83? **Prof. Sunny Thomas**
- Senior Congress leader Dr Girija Vyas, who recently passed away at the age of 78, had served as the Chairperson of which national body? **National Commission for Women**
- Which Padma Shri awardee yoga practitioner, aged 128, recently passed away in Varanasi? **Baba Sivanand**
- Who was the architect of India's Blue Revolution, who passed away recently? **Subbanna Ayyappan**
- Which former President of Uruguay, known for his humble lifestyle, radical democratic ideals, and famously nicknamed "Pepe," passed away recently? **José Mujica**
- Who is the current President of Angola who visited India in 2024? **João Manuel Gonçalves Lourenço**
- Who is the current president of Gabon elected in April 2025? **Brice Clotaire Oligui Nguema.**



**03 MAY**

EDITION: 28th  
INCEPTION: 1998

**WORLD LAUGHTER DAY**

**Importance**  
To mark the importance of laughing in our lives.

**Motto**  
To raise awareness about laughter and its many healing benefits.

**Facts**

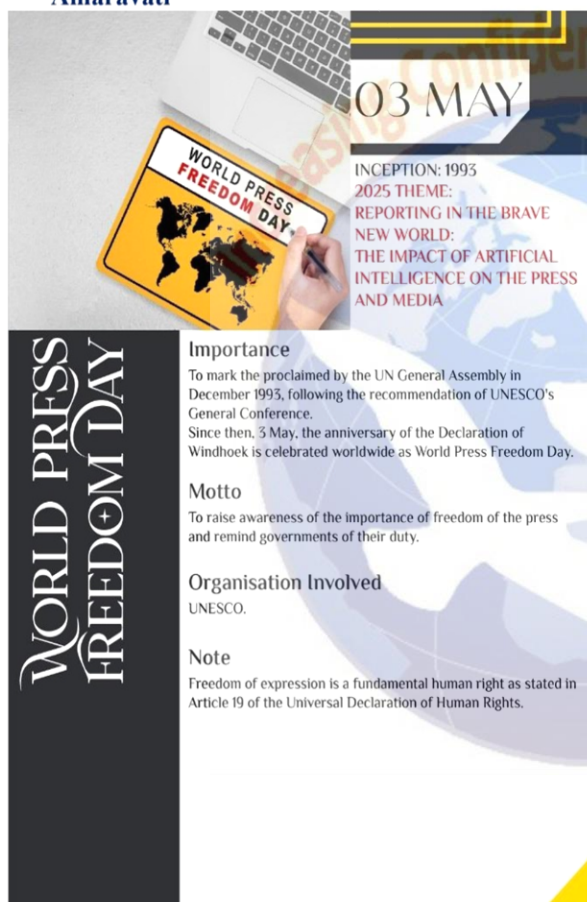
- The day was introduced by Dr Madan Kataria, the founder of the Worldwide Laughter Yoga Movement.
- The World Laughter Day was first celebrated on 11 January, 1998 in Mumbai, India.
- "HAPPY-DEMIC" was the first World Laughter Day gathering outside India. It took place on 9th January 2000, in Copenhagen, Denmark.





## National & International News

- Which state in India has declared Similipal as its largest national park? **Odisha**
- Which two languages from Meghalaya are being integrated into the BHASHINI platform? **Garo and Khasi.**
- BHASHINI is a digital initiative under which central government programme? **Digital India programme.**
- Which Indian state is setting up the country's first Quantum Valley? **Andhra Pradesh**
- Where will India's first Quantum Valley be located? **Amaravati**
- Which state cabinet approved the Mukhyamantri Sadak Yojana – Disaster Resilient Roads and a 50% bus fare rebate for vulnerable groups in 2025? **Odisha**
- Which northeastern state launched the 'Saharsh' curriculum to promote joyful and stress-free learning for students from Classes 1 to 8? **Tripura**
- What has Pakistan accused India of in the context of Operation Sindoor? **Violating the UN Charter and international law.**
- How did India justify Operation Sindoor under international law? **By invoking Article 51 of the UN Charter, citing the right to self-defense.**
- What does Article 2(4) of the UN Charter prohibit? **The use of force against the territorial integrity or political independence of another state.**
- Which city will host the fourth International Symposium on Marine Ecosystems (MECOS-4) in 2025? **Kochi**
- Which Indian company has partnered with Sparton to develop anti-submarine warfare systems in India? **Adani Defence & Aerospace**
- Which ministry is launching the National Soil Spectral Library to advance digital agriculture in India? **Ministry of Agriculture**
- Where will the National Soil Spectral Library be launched? **Nagpur**
- Who launched the revamped OCI portal in 2025 to facilitate seamless registration for persons of Indian origin? **Amit Shah**
- Which new butterfly species was recently recorded in Arunachal Pradesh's Leparada district? **Euthalia malaccana**
- Which state recently approved the merger of Konkan Railway with Indian Railways? **Maharashtra**
- inspection, operation, and maintenance of specified dams to prevent dam failure-related disasters.
- What was 'Operation Sindoor'? **Operation Sindoor was an Indian military operation targeting terror camps in Pakistan and Pakistan-occupied Jammu and Kashmir, conducted in response to the Pahalgam terror attack.**
- Who led 'Operation Sindoor'? **Wing Commander Vyomika Singh.**



**03 MAY**

INCEPTION: 1993  
2025 THEME:  
REPORTING IN THE BRAVE  
NEW WORLD:  
THE IMPACT OF ARTIFICIAL  
INTELLIGENCE ON THE PRESS  
AND MEDIA

**WORLD PRESS  
FREEDOM DAY**

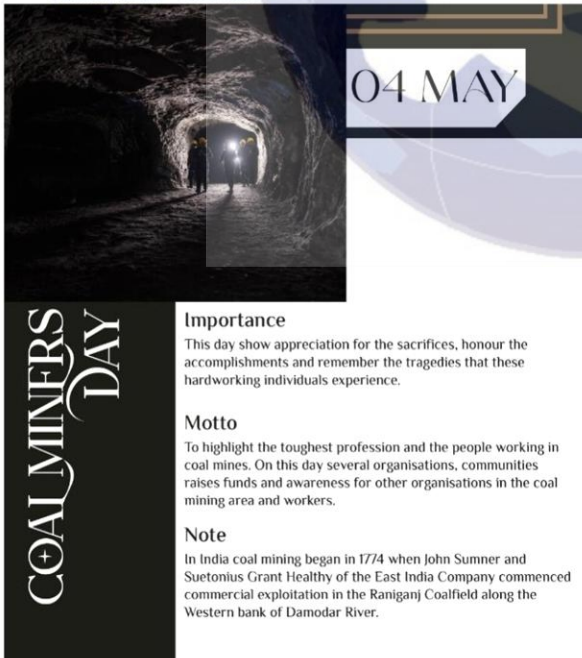
**Importance**  
To mark the proclaimed by the UN General Assembly in December 1993, following the recommendation of UNESCO's General Conference. Since then, 3 May, the anniversary of the Declaration of Windhoek is celebrated worldwide as World Press Freedom Day.

**Motto**  
To raise awareness of the importance of freedom of the press and remind governments of their duty.

**Organisation Involved**  
UNESCO.

**Note**  
Freedom of expression is a fundamental human right as stated in Article 19 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights.

- Name the states involved in the joint venture of Konkan Railway? **Maharashtra, Karnataka, Goa, Kerala**
- Which organization launched the Yashoda AI Abhiyan in 2025? **National Commission for Women (NCW)**
- What is the name of India's first AI literacy initiative for women launched by NCW? **Yashoda AI – Your AI SAKHI**
- What is the role of the USTR Office in U.S. international trade policy? **To develop and coordinate international trade policy**
- Where was the 6th India-Bhutan Joint Group of Customs (JGC) meeting held? **Thimphu, Bhutan**
- What is the full form of the PELOSI Act recently reintroduced in the U.S. Congress to ban lawmakers from trading individual stocks? **Preventing Elected Leaders from Owning Securities and Investments Act**
- Which company is leading the South Korean consortium for the Czech nuclear project? **Korea Hydro & Nuclear Power Co. (KHNP).**
- Which countries are part of the Quad? **Australia, India, Japan, and the United States.**
- Where is Häfele's headquarters located? **Nagold, Germany.**
- Which country is the largest market for solar power after China and the US? **India.**
- India recently imposed an anti-dumping duty on solar glass imports from which two countries? **China and Vietnam**
- How many national strategic technologies does South Korea now have? **19.**
- What is the main goal of the U.S.-China tariff agreement? **To de-escalate trade tensions and restart economic relations.**
- By how much did the U.S. reduce its tariff on Chinese goods? **From 145% to 30%.**
- HUMAIN is a subsidiary of which Saudi organization that has partnered with NVIDIA to build AI factories in the Kingdom? **Public Investment Fund (PIF)**
- Which committee is responsible for designating terrorist organizations at the UN? **The 1267 Sanctions Committee.**
- What is the full name of the 1267 Committee? **UN Security Council Committee pursuant to Resolutions 1267, 1989, and 2253.**
- Which country hosted a UN panel discussion on Lord Buddha's teachings to mark the International Day of Vesak in 2024? **India**
- What was the theme of the UN panel discussion organised by India on Vesak Day 2024? **'Teachings of Gautama Buddha – A Path to Internal and Global Peace'**
- Which global body facilitated the adoption of the pandemic agreement? **World Health Organization (WHO)**
- Which country did not join the pandemic agreement, withdrawing from WHO negotiations? **United States**



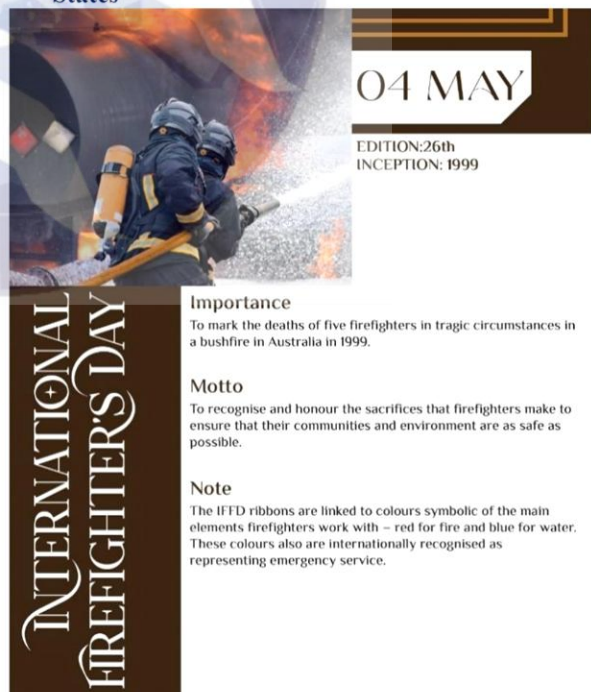
**04 MAY**

**COAL MINERS DAY**

**Importance**  
This day show appreciation for the sacrifices, honour the accomplishments and remember the tragedies that these hardworking individuals experience.

**Motto**  
To highlight the toughest profession and the people working in coal mines. On this day several organisations, communities raises funds and awareness for other organisations in the coal mining area and workers.

**Note**  
In India coal mining began in 1774 when John Sumner and Suetonius Grant Healthy of the East India Company commenced commercial exploitation in the Raniganj Coalfield along the Western bank of Damodar River.



**04 MAY**

EDITION: 26th  
INCEPTION: 1999

**INTERNATIONAL FIREFIGHTERS DAY**

**Importance**  
To mark the deaths of five firefighters in tragic circumstances in a bushfire in Australia in 1999.

**Motto**  
To recognise and honour the sacrifices that firefighters make to ensure that their communities and environment are as safe as possible.

**Note**  
The IFFD ribbons are linked to colours symbolic of the main elements firefighters work with – red for fire and blue for water. These colours also are internationally recognised as representing emergency service.



## Important Projects & Schemes

- What age group is eligible for the Ayushman Vay Vandana scheme? **70+**
- How much total health cover is provided under the Ayushman Vay Vandana scheme? **Rs 10 lakh**
- Who launched the Green Hydrogen Certification Scheme of India? **Pralhad Joshi**
- What is the target year for achieving the objectives of the National Green Hydrogen Mission? **2030**
- Under which scheme have waste pickers been added as a key focus group in 2024? **NAMASTE Scheme**
- Which state government launched the 'Sahajog' scheme to connect the urban poor with welfare schemes? **Odisha**
- Which Indian scheme was highlighted at the World Bank Land Conference 2025 for its transformative impact on rural land governance? **SVAMITVA Scheme**
- What is the estimated cost of the Golden Dome project? **\$175 billion.**
- Which two ICAR institutes have jointly launched a pilot study to explore mesopelagic resources under the PMMSY scheme? **ICAR-CMFRI and ICAR-CIFT**
- What is the name of the sonar-based device to be indigenously developed by Adani Defence under the ASW project? **Sonobuoy**
- What is the purpose of the new youth mobility scheme in the UK-EU deal? **To allow limited, time-bound youth movement and foster academic and cultural exchange.**
- Who is heading the Golden Dome project? **General Michael Guetlein, Vice Chief of Space Operations.**
- Which spice's productivity does the SPICED scheme aim to enhance? **Small and large cardamom.**
- Govt rolls out SPICED scheme to boost spice exports, in context to same what does SPICED stands for? **Sustainability in Spice Sector through Progressive, Innovative and Collaborative Interventions for Export Development**



*First Tuesday of May*

EDITION: 28th  
1<sup>st</sup> CELEBRATED : 1998


**WORLD  
ASTHMA DAY**

Asthma is a disease characterized by recurrent attacks of breathlessness, wheezing, chest tightness, and cough that vary over time in their occurrence, severity and frequency.

**Motto**  
It aims to educate people on how best to get control over this respiratory problem and other allergic diseases.

**Organisation Involved**  
Global Initiative for Asthma (GINA), National Heart Lung and Blood Institute (NHLB) and World Asthma Foundation.

**Note**  
The first World Asthma Meeting held in Barcelona, Spain. Asthma is a disease characterized by recurrent attacks of breathlessness, wheezing, chest tightness, and cough that vary over time in their occurrence, severity and frequency.



**07 MAY**

EDITION: 30th  
1<sup>st</sup> CELEBRATED : 1996

**WORLD  
ATHLETICS DAY**

**Motto**  
To popularize sports among the youth, to promote athletics as the primary sport in schools and institutions and to encourage and introduce new talent and youngsters in the field of athletics.

**Organised By**  
IAAF (International Amateur Athletic Federation).

**Introduced by**  
IAAF (International Amateur Athletic Federation).

**Note**  
• IAAF was founded on the 17 July 1912 in Stockholm (Sweden).  
• The IAAF is the world governing body for the sport of field athletics and track.



## Banking & Economy

- Which three financial institutions were recently penalised by RBI with a total fine of ₹2.96 crore for non-compliance with regulatory directions? **Indian Bank, Indian Overseas Bank (IOB), and Mahindra & Mahindra Financial Services Ltd.**
  - Which country did India recently offer a \$200 million Defence Line of Credit to? **Angola**
  - What is Moody's GDP growth projection for India in 2025? **6.3%, revised down from 6.5%.**
  - In which report did Moody's release its revised GDP projections? **Global Macro Outlook 2025–26 (May update).**
  - What is the value of the 49% stake in Haier Smart Home's Indian unit, which Sunil Mittal is in talks to acquire it? **\$2 billion.**
  - How much total funding has been disbursed to Pakistan under the IMF's EFF programme? **\$2.1 billion**
  - What is the total duration of Pakistan's EFF arrangement with the IMF? **39 months**
  - What is the estimated value of the Czech nuclear power plant project awarded to South Korea? **Approximately 26 trillion won (US\$18.6 billion).**
  - What is the name of the nationwide investor assistance program by IEPFA and SEBI to help investors reclaim unclaimed dividends and shares? **Niveshak Shivir**
  - Why did India oppose the IMF's \$1.3 billion loan to Pakistan? **India opposed it, citing concerns that the funds could be misused for terror-related activities or military purposes.**
  - What is the Resilience and Sustainability Facility (RSF)? **It is an IMF program providing long-term, affordable financing to low- and middle-income countries for structural challenges like climate change and debt sustainability.**
  - Who is acquiring a 20% stake in YES Bank? **Sumitomo Mitsui Banking Corporation (SMBC).**
  - How much stake is SBI selling in YES Bank? **SBI is selling a 13.19% stake for ₹8,889 crore.**
  - What was the amount of the penalty imposed by RBI on Union Bank of India in 2024? **₹1.66 Lakh**
  - Which country has become the first in the world to launch a national cryptocurrency-based tourism payment system in collaboration with Binance Pay and DK Bank? **Bhutan**
  - What is the total estimated value of Qatar's aircraft purchase agreement with Boeing? **\$96 billion**
  - Which bank was recently fined ₹50 lakh by RBI for non-compliance with CRILC reporting? **Deutsche Bank AG, India**
  - What is the revised GDP growth forecast for India for the year 2025, as per the United Nations' mid-year WESP report? **6.3%**
  - Which regulatory body imposed a penalty on Union Bank of India for discrepancies in soiled note remittance? **Reserve Bank of India (RBI)**
  - What is ICRA's GDP growth estimate for India for FY24-25? **6.3%**
  - How much is the UK investing in modernizing its fishing fleet in the UK-EU deal? **£360 million will be invested in upgrading the fleet and technology.**
- 

**Rabindranath Tagore**  
7 May 1861 to 7 August 1941

**Pen Name**  
Bhanu Singha Thakur (Bhonita).

**Occupation**  
Writer, composer, playwright, essayist, painter.

**Language**  
Bengali, English.

**Notable Works**  
Gitanjali, Gora, Ghare-Baire, Jana Gana Mana, Rabindra Sangeet, Amar Shonar Bangla.

**Notable Awards**  
Nobel Prize in Literature (1913).

**Note**
  - He was the first non-European to receive the Nobel Prize (1913) for his contribution to world literature.
  - Tagore penned down "Jana Gana Mana", the national anthem of India. He also wrote the national anthem for Bangladesh.
- Recently, the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) withdrew which requirements for Foreign Portfolio Investors (FPIs) investing in corporate debt securities through the general route? **Compliance with short-term investment and concentration limits**





- Why has the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) cancelled the banking licence of Lucknow-based HCBL Sahakari Bank? **Inadequate capital and poor earnings'**
- What is Morgan Stanley's revised GDP growth forecast for India for FY26? **6.2%**
- What is the projected GDP growth for India in FY27 as per Morgan Stanley's latest update? **6.5%**
- What is SBI's GDP growth forecast for India for FY25? **6.3%**
- What is the GDP growth estimate for Q4 FY25 according to SBI? **6.4%–6.5%**
- What is the total investment committed by Bajaj Auto for KTM? **Bajaj Auto has committed €800 million (approximately ₹7,765 crore).**
- What percentage stake does Bajaj currently hold indirectly in KTM? **Bajaj holds an indirect 37.5% stake in KTM.**
- What is the revised GDP growth potential of India according to Fitch Ratings for the next five years? **6.4%**
- Which bank was fined ₹63.6 lakh by RBI for violating norms related to collateral-free agricultural loans? **Union Bank of India**
- Which country was recently admitted as a new member of the New Development Bank (NDB)? **Algeria**
- ISRO signed an MoU with which institute for collaboration in space medicine for the Gaganyaan Mission? **Sree Chitra Tirunal Institute for Medical Sciences and Technology (SCTIMST)**
- Which organization recently signed eight MoUs to strengthen the Digital India Mission? **NIELIT**
- Which sectors are identified for the establishment of Centres of Excellence in India-Egypt cooperation? **Information technology, agriculture, tourism, and green skills**
- Which state signed an MoU with the Digital India Bhashini Division for language integration? **Meghalaya.**
- Which company has signed an MoU with the Labour & Employment Ministry to create over 50 lakh logistics job opportunities through the NCS portal? **Rapido**
- Which department has partnered with SBI Mutual Fund to simplify KYC for mutual fund investors? **India Post**
- Which country signed an agreement with Ukraine to gain access to rare earth minerals in exchange for a reconstruction fund? **United States**
- Which international body has partnered with India to empower waste pickers? **United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)**
- India and the European Union aim to conclude their Free Trade Agreement (FTA) negotiations by which year? **2025**
- Which city will host the first-ever Global Media Dialogue under WAVES 2025 with participation from over 60 countries? **Mumbai**
- Which two countries recently renewed an MoU to accelerate clean energy transitions? **India and Denmark**
- Which two organizations signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) to enhance AI capabilities and skilling across India? **Intel India and the IndiaAI Mission.**



**08 MAY**

EDITION: 78th  
1<sup>st</sup> CELEBRATED : 1948

**WORLD RED CROSS DAY**

**Importance**  
To mark the birth anniversary of Henry Dunant, founder of the Red Cross and International Committee of the Red Cross in 1828.

**Motto**  
This day honours those millions of volunteers, staff and members across the world who protect human life and health.

**Note**  
It is dedicated to alleviating human suffering, upholding human dignity, protecting life, and preventing emergencies and natural disasters such as flood, epidemics, and earthquakes.

- In which areas did India and Angola sign agreements during President Lourenço's visit? **Agriculture, traditional medicine, and culture**
- Which two tech majors are partnering for the Quantum Valley Tech Park in Amaravati? **TCS and IBM.**
- Which two countries recently signed a historic Free Trade Agreement (FTA) and Double Contribution Convention to boost trade, investment, and employment? **India and the United Kingdom**






- How many barges will Rhenus introduce as part of the MoU with India? **100 barges in a phased manner**
- Which two countries signed a "strategic partnership" deal to enhance political coordination and support the Gaza reconstruction plan? **Greece and Egypt**
- Which two organizations signed an MoU to collaborate on quantum and classical communication technologies in India? **C-DOT and CSIR-NPL**
- Which Indian company signed an MoU with Bhutan's Druk Green Power Corporation to jointly develop 5,000 MW of hydropower projects? **Adani Group**
- Which country signed a Terms of Reference (ToR) with India on 8th May 2025 to launch negotiations for a Comprehensive Economic Partnership Agreement (CEPA)? **Chile**
- Who collaborated with Zydus Lifesciences to develop Glatiramer Acetate Injection? **Chemi S.p.A.**
- What MoU has been signed between DPIIT and Häfele India Pvt. Ltd. to strengthen India's manufacturing ecosystem? **To empower product startups, MSMEs, and entrepreneurs in India.**
- With whom Sunil Mittal is partnering with to acquire the stake in Haier India? **Warburg Pincus.**
- What tariff reduction did China make under the agreement? **From 125% to 10% on U.S. goods.**
- What was the value of the arms deal signed between the US and Saudi Arabia? **\$142 billion**
- Which sectors will Saudi Arabia make significant investments in, as per the strategic partnership with the US? **Artificial intelligence, energy production, and healthcare**
- What initiative did President Trump reaffirm his commitment to during his Middle East tour? **The Abraham Accords**
- Which global tech company has partnered with HUMAIN for AI infrastructure development in Saudi Arabia? **NVIDIA**
- Who won the ICC Men's Player of the Month award for April 2025? **Mehidy Hasan Miraz**
- Mehidy Hasan Miraz is the third cricketer from which country to win the ICC Player of the Month award? **Bangladesh**
- Which Indian university suspended its MoU with Turkey's Inonu University citing national security concerns? **Jawaharlal Nehru University (JNU)**
- Which two countries recently signed major cooperation deals in aviation and defense? **Qatar and the United States**
- What is the value of Samsung's acquisition of FläktGroup? **\$1.68 billion**
- Which market does Samsung aim to expand by acquiring FläktGroup? **HVAC**
- Which country recently approved the sale of AIM-120C-8 AMRAAM missiles to Türkiye? **The United States.**
- What is the total value of the AIM-120C-8 missile deal between the US and Türkiye? **\$225 million.**
- Which two countries announced a joint development of a 2,000 km-range strike weapon? **United Kingdom and Germany**
- Under which agreement are the UK and Germany cooperating for defence and security? **Trinity House Agreement**
- Which historical stepwell in Delhi was recently restored by the ASI in collaboration with WMFI and TCS Foundation? **Rajon ki Baoli**
- Sparton, which partnered with Adani Defence, is a subsidiary of which global defence firm? **Elbit Systems**
- What type of warfare technology will be developed under the Adani-Sparton collaboration? **Anti-Submarine Warfare (ASW) systems**
- Which two organizations partnered to boost climate tech startups in India? **DPIIT and GEAPP.**
- Which program is the UK aiming to rejoin under the UK-EU agreement? **The Erasmus+ academic exchange program.**
- What does the SPS deal aim to simplify in context to UK-EU deal? **Trade in food and agricultural products by removing routine checks.**
- What is the duration of the new fisheries agreement in the UK-EU deal? **The fisheries framework is set for 12 years.**
- What recent trade agreement did China and ASEAN conclude upgrading? **They concluded an upgrade to their 15-year-old Free Trade Agreement.**
- What percentage stake does the Government of India hold in Konkan Railway Corporation Limited? **51%**
- What types of loan products will be offered through the IPPB and ABCL partnership? **Personal loans, business loans, and loan against property.**
- What is the main goal of the new Space Activities Bill? **To boost private sector participation in India's space industry and provide statutory backing to IN-SPACe.**
- Who will take full control of the British Telegraph newspaper? **RedBird Capital Partners.**
- How much is the deal to acquire the Telegraph valued at? **£500 million (\$673 million).**





## Awards & Recognitions

- Where was the India Audio Summit and Awards 2025 held? **Mumbai**
- How many awards did Akashvani win at the India Audio Summit and Awards 2025? **Six awards** **Nai Soch Nai Kahani – A Radio Journey with Smriti Irani**
- Who was recently awarded Fiji's highest honour, the 'Companion of the Order of Fiji'? **Madhusudan Sai**
- Where was the Civil Investiture Ceremony for Padma Awards 2025 held? **Durbar Hall, Rashtrapati Bhawan**
- Who received the Padma Vibhushan posthumously for contributions to trade and industry in 2025? **Osamu Suzuki**
- Which Indian tabla maestro is being honoured with a commemorative stamp by the Department of Posts in 2026? **Pandit Chatur Lal**
- Who were awarded the Major Dhyan Chand Khel Ratna Award 2023? **Satwiksairaj Rankireddy and Chirag Shetty**
- Who was named the Men's Player of the Year at the AIFF Awards 2025? **Subhasish Bose**
- Who received the Women's Player of the Year award at the AIFF Awards 2025? **Soumya Guguloth**
- Which publication won four Pulitzer Prizes in 2025, including one for Breaking News Photography by Doug Mills for capturing the Trump assassination attempt? **The New York Times (NYT)**
- How much is the cash prize associated with the title of the CCI Billiards Classic 2025? **Rs. 2.5 lakh.**
- Who became the first Indian lawyer to be honoured with the 'Medal of Honour' by the World Jurist Association? **Bhuwan Ribhu**
- Who was honoured with the honorary Palme d'Or at the Cannes Film Festival 2025? **Robert De Niro**
- What is the name of Neeraj Ghaywan's film selected for the Un Certain Regard section at Cannes 2025? **Homebound**
- Which Palestinian photojournalist, recently killed in Gaza, was paid tribute at Cannes 2025? **Fatima Hassouna**
- Which Indian athlete was recently conferred the honorary rank of Lieutenant Colonel in the Territorial Army? **Neeraj Chopra**
- Who received the 58th Jnanpith Award for Sanskrit literature in 2023? **Jagadguru Rambhadracharya**
- Which Urdu poet and lyricist was awarded the 58th Jnanpith Award for 2023? **Gulzar (Sampooran Singh Kalra)**
- Where did Denzel Washington receive the Honorary Palme d'Or in 2025? **Cannes Film Festival**
- Where will the 1st Khelo India Beach Games 2025 be held? **Ghoghla Beach, Diu**
- Who became the first Kannada author to win the International Booker Prize? **Banu Mushtaq**
- Which book by Banu Mushtaq won the International Booker Prize? **Heart Lamp**
- How many Shaurya Chakras awarded in the 2025 ceremony were posthumous? **Seven Shaurya Chakras**
- Which forces' personnel were honored with the Kirti Chakra and Shaurya Chakra awards in 2025? **Armed Forces, Central Armed Police Forces, and State/Union Territory Police**
- Who received the Kirti Chakra posthumously from the Jammu and Kashmir Police in 2025? **Deputy Superintendent of Police Himayun Muzzammil Bhat**



**08 MAY**

**2025 THEME:**  
TOGETHER FOR  
THALASSEMIA: UNITING  
COMMUNITIES, PRIORITIZING  
PATIENTS

**WORLD THALASSEMIA DAY**

**Importance**  
It is a commemoration day in honour of all patients with thalassaemia and their parents who have never lost hope for life, despite the burden of their disease.

**Organisation Involved**  
Thalassaemia International Federation.

**What is Thalassaemia Disease?**  
Thalassaemia is an inherited blood disorder characterised by less oxygen-carrying protein (haemoglobin) and fewer red blood cells in the body than normal.


**Note**  
This disease is also known as Mediterranean anemia.





## Sports

- Which country won the highest number of gold medals at the 2nd Asian Yogasana Sport Championship 2024? **India**
- Which football club won the 2025 Copa del Rey title? **Barcelona**
- Barcelona defeated which team to win their 32nd Copa del Rey title in 2025? **Real Madrid**
- Who won the mixed doubles title at WTT Contender Tunis 2025? **Manush Shah and Diya Chitale**
- Which country hosted the WTT Contender Tunis 2025? **Tunisia**
- Who is the 91-year-old Italian woman who broke the 200m sprint world record in her age category? **Emma Maria Mazzenga**
- Which cricket board recently banned transgender females from all levels of women's cricket? **England and Wales Cricket Board (ECB)**
- Who won the bronze medals in the senior and junior categories at the 3rd NTPC Khelo India Women's National Archery Tournament held in Bhopal in May 2025? **Swati Dudhwal (Senior), Shivani (Junior)**
- Who won the gold in kumite and bronze in kata at the 11th Budokan International Karate Championship held in Dubai? **Anarghya Panchawatkar**
- Which Indian duo won the U-19 boys doubles title at the WTT Youth Star Contender 2025 in Bangkok? **Ankur Bhattacharjee and Abhinandh Pradhavadhi**
- Which country won the Sudirman Cup 2024, clinching the title for a record-extending 14th time? **China**
- Who won bronze for India in the men's 96 kg category at the 2025 IWF World Youth Championships? **Parv Chaudhary.**
- How much total weight did Parv Chaudhary lift to set a national record? **315 Kg.**
- Who won the CCI Billiards Classic 2025? **Pankaj Advani**
- How many World Championship titles does Pankaj Advani have across cue sports? **28 World Championship titles across cue sports.**
- What position does Sumit Jain hold in the Differently-Abled Cricket Committee of BCCI (DCCI)? **Vice President**
- Which Indian cricketer recently announced his retirement from Test cricket after scoring 4301 runs in 67 matches? **Rohit Sharma**
- At the Archery World Cup Stage 2 in Shanghai, how many medals did India win and in which events? **Three medals – Gold in men's team, Silver in women's team, Bronze in mixed team**
- Who won the Premier League Player of the Month award for April 2025? **Alexis Mac Allister**



**MOTHER'S DAY**

**Importance**

- To mark the celebration in 1908, when Anna Jarvis held a memorial for her mother at St Andrew's Methodist Church in Grafton, West Virginia.
- St Andrew's Methodist Church now holds the International Mother's Day Shrine.
- The day is an event to honour the contribution of mothers, acknowledge the efforts of maternal bonds and the role of mothers in our society.
- On May 8th, 1914, Anna Jarvis efforts bore fruit after President Woodrow Wilson signed a joint resolution that designated Mother's Day USA to be celebrated on the second Sunday in May.

**Motto**

To express respect, honor, and love towards mothers.

**Attributed To**

Julia Ward Howe and Anna Jarvis.

**Note**


In 1912 Anna Jarvis trademarked the phrase Second Sunday in May marked as Mother's Day.

- Which Japanese pair did Manush Shah and Diya Chitale defeat in the final of WTT Contender Tunis 2025? **Sora Matsushima and Miwa Harimoto**
- Who became the youngest centurion in IPL history at the age of 14 years and 32 days? **Vaibhav Suryavanshi**





- Which country did Brazil defeat to defend its title at the 2025 FIFA Beach Soccer World Cup held in Seychelles? **Belarus**
- At the Nicosia ISSF Shotgun World Cup, which country did Kynan Chenai and Sabeera Haris defeat to win the bronze medal in the Trap Mixed Team event? **Turkey**
- Which Indian cricketer recently announced his retirement from Test cricket, marking the end of an iconic era in Indian cricket? **Virat Kohli**
- Which Indian archers secured bronze medals at the Archery World Cup, contributing to India's total of seven medals at the event? **Deepika Kumari and Parth Salunkhe**
- Which country topped the medals table at the Fazza Para-Badminton International 2025? **South Korea**
- Who won India's only gold medal at the Fazza Para-Badminton International 2025? **Sivaraman Solaimalai and Sudarsan Saravanakumar Muthusamy**
- Who broke three youth national records in the 81kg weightlifting category at KIYG 2025? **Sairaj Pardeshi**
- Which state's athlete, Sairaj Pardeshi, set records in snatch, clean and jerk, and total lift in weightlifting? **Maharashtra**
- Where will the inaugural Tennis Cricket Ball World Cup and Asia Cup be hosted? **India**
- Which organization has endorsed the Tennis Cricket Ball World Cup and Asia Cup? **International Tennis Cricket Federation (ITCF)**
- Which club won the 2025 Italian Cup after a 51-year wait? **Bologna**
- Who did Bologna defeat to win the 2025 Italian Cup? **AC Milan**
- When was the last time Bologna won a major trophy before the 2025 Italian Cup? **1974**
- Which two cricketers were awarded Honorary Life Membership by MCC in 2024? **Moeen Ali and Meg Lanning**
- Which club awarded Moeen Ali and Meg Lanning Honorary Life Membership? **Marylebone Cricket Club (MCC)**
- Which team won the 2024–25 La Liga title under coach Hansi Flick? **FC Barcelona**
- Who won the Superbet Chess Classic 2024 held in Bucharest, Romania? **R Praggnanandhaa**
- Who became the first Indian to breach the 90-meter mark in javelin throw? **Neeraj Chopra**
- What was Neeraj Chopra's record-breaking throw at the 2025 Doha Diamond League? **90.23 meters**
- Who won the Men's Javelin Throw event at the 2025 Doha Diamond League? **Julian Weber (Germany)**
- Which Indian cricketer was recently honoured with a stand named after him at Mumbai's Wankhede Stadium? **Rohit Sharma**
- Who was the captain of the India U19 team in the SAFF Championship final? **Singamayum Shami**
- Which country won the women's singles title at the 2025 Thailand Open? **China**
- Who defeated Pornpawee Chochuwong to win the women's singles final in the 2025 Thailand Open? **Chen Yufei**
- Who won the men's singles title at the 2025 Italian Open? **Carlos Alcaraz (Spain).**
- Who won the women's singles title at the 2025 Italian Open? **Jasmine Paolini (Italy).**
- Which pair won the men's doubles title at the 2025 Italian Open? **Marcelo Arévalo (El Salvador) and Mate Pavić (Croatia).**
- Which players won the women's doubles title at the 2025 Italian Open? **Sara Errani (Italy) and Jasmine Paolini (Italy).**
- Who won the WBA Asia Middle-East Super Lightweight title? **Danylo Honcharu of Ukraine.**



## 12 MAY

EDITION: 61st  
INCEPTION: 1965  
2025 THEME:  
OUR NURSES. OUR FUTURE.  
CARING FOR NURSES  
STRENGTHENS ECONOMIES

### INTERNATIONAL NURSES DAY


**Importance**  
To mark the birth anniversary of Florence Nightingale. In January 1974, 12 May was chosen to celebrate the day as it is the anniversary of the birth of Florence Nightingale.

**Motto**  
To raise awareness regarding the crucial role played by nurses in the society.

**Organisation Involved**  
International Council of Nurses.



- Who won the silver medal in the 50m rifle prone event at the ISSF Junior World Cup 2025 in Suhl, Germany? **Adriyan Karmakar**
- Which veteran Spanish goalkeeper, part of Spain's 2010 World Cup-winning squad, announced retirement at the age of 42 in 2025? **Pepe Reina**
- Which Indian Olympian javelin thrower tested positive for a banned substance for the second time in 2025, risking an 8-year ban? **Shivpal Singh**
- Who won the 2025 UEFA Europa League final? **Tottenham Hotspur defeated Manchester United 1-0.**
- When was Tottenham's last trophy before this win? **17 years ago.**
- What tournament will Tottenham qualify for by winning the Europa League? **The UEFA Champions League next season.**
- Who was named the AIFF Men's Footballer of the Year 2023–24? **Subhasish Bose**
- Subhasish Bose is the captain of which Indian Super League (ISL) team? **Mohun Bagan Super Giant**
- Which New Zealand all-rounder recently announced retirement from international cricket? **Hayley Jensen**
- Who won the silver medal in women's skeet at the ISSF Junior World Cup 2025 in Suhl? **Raiza Dhillon**
- Which former Sri Lankan captain recently announced his retirement from Test cricket after the upcoming match against Bangladesh? **Angelo Mathews**
- Who won India's first gold medal at the ISSF Junior World Cup 2025 in the women's 10m air pistol event? **Kanak**
- Who won the silver medal in men's javelin at the Janusz Kusociński Memorial 2025? **Neeraj Chopra**
- What was Neeraj Chopra's best throw at the Janusz Kusociński Memorial 2025? **84.14 meters**
- Which Indian Army officer won four medals at the 11th World Masters Games 2025? **Major Rohit Kadian**
- Which French tennis player announced her retirement ahead of French Open 2025? **Caroline Garcia**



**15 MAY**

EDITION: 32nd  
INCEPTION: 1994  
2025 THEME:  
FAMILY-ORIENTED POLICIES  
FOR SUSTAINABLE  
DEVELOPMENT: TOWARDS THE  
SECOND WORLD SUMMIT FOR  
SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT 2025

**INTERNATIONAL DAY OF FAMILIES**

**Importance**  
To mark the proclamation by the UN General Assembly in 1993 that reflects the importance of families in the community.

**Motto**  
To promote awareness of issues relating to families and to increase knowledge of the social, economic and demographic processes affecting families.

**Organisation Involved**  
United Nations.

**Note**  
On 9 December 1989, The General Assembly proclaimed The International Year of the Family.



**17 MAY**

EDITION: 21st  
1<sup>st</sup> CELEBRATED : 2005  
2025 THEME:  
MEASURE YOUR BLOOD  
PRESSURE ACCURATELY,  
CONTROL IT, LIVE LONGER!

**WORLD HYPERTENSION DAY**

**Motto**

- Increasing high blood pressure (BP) awareness in all populations around the world.
- It is designated and initiated by The World Hypertension League (WHL), which is itself an umbrella to organizations of 85 national hypertension societies and leagues.
- The WHL launched its first WHD on May 14, 2005. Since 2006, the WHL has been dedicating May 17 of every year as WHD.

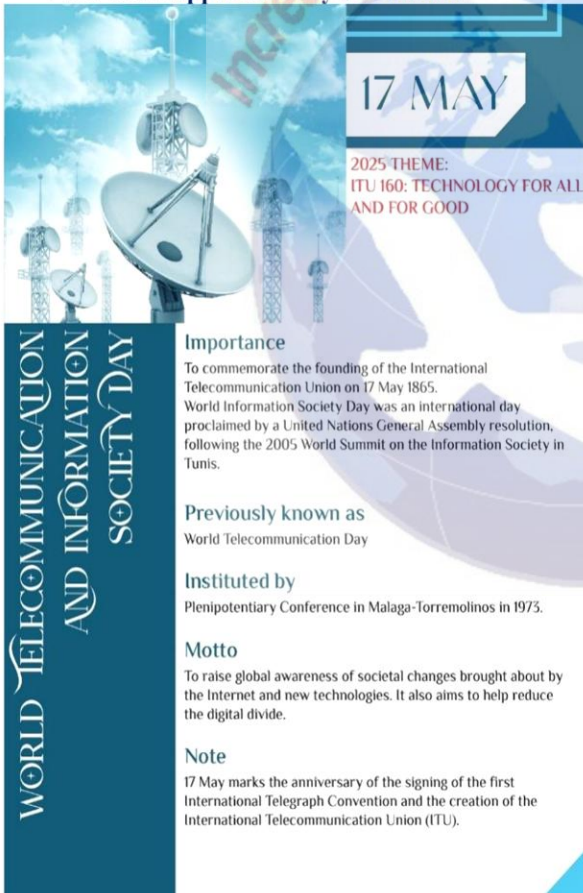
**Organisation Involved**  
World Hypertension League (WHL).

**Note**  
Hypertension is a condition in which the force of the blood against the artery walls is too high.



## Science & Technology

- Which startup has been selected to build India's first homegrown AI foundational model? **Sarvam AI**
- Under which scheme was Sarvam AI selected for developing the indigenous AI model? **ECMS scheme**
- Which institute inaugurated a pilot plant for fortified rice kernels (FRK) production? **CSIR-National Institute for Interdisciplinary Science and Technology (CSIR-NIIST)**
- India is set to procure 26 Rafale-M fighter jets from which country under a Rs 63,000-crore deal? **France**
- At which ISRO facility was the short duration hot test of the semicryogenic engine conducted in April 2025? **ISRO Propulsion Complex (IPRC), Mahendragiri, Tamil Nadu**
- What is the total value of the Barakah Nuclear Power Plant deal? **Approximately \$20 billion.**



**17 MAY**

**2025 THEME:**  
ITU 160: TECHNOLOGY FOR ALL  
AND FOR GOOD

**Importance**  
To commemorate the founding of the International Telecommunication Union on 17 May 1865. World Information Society Day was an international day proclaimed by a United Nations General Assembly resolution, following the 2005 World Summit on the Information Society in Tunis.

**Previously known as**  
World Telecommunication Day

**Instituted by**  
Plenipotentiary Conference in Malaga-Torremolinos in 1975.

**Motto**  
To raise global awareness of societal changes brought about by the Internet and new technologies. It also aims to help reduce the digital divide.

**Note**  
17 May marks the anniversary of the signing of the first International Telegraph Convention and the creation of the International Telecommunication Union (ITU).

- What key sectors were focused on during Commerce Secretary Sunil Barthwal's visit to the Netherlands to enhance bilateral trade? **Maritime, Semiconductors**
- How many satellites will Amazon launch for Project Kuiper? **3,236**
- DRDO recently conducted the maiden flight-trials of which high-altitude surveillance system from Sheopur, Madhya Pradesh? **Stratospheric Airship Platform**
- Where is India's first Quantum Valley Tech Park being developed? **Amaravati, Andhra Pradesh.**
- DRDO and Indian Navy recently conducted combat firing of which indigenously developed underwater mine to enhance undersea warfare capabilities? **Multi-Influence Ground Mine (MIGM)**
- What is the estimated value of the South Korea–Czech nuclear power deal? **26 trillion South Korean won (approximately \$18.8 billion).**
- Where is the Barakah Nuclear Power Plant located? **Barakah, in the Al Dhafra region of Abu Dhabi, UAE.**
- When is India's first human spaceflight under the Gaganyaan programme expected? **First quarter of 2027.**
- Which launch vehicle is being used for the Gaganyaan human spaceflight mission? **The human-rated LVM3 launch vehicle.**
- Which agency must provide final clearance for Starlink to operate in India? **The Indian National Space Promotion and Authorisation Centre (IN-SPACe).**
- What role does Trai play in Starlink's Indian operations? **Trai will release recommendations on satellite spectrum allocation, including pricing.**
- Which five IITs are set to receive expansion as approved by the Union Cabinet? **IIT Tirupati, IIT Palakkad, IIT Bhilai, IIT Jammu, IIT Dharwad**
- What is the name of the first indigenously built Anti-Submarine Warfare Shallow Water Craft (ASW SWC) delivered to the Indian Navy? **Arnala**
- Which company became the world's first renewable energy IPP to achieve water positivity across its entire operational portfolio, exceeding 14 GW capacity? **Adani Green Energy Limited (AGEL)**
- Which company recently received USFDA approval for Glatiramer Acetate Injection? **Zydus Lifesciences.**



- What is the generic version of Copaxone used to treat? **Relapsing forms of Multiple Sclerosis (MS).**
- Which country became the third-largest producer of electricity from wind and solar energy in 2024? **India.**
- Where is the new BrahMos missile manufacturing unit located? **Lucknow**
- Which two rivers inspired the name 'BrahMos'? **Brahmaputra and Moskva**
- Which organisation is developing a humanoid robot to reduce troop risk in high-risk missions? **DRDO**
- Which country is building two nuclear reactors at the Dukovany nuclear power plant in the Czech Republic? **South Korea (through Korea Hydro & Nuclear Power Co. - KHNP).**
- What technologies has South Korea recently added to its list of national strategic technologies? **Robotics and defense technologies.**
- What is the focus of the C-DOT and Synergy Quantum partnership? **Developing drone-based Quantum Key Distribution (QKD) systems.**
- What is the primary goal of Quantum Key Distribution (QKD)? **To securely encrypt and share cryptographic keys using quantum mechanics.**
- Which indigenous air defence system of India successfully neutralized all Pakistani drones and missiles during recent tensions? **Akashteer**
- Akashteer, India's AI-driven war-cloud system, was developed by which organization? **Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO)**
- What makes Akashteer unique among India's air defence systems? **It is AI-powered and developed without foreign components or satellite dependency.**
- Where have Renesas Electronics opened India's first 3nm chip design centres? **Noida and Bengaluru.**
- When is India's first manned deep ocean mission, 'Samudrayaan', expected to be launched? **By the end of 2026.**
- What is the investment amount approved for the HCL-Foxconn semiconductor JV in Uttar Pradesh? **Rs 3,706 crore**
- How many AIM-120C-8 missiles is Turkiye purchasing from the US? **53 missiles.**
- What is 'Bhargavastra'? **It is India's indigenous, low-cost, hard-kill counter-swarm drone system.**
- Who developed the 'Bhargavastra' counter-drone system? **Solar Defence and Aerospace Limited (SDAL).**
- What is the primary function of 'Bhargavastra'? **To neutralize drone swarms using micro rockets.**
- Which organization developed the nanoporous multilayered polymeric membrane for seawater desalination? **Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO).**
- By which decade is the UK-Germany long-range strike weapon expected to be delivered? **2030s**
- What is the minimum range of the medium-range ballistic missile classification according to the Arms Control Association? **1,000 kilometres**
- Which upcoming joint lunar mission between ISRO and JAXA, aimed at studying water in the Moon's south pole, recently entered its design phase? **Chandrayaan-5/LUPEX**
- Which ISRO mission failed to place the EOS-09 satellite into orbit in May 2025? **PSLV-C61**
- What is the name of the Earth observation satellite that failed to reach orbit aboard PSLV-C61? **EOS-09**
- What type of malfunction caused the failure of ISRO's PSLV-C61 mission? **Flex nozzle control system failure in third stage**
- What is the name of the policy launched by the Centre to boost women's participation in the maritime sector? **Sagar Mein Samman**
- Which prestigious research centre did Dr. Narlikar establish? **The Inter-University Centre for Astronomy and Astrophysics (IUCAA), Pune.**
- What is the Golden Dome missile defense initiative? **It is the first U.S. space-based missile defense system.**
- When will the Golden Dome system become operational? **By 2029.**
- What legal gap does the Space Activities bill seek to address for IN-SPACe? **Granting it statutory authority to authorize and regulate private space activities.**

Keep your face always  
toward the sunshine,  
and shadows will fall  
behind you.

WALT WHITMAN





## Miscellaneous

- Which state topped the CareEdge State Ranking 2025 in overall performance? **Maharashtra**
- Which category of states does Goa belong to in the CareEdge State Ranking 2025? **Group B (northeast, hilly, and small states)**
- Which state ranked highest in the fiscal pillar of the 2025 rankings? **Odisha**
- Which state topped the governance pillar in the CareEdge report? **Andhra Pradesh**
- Which private bank's CEO, Sumant Kathpalia, resigned in April 2025 following a ₹2,000 crore derivatives loss? **IndusInd Bank**
- Which Indian family topped Bloomberg's 2025 list of richest families in Asia? **Ambani family**
- How many Indian families featured in Bloomberg's Top 20 richest families in Asia 2025? **Six**
- Who recently resigned from the post of Chief of Integrated Defense Staff (CISC) after retirement? **Lieutenant General Johnson P Matthew**
- What is the tenure of a UPSC member? **6 years or till 65 years of age**
- What is India's rank among the world's largest economies by GDP in 2025, as per IMF? **4th**
- Who recently resigned as the Prime Minister of Romania following the first-round victory of nationalist leader George Simion in the presidential election? **Marcel Ciolacu**
- Which former role was abolished under Gabon's new constitution in November 2024? **Prime Minister.**
- What was the required majority for Friedrich Merz to become the German Chancellor? **316 votes.**
- Which National Waterways will Rhénus initially operate on? **Rhénus will initially operate on National Waterways 1 (Ganga), 2 (Brahmaputra), and 16 (Barak), as well as the Indo-Bangladesh Protocol route.**
- What is India's rank in the 2023 UN Human Development Index (HDI)? **130th out of 193 countries**
- What is India's HDI score in 2023? **0.685**
- What is the title of the 2023 HDI report released by UNDP? **"A matter of choice: People and possibilities in the age of Artificial Intelligence."**
- Which country shares the same HDI score as India in 2023? **Bangladesh**
- Who recently stepped down as Tesla's India country head? **Prashanth Menon.**
- Who will oversee Tesla's India operations after Menon's exit? **Tesla's China-based teams will temporarily manage India operations.**
- What is the SHAKTI policy? **It is the Scheme for Harnessing and Allocating Koyala Transparently in India, aimed at ensuring coal availability for power plants.**
- When was the SHAKTI policy launched? **2018.**
- Which companies will implement the Revised SHAKTI policy? **Coal India Limited (CIL) and Singareni Collieries Company Limited (SCCL).**
- What was the purpose of the recent Quad Tabletop Exercise? **To simulate the launch of the Quad Indo-Pacific Logistics Network (IPLN) for better disaster response.**



**18 MAY**

EDITION: 45th  
INCEPTION: 1977  
2025 THEME:  
THE FUTURE OF MUSEUMS IN  
RAPIDLY CHANGING  
COMMUNITIES

**INTERNATIONAL MUSEUM DAY**

**Motto**  
To raise public awareness on the role museums play in the development of society today, on an international level. It is celebrated to the promotion and protection of natural and cultural heritage, present and future, tangible and intangible.

**Organisation Involved**  
International Council of Museums (ICOM).


**Note**  
The ICOM is a worldwide network of over forty-four thousand museum professionals at twenty thousand museums in more than 158 countries.

- Who recently resigned as the Acting President of South Korea ahead of the 2025 snap elections? **Han Duck-soo**





- What are the main focus areas of the RSF? **Climate change adaptation, pandemic preparedness, and economic stability.**
- Who has been removed by the Center from the post of Chairman and Managing Director of Solar Energy Corporation? **Rameshwar Prasad Gupta**
- What sectors are most impacted by U.S. tariffs on Indian exports? **The steel and aluminium sectors.**
- Who is the current Director-General of the WTO? **Ngozi Okonjo-Iweala.**
- Why does India argue that Article 2(4) does not apply in this case? **Because it claims Pakistan's support for cross-border terrorism violates this principle.**
- What is the significance of Article 51 in this context? **It permits self-defense in response to an armed attack, emphasizing necessity and proportionality.**
- Which classic Indian film by Satyajit Ray will be screened in the Classics section at Cannes 2025? **Aranyer Din Ratri**
- Which Indian filmmaker is serving as a jury member at Cannes Film Festival 2025? **Payal Kapadia**
- Which veteran Indian actor is making his directorial debut with the film 'Tanvi: The Great'? **Anupam Kher**
- What is the name of the large-scale integrated field exercise conducted by the Indian Army in West Bengal? **Teesta Prahar**
- What is the full form of MECOS-4? **International Symposium on Marine Ecosystems: Challenges and Opportunities**
- Name two critical sectors protected by DGTR from unfair imports recently? **Solar energy and copper wire rods**
- What is the name of the challenge launched by DPIIT and GEAPP to support clean energy solutions? **Energy Transitions Innovation Challenge (ENTICE).**
- Who was Dr. Jayant Vishnu Narlikar? **A renowned Indian astrophysicist and science communicator.**
- Who was Dr. M.R. Srinivasan? **An eminent Indian nuclear scientist and former Chairman of the Atomic Energy Commission.**
- Which major Indian nuclear reactor did Dr. Srinivasan help construct early in his career? **Apsara, India's first nuclear research reactor.**
- What is the SAFE program in which the UK will now participate? **An EU defense initiative for joint military procurement and strategic cooperation.**
- Who resigned as Japan's Agriculture Minister in May 2025 after a controversial remark about rice? **Taku Eto**
- Which Japanese Prime Minister faced criticism over handling of the rice price crisis and appointment of Taku Eto? **Shigeru Ishiba**
- Who is the Director-General of WHO who praised the pandemic agreement? **Dr. Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus**
- Who is acquiring majority control of KTM AG? **Bajaj Auto is acquiring majority control of KTM AG through its subsidiary BAIHBV.**
- Why did RedBird IMI have to sell its stake in the Telegraph? **Due to UK restrictions on foreign state investment in British newspapers.**
- Which airport ranked second in global passenger traffic in 2024-25? **Dubai International Airport (UAE)**
- Which Indian airport ranked among the top 10 busiest airports in the world in 2024-25? **Indira Gandhi International Airport (New Delhi)**
- Which airport was ranked the busiest in the world in 2024-25? **Hartsfield-Jackson Atlanta International Airport (USA)**



**21 MAY**

EDITION: 34th  
INCEPTION: 1991

## Anti-Terrorism Day

**Importance**

To mark the death anniversary of India's most eminent Prime Minister, Rajiv Gandhi (20 August 1944 – 21 May 1991).

**Motto**

To raise awareness among all sections of people, about the danger of terrorism, violence and its dangerous effect on the people, the society and the nation as a whole.

**Organisation Involved**

United Religions Initiative (URI) & UN.

NATIONAL  
ANTI-TERRORISM DAY





**Important Days of the Month**

Day	Observed/Celebrated As	Motto/Importance
June 1	World Milk Day	To recognize the importance of milk as a global food
June 3	World Bicycle Day	To acknowledge the uniqueness, longevity and versatility of the bicycle.
June 4	International Day of Innocent Children Victims of Aggression	To make people aware about the protection of children rights and highlighting their suffering
June 5	World Environment Day	Beat Plastic Pollution
June 7	World Food Safety Day	Food Safety: Science in Action
June 8	World Ocean Day	Catalyzing Action for Our Ocean & Climate
June 8	World Brain Tumor Day	To mark the commemoration of this day by German Brain Tumour Association in 2000
June 12	Anti-Child Labor Day	To bring attention and join efforts to fight against child labour.
June 14	World Blood Donor Day	Blood connects us all
June 15	Global Wind Day	To make people aware about the wind energy its uses & its power
June 20	World Refugee Day	To increase awareness among the people by sharing the experiences of refugees and their stories
June 21	International day of yoga	To spread awareness about the importance and effects of yoga on the health of the people.
June 26	International Day against Drug Abuse and Illicit Trafficking	To raise awareness to fight against substance abuse as well as the unlawful trade of drugs



## Let's Recap

- Which organization collaborated with AIIMS Delhi to develop India's first indigenous MRI machine? **SAMEER (Society for Applied Microwave Electronic Engineering and Research)**
  - Which authorities are empowered to prepare disaster plans under the Disaster Management (Amendment) Bill 2024? **NDMA and SDMA**
  - Which bill was passed by Parliament in 2024 to regulate boiler operations and enhance safety? **Boilers Bill 2024**
  - Where is the headquarters of the Insurance Regulatory and Development Authority of India (IRDAI) located? **Hyderabad**
  - Which organizations approved the ₹2 hike in ATM interchange fees in 2025? **RBI and NPCI**
  - How many amendments were included in the Finance Bill 2025 passed by the Lok Sabha? **35 amendments**
  - What is the projected fiscal deficit for FY26 in the Finance Bill 2025? **4.4%**
  - Who won India's second bronze medal at the Senior Asian Wrestling Championship 2025? **Nitesh**
  - Which two companies signed contracts with the Defence Ministry for the supply of ATAGS and high-mobility vehicles? **Bharat Forge Limited and Tata Advanced System Limited.**
  - Which artillery system will replace the vintage guns in the Indian Army under the recent MoD contract? **155 mm/52 calibre advanced towed artillery gun systems (ATAGS).**
  - Under the MoU with UNESCO, which concept will be integrated into Himachal Pradesh's school curricula? **Greening Education (environmental awareness and sustainable development).**
  - Under which IMF programme did Pakistan receive the \$1.3 billion loan package? **Extended Fund Facility (EFF).**
  - Who has been appointed as the MD and CEO of IFCI for three years in 2025? **Rahul Bhawe.**
  - Who was appointed as the Chief Economist of Canara Bank in February 2025? **Madhavankutty G.**
  - Which missile system did the Ministry of Defence recently procure under a ₹2,500 crore contract? **Nag Missile System (NAMIS)**
  - Which cooperative-based taxi service was recently announced by Union Minister Amit Shah? **Sahkar Taxi**
  - How many national records were broken at the Khelo India Para Games 2025? **18**
  - Which two organizations signed an MoU to provide high-speed broadband in rural areas under the BharatNet programme? **DoT and NABARD**
  - Under which scheme will NBCC and MAHAPREIT undertake residential projects in Maharashtra? **Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana (PMAY)**
- 

**22 MAY**

INCEPTION: 1993  
2025 THEME:  
HARMONY WITH NATURE AND  
SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

**INTERNATIONAL DAY FOR BIOLOGICAL DIVERSITY**

**Importance**  
To mark the proclamation by UN to increase understanding and awareness of biodiversity issues in 1993.

**Motto**  
To increase understanding and awareness of biodiversity issues.

**Also known as**  
World Biodiversity Day


**Organisation Involved**  
Convention on Biological Diversity & UN.

**Note**  
1st World Biodiversity Day was observed on 29 December 1993, but in December 2000, the UN General Assembly adopted 22 May for observance.
- Which ministry launched the social protection data pooling exercise in collaboration with the ILO? **Labour and Employment Ministry**
  - Which Indian won the bronze medal in the 87 kg Greco-Roman category at the 2025 Asian Wrestling Championship? **Sunil Kumar**
  - Who has been appointed as the whole-time life member of IRDAI in 2025? **Swaminathan S Iyer**





- For which book will Sadhu Bhadreshdas receive the Saraswati Samman 2024? **Swaminarayana Siddhanta Sudha**
- Why was the border demarcation plan initiated? **Due to tensions after the end of Assad's 54-year rule in Syria.**
- Which company secured a ₹11,800 crore contract from CSPGCL? **Bharat Heavy Electricals Limited (BHEL).**
- Which company recently secured a ₹700 crore order for defense vehicles? **Ashok Leyland, a Hinduja Group company.**
- What is the Close-In Weapon System (CIWS)? **A short-range, rapid-fire defense system against missiles, drones, and aircraft.**
- The Indian government recently signed defense deals worth how much for anti-tank weapon platforms and light vehicles for the Army? **₹2,500 crore**
- The Indian government recently signed a contract worth ₹62,700 crore with which company for the supply of 156 Light Combat Helicopters (LCH)? **Hindustan Aeronautics Limited (HAL)**
- Which Indian organization has signed a loan agreement for 26 billion Japanese Yen with SBI's Tokyo branch? **IREDA**
- Which US-based company has been approved to collaborate with Indian firms for nuclear reactor development? **Holtec International**
- Who won the women's title at the Indian Open Squash Championship 2024? **Anahat Singh**
- Which air base is hosting the INIOCHOS-25 air exercise in Greece? **Andravida Air Base**
- How many free ATM transactions are allowed per month from a customer's own bank? **5 transactions**
- Which Indian wrestler won silver in the Men's freestyle 61kg category at the Asian Wrestling Championship 2025? **Udit**
- Who has been appointed as Prime Minister Narendra Modi's Private Secretary in 2025? **Nidhi Tewari**
- Which company developed the Nagastra-1 "suicide drone" for the Indian Army? **Solar Defence and Aerospace Ltd**
- How much financial assistance is provided per beneficiary under the Antyodaya Gruha Yojana? **₹1.20 lakh**
- How many Indian states are covered in the "NITI NCAER States Economic Forum" portal? **28 states**
- Which city in Punjab is being developed into a major tourist hub with an initial allocation of ₹10 crore? **Nangal**
- Who was the American actor famous for his role in Dr. Kildare who passed away at the age of 90 in March 2025? **Richard Chamberlain**
- Which two countries participate in Exercise Tiger Triumph? **India and the United States**
- What is the theme of the 6th BIMSTEC Summit? **Prosperous, Resilient, and Open BIMSTEC**
- Which stadium will host the Hero Asia Cup Hockey 2025? **Rajgir Hockey Stadium**
- Who won the 2025 Miami Open Men's Singles title? **Jakub Mensik**
- Who has become the first African woman to assume office as Commonwealth Secretary-General? **Shirley Botchwey**
- Who stepped down from the Tata Sons board after his term ended? **Leo Puri**
- Which community in Jamalpur, Ahmedabad, is known for the Saudagari block print? **The Chhipa community**
- Who resigned as Whole-time Director of Adani Power (Jharkhand) Ltd.? **Ramesh Jha.**
- Who is the most-capped player in Indian women's hockey history who recently announced her retirement? **Vandana Katariya**



**31 MAY**

INCEPTION: 1987  
2025 THEME:  
UNMASKING THE APPEAL:  
EXPOSING INDUSTRY TACTICS  
ON TOBACCO AND NICOTINE  
PRODUCTS

**WORLD NO TOBACCO DAY**

**Importance**  
In 1987 the WHO created this day to draw global attention to the tobacco epidemic and the preventable death and disease it causes.

**Motto**  
To promote awareness of issues relating to families and to increase knowledge of the social, economic and demographic processes affecting families.

**Organisation Involved**  
WHO.

**Note**

- On May 15, 1987, the WHO passed a resolution, calling for April 7, 1988, to be the first World No Smoking Day.
- This date was chosen to mark the 40th anniversary of the WHO.
- On May 17, 1989, the WHO passed a resolution calling for May 31 to be annually known as World No Tobacco Day.
- This event has been observed each year since 1989.



- Which Act does the Waqf (Amendment) Bill, 2025, seek to amend? **Waqf Act, 1995**
- Which organization awarded Kerala for Innovation in Public Administration? **American Society of Public Administration (ASPA)**
- Who has been appointed as the 18th Director of the US National Institutes of Health (NIH)? **Jayanta 'Jay' Bhattacharya**
- Who is the three-time Golf Junior World Champion set to receive the National Youth Award for his contribution during COVID-19? **Arjun Bhati**
- Who has partnered with BLAST Esports to expand the esports business in India? **RISE Worldwide.**
- Which country has approved the sale of 20 F-16 fighter jets worth \$5.58 billion to the Philippines? **United States**
- Who has been appointed as the Deputy Governor of RBI, replacing MD Patra? **Poonam Gupta**
- Which state has launched the 'Sishu Vatika' initiative for pre-school education under NEP 2020? **Odisha**
- Who will represent India at the 6th BIMSTEC Summit? **Prime Minister Narendra Modi**
- With which company has the Indian Navy signed a ₹270-crore deal for indigenous marine diesel engine development? **Kirloskar Oil Engines Limited**
- Which bill has been approved by the Indian Parliament to regulate immigration, entry, and stay of foreigners in 2025? **Immigration and Foreigners Bill, 2025.**
- Who is the CEO of REA India who recently resigned? **Dhruv Agarwala.**
- Which company signed a deal with L&T to supply K9 Vajra-T howitzers to India? **Hanwha Aerospace.**
- What is the value of the latest K9 Vajra-T howitzer deal between Hanwha Aerospace & L&T? **Approximately \$850 million.**
- Which digital portal of the Department of Telecommunications has the Railway Protection Force (RPF) integrated with to help passengers recover lost or stolen mobile phones by blocking IMEI numbers? **CEIR**
- Who has been appointed as the Executive Director – Growth at the National Payments Corporation of India (NPCI) in 2025? **Sohini Rajola**
- What digital payment system did PM Modi propose integrating with regional systems at BIMSTEC? **India's Unified Payments Interface (UPI)**
- Which tech company partnered with Air India for lost baggage tracking using AirTags? **Apple**
- Who was appointed as the new DGP of Fire and Rescue Services in April 2025? **Seema Agrawal**
- Which organisation released the Frontier Technologies Readiness Index 2024? **UNCTAD (United Nations Conference on Trade and Development)**
- Who has been appointed as the new Chairperson of the Pension Fund Regulatory and Development Authority (PFRDA)? **Sivasubramanian Ramann**
- Which Indian conglomerate won four Gold honours at the IAA Olive Crown Awards 2025? **Adani Group**
- Which team won the Yuva All Stars Kabaddi Championship 2025? **Jaipur Pink Cubs**
- Which team won the Women's title at the 57th Senior National Kho Kho Championship 2025? **Maharashtra**
- Which bill was recently passed by the Parliament to align India's aircraft leasing and financing ecosystem with global standards? **Protection of Interest in Aircraft Objects Bill, 2025.**
- Which policy highlights Sri Lanka's importance to India? **India's Neighbourhood First policy and SAGAR initiative.**
- How much will India invest in Eastern Province development? **LKR 2.4 billion.**
- Whom did Mohsin Naqvi succeed as ACC chairman? **Shammi Silva**
- What is the acquisition amount for Ecom Express? **The acquisition is valued at up to ₹1,407 crore.**
- Who was removed from office by South Korea's Constitutional Court in April 2025? **President Yoon Suk-yeol.**
- Who became the first Indian to win the Fred Darrington Sand Master Award at the Sandworld 2025 International Sand Art Festival in England? **Sudarsan Pattnaik**
- What is the name of India's first vertical lift sea bridge inaugurated by PM Narendra Modi in Tamil Nadu? **New Pamban Rail Bridge**
- Who won the gold medal in men's 10m air rifle at the ISSF World Cup 2025 in Buenos Aires? **Rudranksh Balasaheb Patil**
- Which traditional sweet from West Bengal recently received the GI tag in 2025 along with six other products? **Nolen Gurer Sandesh**
- Which state is set to receive ₹50 crore in pending dues under the Ayushman Bharat Scheme, as assured by the Union Health Minister J. P. Nadda? **Punjab**
- As of 2025, how many loans have been sanctioned under the Pradhan Mantri Mudra Yojana? **Over 52 crore loans worth ₹32 lakh crore**





- Which financial regulatory body imposed a ₹7 lakh penalty on Reliance Securities for multiple compliance violations? **Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI)**
- Who won the 2025 Japanese Grand Prix, marking his fourth consecutive Formula 1 win? **Max Verstappen**
- Which country recently discovered its largest rare earth metal deposit at the Kuirektykol site? **Kazakhstan**
- What is the new repo rate after the April 2025 MPC meeting? **6%**
- Who is the current Governor of the Reserve Bank of India? **Sanjay Malhotra**
- Who was elected as the Vice-President of the All India Ophthalmological Society (AIOS)? **Dr. Mohan Rajan**
- Which organization is jointly promoting OIIF along with the State Bank of India? **Oman Investment Authority**
- Which folk dance was Ram Sahay Panday known for popularising? **Rai folk dance**
- Which language did Kumari Ananthan fight to speak in Parliament? **Tamil**
- What was the total value of investments attracted by the Odisha government through the MoUs signed at the 'Make in Odisha Conclave 2025'? **₹12.89 lakh crore**
- Who was the esteemed Spiritual Head of the Brahma Kumaris who passed away at the age of 96? **Dadi Ratan Mohini**
- What advanced technology shared by Israel has significantly improved agricultural productivity in water-scarce areas of India? **Drip irrigation**
- Which Indian archers won the bronze medal in the men's compound team event at Archery World Cup 2025 Stage 1? **Abhishek Verma, Rishabh Yadav, and Ojas Deotale**
- In which city was the ISSF World Cup 2025 (Rifle/Pistol) held? **Buenos Aires, Argentina**
- Which two countries recently signed an MoU to enhance cooperation in agriculture? **India and Nepal**
- What agreement is India and the UK recently expected to sign to enhance joint defence manufacturing efforts? **India-UK Defence Industrial Roadmap.**
- India recently approved a ₹63,000 crore deal with which country for the procurement of 26 Rafale Marine fighter jets for the Navy? **France**
- Which bank launched the Elite Plus Savings Account for High Net-worth Individuals in April 2025? **Bandhan Bank**
- Which Indian dignitary was recently conferred the Honorary Doctorate (Honoris Causa) by Constantine the Philosopher University, Slovakia? **President Droupadi Murmu**
- Which legendary Dutch football coach, known for his successful stint with Real Madrid, passed away recently at the age of 82? **Leo Beenhakker**
- Which two institutions recently signed an MoU to strengthen infrastructure financing in India? **NaBFID and New Development Bank (NDB)**
- What is the total initial outlay approved for the M-CADWM sub-scheme under PMKSY for 2025–26? **₹1600 crore**
- Which country recently constructed the world's first 3D-printed train station in just 6 hours? **Japan**
- DRDO recently conducted successful release trials of which indigenously developed Long-Range Glide Bomb from Su-30 MKI aircraft? **LRGB 'Gaurav'**
- Which English cricketer was awarded a knighthood in 2024 for his outstanding 21-year international career? **James Anderson**
- Which two countries signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) to enhance cooperation in quantum technologies, artificial intelligence, and biotechnology? **India and Italy.**
- Which city will host the STREE Summit 2025 for women's safety and empowerment? **Hyderabad**
- Which organization signed a three-year MoU with GSVM Medical College, Kanpur to enhance ophthalmology training? **Sightsavers India**
- How many GI tags are currently held by Uttar Pradesh? **77 GI tags**
- What was the main theme behind awarding the Veteran Achievers Award? **Outstanding contributions to society, youth empowerment, and nation-building**
- India became the 4th country to demonstrate laser weapon capability after which three nations? **USA, China, Russia**
- Who has been re-appointed as Chairperson of the ICC Men's Cricket Committee in 2025? **Sourav Ganguly**
- Who did Mohun Bagan defeat in the ISL 2024–25 final? **Bengaluru FC**
- In which city will the Women's Kabaddi World Cup 2025 be held? **Rajgir**
- When was the International Big Cat Alliance (IBCA) launched? **April 2023**



- Name the Eminent Kathak exponent and choreographer, who was conferred with the Padma Vibhushan in 2025, passed away recently? **Kumudini Lakhia**
- Which state became the first in India to implement the Scheduled Castes (Rationalisation of Reservations) Act, 2025 by sub-categorising SCs into three groups? **Telangana**
- Which state will host the 7th edition of Khelo India Youth Games 2025? **Bihar**
- Which bank has reintroduced the 'Amrit Vrishti' fixed deposit scheme with revised interest rates? **State Bank of India (SBI)**
- Name the Indian, who was honoured with the 'Legends of Endoscopy' award in Tokyo for contributions to Gastrointestinal Endoscopy? **Dr. D. Nageshwar Reddy**
- Who became the first player in IPL history to complete 200 dismissals? **MS Dhoni**
- Which startup launched the world's first quantum platform 'Q-Shield' to protect critical infrastructure under the National Quantum Mission? **QNu Labs**
- Who has been appointed as China's new top international trade negotiator amid tariff tensions with the United States? **Li Chenggang**
- Which rocket was used for the first all-female spaceflight? **New Shepard**
- Who has been appointed as the Chairperson of the IOA Athletes' Commission? **Mirabai Chanu**
- Chris Jenkins resigned as Commonwealth Sports President. Who has been appointed as the interim president? **Donald Rukre**
- Which country is jointly conducting Exercise DUSTLIK-6 with India? **Uzbekistan**
- Which state secured the top position under the Lakhpati Didi scheme as of April 2025? **Odisha**
- What is Fitch's revised GDP growth forecast for India in 2025-26? **6.4%**
- Who has been elected as the new Prime Minister of Serbia? **Djuro Macut**
- Who won the 10m air pistol mixed team gold at the ISSF World Cup Lima? **Suruchi Inder Singh and Saurabh Chaudhary of India**
- Who won the men's skeet gold medal at the ISSF World Cup Lima? **Taylor Dustan of the United States**
- Who did Hockey Punjab defeat in the 2025 final to win the title? **Hockey Madhya Pradesh**
- Who has been elected as the 123rd president of the Royal College of Physicians (RCP)? **Dr Mumtaz Patel**
- Who hailed India's first indigenous hydrogen-powered sea vessel as a public-private success? **Dr. Jitendra Singh**
- What rank did AIIMS Delhi achieve in the World's Best Hospitals 2025 list by Newsweek and Statista? **97th**
- Which banks were penalized by the RBI for regulatory non-compliance? **Kotak Mahindra Bank, IDFC First Bank, and Punjab National Bank**
- Who won the bronze medal in the U-18 Women's 100m Hurdles at the Asian Youth Championships? **Shourya Ambure**
- Which multilateral maritime exercise will the Indian Navy participate in, co-hosted with Tanzania, to enhance naval interoperability with African nations? **AIKEYME**
- Which country has been elected as the Chair of INTERPOL's newly formed Committee on Governance in 2025? **United Arab Emirates (UAE)**
- Who has been appointed as the new Revenue Secretary? **Arvind Shrivastava**
- Who is the Indian Air Force officer set to travel to the International Space Station on Axiom's Ax-4 mission? **Group Captain Shubhanshu Shukla**
- Who won India's first-ever gold in the U-18 Asian Athletics Championships in men's javelin throw? **Himanshu Jakhar**
- Who won silver in the boys' shot put at the Asian U-18 Athletics Championship 2025? **Nishchay**
- Which Indian athlete won two medals at the Asian U-18 Athletics Championship, including a silver in shot put? **Nishchay**
- What technologies are used in the ANPR-FASTag-based tolling system? **ANPR (Automatic Number Plate Recognition) and FASTag (RFID).**
- Which state is home to the Vizhinjam International Seaport? **Kerala.**
- Which Indian company has acquired the North Queensland Export Terminal in Australia with a capacity of 50 MTPA? **Adani Ports and Special Economic Zone Ltd (APSEZ)**
- Recently the Union Minister inaugurated APMU at NDTL, New Delhi. In this context, what is the full form of APMU? **Athlete Passport Management Unit**
- Who won the silver medal for India in the 10m Air Rifle Mixed Team event at ISSF World Cup 2025? **Rudranksh Patil and Arya Borse**





- Who chaired the Andhra Pradesh Cabinet meeting that approved the sub-categorisation of SCs ordinance? **Chief Minister N. Chandrababu Naidu**
- What new technology has SECL introduced in its mining operations as part of a Rs 7,040 crore deal with TMC? **Paste fill technology**
- What was the purpose of INS Sunayna's visit to Mozambique? **To strengthen maritime ties between India and Africa.**
- Where was AIKEYME 25 held? **Dar-es-Salaam, Tanzania.**
- Which country was Pope Francis born in? **Argentina.**
- Who has been appointed as the Secretary of DARE and DG of ICAR? **Mangi Lal Jat**
- How long is Mangi Lal Jat's term as DG of ICAR? **His term will last for three years.**
- Who won her maiden senior international medal with silver in the 25m pistol event at the ISSF World Cup 2025 in Lima, Peru? **Simranpreet Kaur Brar**
- What is the new legal name of Zepto's parent company approved ahead of its possible IPO? **Zepto Private Limited**
- Who has been appointed as Vice President (Investment Solutions) at the Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank (AIIB)? **Ajay Bhushan Pandey**
- Which company is acquiring a majority stake in 'Biryani by Kilo'? **Devyani International Ltd (DIL).**
- Which family promotes Devyani International Ltd? **The Jaipuria family.**
- What is India's Hajj quota for 2025? **175,025 pilgrims.**
- What are the unofficial names of China's next-generation stealth aircraft? **J-36 and J-50.**
- Which sixth-generation fighter is the US developing? **The F-47.**
- Who has been appointed MD & CEO of Mahindra Logistics? **Hemant Sikka.**
- Who is the new President of Mahindra's Automotive Business? **R Velusamy.**
- Which number Chief Justice will Justice Gavai become? **The 52nd Chief Justice of India.**
- Who set a new meet record in the women's 400m hurdles at the National Federation Senior Athletics Competition 2025? **Vithya Ramraj**
- Which Indian institute developed a cost-effective optical sensing platform for early cholesterol detection? **Institute of Advanced Study in Science and Technology (IASST), Guwahati**
- Who will receive the inaugural Global Vanguard Honor at the 4th Annual Gold House Gala in 2025? **Priyanka Chopra**
- Who has resigned as the Chair of the World Economic Forum (WEF)? **Klaus Schwab**
- Who is the interim Chair of the World Economic Forum after Klaus Schwab's resignation? **Peter Brabeck-Letmathe**
- Where is India's first Quantum Computing Village being developed? **Amaravati**
- Which treaty did India suspend after the Pahalgam terror attack? **The Indus Waters Treaty with Pakistan.**
- What was the U.S. embassy hostage crisis? **A situation in which 52 Americans were held hostage for 444 days in Tehran in 1979.**
- What is the value of the World Bank loan Lebanon signed for electricity sector reforms in 2025? **\$250 million.**
- Why is Air India in talks with Boeing? **To acquire around 10 737 MAX jets for its budget carrier, Air India Express.**
- What agreement did Pakistan suspend following India's response to the Pahalgam attack? **Simla Agreement**
- Which bilateral treaty is Pakistan warning India against suspending, calling it an act of war? **Indus Waters Treaty**
- Which international organization brokered the Indus Waters Treaty? **World Bank**
- Which rivers are allocated to India under the Indus Waters Treaty? **Ravi, Beas, Sutlej**
- Which university ranks first in the QS Asia University Rankings 2025? **Peking University, China.**
- Which cricket board is the first ICC full member to launch a franchise in an overseas professional league? **New Zealand Cricket (NZC).**
- What types of drills are being conducted in Exercise Aakraman? **Ground attack and electronic warfare drills.**
- Who has stepped down as the Chairman of Air India Express? **Campbell Wilson**
- Which bank's licence was cancelled by RBI in April 2025? **Ajantha Urban Co-operative Bank Maryadit**
- What is the IMF's projected GDP growth rate for India in FY 2025-26? **6.2%**
- Which Indian state recently granted agriculture status to the fishing community? **Maharashtra**





## Quick Bytes

- Assam CM Himanta Biswa Sarma Introduces AI Anchor Ankita
- Indian forces launch Operation Nader against terrorists in Tral
- Harvansh Chawla, a senior lawyer and international trade expert, has been appointed as Chairman of the BRICS Chamber of Commerce & Industry (CCI).
- UN Lowers India's 2025 GDP Growth Forecast to 6.3%, Cites Global Headwinds
- Anurag Bhushan Appointed as India's Ambassador to Sweden
- India-EU Launch ₹391 Crore Joint Research Initiative on Marine Pollution and Green Hydrogen
- FIFA Lifts Suspension on Congo Republic's Football Federation
- Srihari LR Becomes India's 86th Chess Grandmaster
- Pankaj Advani Clinches 2025 CCI Billiards Classic Title in Mumbai
- Neeraj Chopra Honoured with Honorary Lt. Colonel Rank in Territorial Army
- World's First Commercial-Scale E-Methanol Plant Begins Operations in Denmark
- Trump Announces Removal of All U.S. Sanctions on Syria, Signaling New Diplomatic Chapter
- PNB to Exit India SME Asset Reconstruction Company, Sells Stake for ₹34 Crore
- Brazilian Scientist Mariangela Hungria Wins 2025 World Food Prize for Sustainable Farming Innovation
- Bharat Electronics Limited (BEL) and the Indian Army Air Defence signed a contract for the Integrated Drone Detection and Interdiction System (IDDIS) to combat aerial threats.
- RBI Imposes Penalties on Deutsche Bank AG & Yes Bank
- R Praggnanandhaa wins Superbet Chess Classic in Romania
- Doha Diamond League: Neeraj Chopra becomes first Indian to breach 90 m
- President Droupadi Murmu honored Jagadguru Rambhadracharya and Gulzar with the 58th Jnanpith Award, recognizing their outstanding contributions to literature.
- Jamia Millia Suspends All MoUs with Turkish Institutions Over Security
- Indian Army Conducts Teesta Prahar Exercise in West Bengal
- Brazilian microbiologist Mariangela Hungria, has been named the 2025 World Food Prize Laureate.
- Honduras officially opened its embassy in New Delhi, reflecting growing diplomatic and economic engagement with India.
- "Samudrayaan: India's First Manned Deep Ocean Mission to Launch by 2026"
- India and Japan's Chandrayaan-5 (also called LUPEX) mission is advancing to the design phase, aiming to detect water and water-ice at the Moon's south pole.
- International Museum Day 2025 Celebrated Across India on 18th May. This year's theme, "Future of Museums in Rapidly Changing Communities," focuses on adapting museums to modern societal shifts.
- IIT Delhi Launches 'Manasvi' Mentorship to for High-School Girls
- Sanjay Seth will lead India's delegation at the 17th Langkawi International Maritime and Aerospace Exhibition (LIMA 2025) in Malaysia.
- Justice Kemaiah Somashekar Appointed Chief Justice of MHC
- CCI Approves Bajaj Allianz Acquisition by Bajaj Finserv & Partners
- Mizoram Declared India's First Fully Literate State
- Union Home Minister Amit Shah announced the e-Zero FIR initiative
- Telangana Chief Minister A Revanth Reddy has launched the Indira Soura Giri Jala Vikasam scheme from Macharam village in Nagarkurnool district.
- M.R. Srinivasan, pioneer of India's nuclear energy programme died
- India receives WHO certification for elimination of Trachoma
- India Beat Bangladesh 4-3 to Lift 2025 SAFF U-19 Football Title
- Geeta Samota: First CISF Officer to Summit Mount Everest
- Sudan Appoints Kamil Idris as First PM Since 2023 Civil War
- Dr Jayant Narlikar, renowned astrophysicist, passes away at 86 years
- India Ranks 151st in World Press Freedom Index
- AIIMS Bhopal secures 2nd rank nationwide in digital OPD registration
- Vishnu Prasad Versatile Malayalam Actor Passed Away





- Kuwait's Jazeera Airways partners with TCS for AI-led transformation
- Air Marshal Narmadeshwar Tiwari took charge as the VCoA
- The Global Alliance for Mass Entrepreneurship (GAME) and NITI Aayog have announced a strategic partnership aimed at nurturing vibrant, place-based entrepreneurship ecosystems across India.
- CCI Approves KKR's Acquisition of Majority Stake in HealthCare Global Enterprises
- CCI Greenlights Major Stake Acquisition in Coca-Cola India Arm by Jubilant and Goldman Sachs
- India Recalls IMF Executive Director K.V. Subramanian Ahead of Tenure End
- Australia's Prime Minister Anthony Albanese wins a second term
- FAO Launches AIM4NatuRe Initiative to Boost Ecosystem Restoration
- The Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) successfully carried out maiden flight-trials of its Stratospheric Airship Platform from Sheopur Trial site at Madhya Pradesh.
- Subhasish Bose is named Men's Player of the Year, while Soumya Guguloth claims Women's Player of the Year at the AIFF Awards 2025.
- Governor Jishnu Dev Verma inaugurates Babuji Vanam, the world's first energy transmission garden, at Kanha Shanti Vanam, Hyderabad.
- TCS, IBM partner to build India's largest Quantum Computing Hub
- Yoga practitioner Baba Sivanand passes away in Varanasi
- Anarghya Abhishek Panchawatkar of Gurugram has clinched the gold medal at the 11th Budokan International Karate Championship held in Dubai.
- China Clinches 14th Sudirman Cup Title Despite An Seyoung's Heroics
- President Trump imposes 100% tariff on films produced outside US
- Union Minister Rammohan Naidu Kinjarapu grants in-principle approval for Greenfield airports in Kota, Rajasthan, and Puri, Odisha.
- Tamil Nadu CM MK Stalin announces that May 5 will be declared as Traders Day, honoring the business community.
- Shri Prakash Magdum Appointed Managing Director of NFDC
- The UAE and France have signed an agreement to jointly develop a 1-gigawatt AI data center, set to be the largest in Europe.
- UNDP 2025: India ranks 130th on Human Development Index
- India's military has launched Operation Sindoor against Pakistan
- J&K Court Declares Ghulam Nabi Fai As A Proclaimed Offender In UAPA
- Cabinet approves a ₹11,828.79 crore expansion plan for five new IITs
- FSIB Recommends Sanjay Joshi as CMD of Oriental Insurance
- The government has extended the tenure of CBI Director Praveen Sood for one year beyond 24th of this month.
- The revival of Dravyaratnākara Nighaṇṭu and Dravyanāmākara Nighaṇṭu marks a milestone in Ayurvedic manuscript preservation.
- Rohit Sharma Bids Farewell to Test Cricket After a Decade-Long Journey
- India and the United Kingdom have signed a landmark Free Trade Agreement (FTA) after nearly three years of negotiations.
- The Supreme Court recently termed Punjab's de-notification of land acquired for the construction of the Sutlej-Yamuna Link (SYL) canal an act of "high-handedness".
- DPIIT Expands Credit Guarantee Scheme to Boost Startup Funding. The CGSS guarantee cover per borrower has increased from ₹10 crore to ₹20 crore, with coverage up to 85% for smaller loans.
- SBI Divests 13.19% Stake in Yes Bank to SMBC for ₹8,889 Crore
- Actor Sonu Sood Honoured for Philanthropic Work During COVID-19
- Robert Francis Prevost Becomes Elected Next Pope, Takes Name Leo XIV
- Bhutan signs MoU with Adani for 5,000 MW hydropower development
- Macron, Tusk sign France-Poland treaty with mutual defence clause amid conflict
- India and Chile Sign Terms of Reference for Comprehensive Economic Partnership Agreement Negotiations
- Andhra Govt Waives Property Tax for Defence Homes in Villages
- Bhutan Becomes First Country to Integrate Crypto Payments in Tourism
- Bandaru Dattatraya's Autobiography 'Janta Ki Kahani' Released by Vice-President



- Bhuwan Ribhu Becomes First Indian Lawyer to Receive World Law Congress Honour
- La Prensa Wins UNESCO Press Freedom Prize Amidst Repression
- Rajnath Singh inaugurates BrahMos Aerospace Testing Facility at LKO
- Sonu Sood Honored with Humanitarian Award at Miss World Festival
- Cabinet Approves Rs 3,706 Cr HCL-Foxconn Chip Plant in Jewar
- US and Saudi Arabia Sign Historic \$142 Billion Arms Deal During Trump's Riyadh Visit
- Former Defence Secretary Ajay Kumar Takes Charge at UPSC
- India Becomes 'Country Champion' at World Bank Land Conference 2025
- India Shines at Archery World Cup 2025 with 7 Medals
- Padma Shri Scientist Subbanna Ayyappan Found Dead in Cauvery River
- Taliban Suspends Chess in Afghanistan Over Sharia Law Concerns
- Kozhikode Joins WHO's Global Age-Friendly Cities Network
- Israel Launches \$1.4B National Food Security Plan for 2050
- Justice Surya Kant Appointed as NALSA Executive Chairman
- Payal Kapadia Receives French Honour for Cinema Contribution
- CSIR-IMMT Signs Pacts with Russian Institutes for Mineral Tech
- China Launches Shenzhou-20 Mission to Space Station
- India to Allow 49% Foreign Stake Investment in Nuclear Power
- Hubballi Airport Wins Platinum Honour for Green Initiatives
- DRDO Achieves Major Hypersonic Tech Milestone with Scramjet Combustor Test
- Muttayil Govinda Sankara Narayanan Passes Away At The Age of 92
- Fitch Ratings has downgraded India's GDP growth forecast for the current fiscal year to 6.4%, citing global trade tensions and the US-China trade war.
- Madhusudan Sai Honored with Fiji's Highest Recognition for Humanitarian Efforts
- National Industrial Corridor Development Corporation (NICDC) Honored with Udyog Vikas Award
- India Signs \$7.4 Billion Deal with France for Rafale Fighter Jets
- Delhi Launches 'Ayushman Vay Vandana' Scheme Offering Free Rs 10 Lakh Health Cover to Seniors 70+
- Brazil World Cup Winner Jair da Costa Dies at 84
- RBI Cancels License of Imperial Urban Co-op Bank
- Renowned Historian M G S Narayanan Passed Away
- Anant Ambani Appointed Executive Director of Reliance Industries
- Lt Gen JP Mathew Relinquishes CISC Appointment on Superannuation
- IndusInd Bank CEO Sumant Kathpalia Resigns Amid ₹2,000 Crore Derivatives Accounting Lapse
- President Appoints Justice Gavai As 52nd CJI Of India
- IAS Vinod Kumar Gunjyal Assumes Charge as the Chief Electoral Officer of Bihar
- Amazon Launched Satellite for Project Kuiper Broadband Internet
- Kamla Persad-Bissessar's Comeback as PM of Trinidad and Tobago





## Why did India strike Pakistan? All we know about Operation Sindoor



On May 7, 2025, India launched multiple missile strikes as part of "Operation Sindoor," targeting nine sites with alleged "terrorist infrastructure" in Pakistan and Pakistan-administered Kashmir. The attacks struck six cities, including four in Punjab province – the first such action in Pakistan's most populous state since the 1971 war – as well as Muzaffarabad and Kotli in Pakistan-administered Kashmir. At least eight people, including a three-year-old child, were reportedly killed. Pakistan's military responded by scrambling jets and claimed to have shot down five Indian planes, a claim India has not yet confirmed. The operation came 15 days after the April 22, 2025, terror attack in Pahalgam, Indian-administered Kashmir, which killed 26 people. India blamed Pakistan-backed armed groups for the attack, a charge Islamabad has denied. The situation has significantly raised tensions between the nuclear-armed neighbors, pushing them closer to a full-scale conflict.

**Here is what we know about India's attack, Pakistan's response, and the background of this conflict so far.**

### Where did India hit Pakistan?

Indian missile strikes targeted multiple locations in Pakistan and Pakistan-administered Kashmir early on Wednesday, focusing on known militant strongholds. According to Pakistani military spokesperson Lieutenant General Ahmed Sharif Chaudhry, the attacks began around 1 a.m. local time (20:00 GMT, Tuesday), hitting four locations in Punjab and two in Pakistan-administered Kashmir. The largest strike was at Ahmedpur Sharqia near Bahawalpur, where a

mosque compound was hit, killing five people, including a three-year-old girl. Other targeted sites in Punjab included Muridke, a village near Sialkot, and Shakar Garh. In Pakistan-administered Kashmir, two mosques in Muzaffarabad and Kotli were destroyed, killing a 16-year-old girl and an 18-year-old boy. In total, eight people were killed, and 35 others injured. In response, Punjab province declared a state of emergency, placing hospitals and security forces on high alert and closing schools.



### Full List of Sites Targeted:

1. Markaz Subhan Allah, Bahawalpur (JeM)
2. Markaz Taiba, Muridke (LeT)
3. Sarjal, Tehra Kalan (JeM)
4. Mehmoona Joya, Sialkot (HM)
5. Markaz Ahle Hadith, Barnala (LeT)
6. Markaz Abbas, Kotli (JeM)
7. Maskar Raheel Shahid, Kotli (HM)
8. Shawai Nalla Camp, Muzaffarabad (LeT)
9. Syedna Bilal Camp, Muzaffarabad (JeM)





## Weapons and Platforms

The operation utilized a wide array of cutting-edge munitions, including:

### SCALP (Storm Shadow) Cruise Missiles:



These long-range, air-launched missiles, known for their deep penetration capabilities, have a range exceeding 250 km. They were deployed against hardened targets, including reinforced bunkers, command posts, and deeply buried installations. The SCALP, known for its precision and destructive power, is equipped with a tandem warhead designed to breach heavy fortifications before detonating a secondary, high-explosive charge, ensuring maximum damage to fortified positions.

### HAMMER (Highly Agile Modular Munition Extended Range) Bombs:



These precision-guided bombs, developed for highly accurate strikes, were used against multi-storey buildings believed to house training modules, communication hubs, and operational leadership. The HAMMER can be launched from a wide range of altitudes and at various speeds, providing flexibility in mission planning. Its modular design allows for rapid targeting adjustments, making it ideal for dynamic strike missions.

### Loitering Munitions (Kamikaze Drones):



These unmanned systems, capable of both real-time surveillance and strike missions, were deployed to engage high-value mobile targets as they emerged. These drones, known for their "search and destroy" capability, played a critical role in targeting moving convoys and makeshift command centers, offering real-time situational awareness to commanders.

### Tactical Execution and Precision Coordination

The strikes were meticulously synchronized to reduce the risk of detection and counteraction by Pakistan's air defense systems. Indian Air Force (IAF) aircraft operated from deep within Indian territory, supported by mid-air refuelling tankers and airborne early-warning and control systems (AWACS), ensuring sustained air dominance over the conflict zone.

Within less than an hour, all missiles and bombs had reached their intended targets. The precision of these strikes was confirmed through real-time video feeds from high-altitude UAVs, which transmitted live footage to command centers, validating the destruction of key enemy infrastructure.

### Impact and Broader Strategic Implications

The operation has significantly degraded the command and control structures of several terror outfits, including Jaish-e-Mohammad (JeM), Lashkar-e-Taiba (LeT), and Hizbul Mujahideen (HM), which had long used these territories as safe havens. Analysts believe this bold action has sent a strong signal to Islamabad and its proxies about India's willingness to escalate conflicts if its national security is threatened.

### How did Pakistan respond?

Following India's extensive missile strikes under "Operation Sindoor," Pakistan's leadership, including Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif, declared that the





country's defenses had been activated, with fighter jets reportedly scrambled.

Pakistani officials, including Defence Minister Khawaja Asif, claimed that up to five Indian jets, including three Rafales, were shot down in the ensuing confrontation. However, Pakistan's military also stated that India had fired its missiles from within its own airspace, raising doubts about these claims. Indian authorities have yet to comment on the assertions or confirm the status of the aircraft involved in the operation.

### Why did India strike Pakistan?

The recent escalation between India and Pakistan followed the deadly attack in Baisaran valley, Pahalgam, in Indian-administered Kashmir, where 26 people – 25 tourists and a local pony rider – were killed. The attackers reportedly segregated men from women before the massacre.

India, Pakistan and China each claim parts of Kashmir.



India blamed the incident on an obscure group called The Resistance Front (TRF), alleging it to be a Pakistan-backed outfit. In response, Pakistan denied any involvement, insisting it provides only "moral and diplomatic support" to Kashmir's secessionist movement and called for a "transparent, credible, impartial" investigation.

The attack has intensified tensions, with Indian forces continuing combing operations in the forests of Kashmir to locate the attackers, even as India has

carried out cross-border strikes in retaliation, reflecting a broader pattern of aggressive military responses seen in 2016 and 2019.

### Why is Kashmir important to India and Pakistan?

South Asia's two largest nations, home to over 1.6 billion people, have repeatedly clashed over the Kashmir region, which remains the heart of their ongoing tensions. The two countries have fought three out of their four wars over Kashmir, a disputed territory of 22,200 square kilometers (85,800 square miles). While India and Pakistan each control parts of Kashmir, China also holds some territory, and all three countries continue to claim the region in its entirety.

### How have tensions escalated since the Pahalgam attack?

Since April 22, tensions between India and Pakistan have sharply escalated, further straining already limited diplomatic relations. India has suspended its participation in the Indus Waters Treaty, which governs the sharing of water from six rivers between the two nations. As the upper riparian state, India could potentially restrict Pakistan's access to crucial water supplies. In response, India revoked visas for Pakistani nationals. Pakistan, in turn, has threatened to suspend the Simla Agreement.

Both countries have expelled each other's diplomats, closed borders, and shut down airspace. Within Indian-administered Kashmir, over 2,000 residents have been detained, some under antiterrorism laws, while authorities have demolished homes of suspected militants and enforced strict security measures.

### Why did India call it Operation Sindoor?





India's military operation targeting Pakistan and Pakistan-administered Kashmir has been named "Operation Sindoor," a title rich in significance. "Sindoor," the Hindi term for vermilion, is a red powder traditionally applied by married Hindu women to their foreheads. The choice of this name is a poignant reference to the tragic events of April 22 in Pahalgam, where attackers segregated male tourists from women, identifying and executing non-Muslim men, leaving their Hindu wives widowed. In Hindu culture, sindoor is no longer worn after a woman's husband passes away, symbolizing the deep emotional impact of the attack.

**Who is Wing Commander Vyomika Singh, officer who briefed on Op Sindoor?**

**Wing Commander Vyomika Singh:**



- Profession: Indian Air Force (IAF) helicopter pilot, currently holding the rank of Wing Commander.
- Service: Commissioned in 2019, with over 2,500 flying hours in high-risk zones, including Jammu & Kashmir and the Northeast.
- Achievements: Led multiple search and rescue missions, including a critical high-altitude operation in Arunachal Pradesh. Participated in an all-women tri-services expedition to Mount Manirang in 2021.
- Background: An engineering graduate who joined the National Cadet Corps (NCC) in her school years. She is one of the few women officers to have represented the IAF in high-level media interactions.

**Colonel Sophia Qureshi:**



- Profession: Senior officer in the Indian Army, holding the rank of Colonel.
- Service: Specializes in the Army's operations and has extensive experience in the field, representing the Indian Army in joint media briefings alongside other top military officials.
- Achievements: Played a crucial role in military strategic planning and coordination in various operations.
- Background: Known for her professionalism and leadership in the Indian Army, Colonel Qureshi is one of the senior women officers in the Indian military.

Both are highly regarded for their leadership and contributions to India's defense forces, serving as role models for women in the military.

**Global Reactions to India's Anti-Terror Strikes in Pakistan and PoK**



1. **United States:** US President Donald Trump expressed hope for a quick de-escalation, acknowledging the buildup of tensions before the strikes, saying, "I hope it ends very quickly."
2. **United Kingdom:** Rishi Sunak, former UK Prime Minister, backed India's actions, stating that "India is justified in striking terrorist infrastructure" in response to the Pahalgam attack. The UK government, however,



emphasized the need for restraint and dialogue to prevent further escalation.

3. **United Arab Emirates (UAE):** UAE Deputy Prime Minister Abdullah bin Zayed Al Nahyan called for restraint and de-escalation, urging both India and Pakistan to avoid further escalation and prioritize stability in the region.
4. **Israel:** Reuven Azar, Israel's Ambassador to India, reaffirmed Israel's support for India's right to self-defence, reflecting the close strategic ties between the two nations.
5. **China:** Beijing expressed "regret" over the strikes and called on both sides to prioritize peace and stability, urging restraint to prevent a broader conflict.
6. **Russia:** Moscow voiced deep concern over the escalating military confrontation, calling for restraint from both sides while reiterating its opposition to terrorism, aligning with India's stated motive for the strikes.
7. **France:** Paris acknowledged India's right to self-defence, while urging both sides to avoid escalation and protect civilian lives, reflecting a balanced stance on the conflict.
8. **Egypt:** Cairo joined the call for restraint, emphasizing diplomatic dialogue to resolve the crisis and prevent further escalation.
9. **United Nations (UN):** UN Secretary-General António Guterres expressed deep concern, urging both countries to exercise maximum military restraint to prevent a further deterioration of the situation.

### India's military power vs Pakistan in 2025:

#### Personnel and Budget:

India ranks 4th in the Global Firepower Index 2025, with Pakistan at 12th. India's military strength includes 1.46 million active personnel and 1.15 million in reserve, while Pakistan has 654,000 active personnel and 500,000 paramilitary forces. India's defense budget for FY26 stands at \$79 billion (₹6.81 trillion), a 9.5% increase from the previous year, significantly surpassing Pakistan's defense budget of \$7.6 billion (₹2.28 trillion).

#### Ground Forces: Tanks and Armoured Vehicles:

India maintains over 4,200 tanks, including T-90 Bhishma and indigenous Arjun variants, and boasts a fleet of 148,594 armoured vehicles. This gives India a clear advantage over Pakistan, which has around 2,627 tanks and fewer armoured vehicles. India's mechanized forces are far more extensive, ensuring dominance in ground combat.

#### Air Force Comparison:

India operates 2,229 military aircraft, including 513 fighter jets such as Rafale, Su-30MKI, and Tejas. In comparison, Pakistan operates 1,399 aircraft, with 328 fighters. India holds the edge in helicopters (899 to Pakistan's 373) and air-refuelling platforms (6 to Pakistan's 4). While Pakistan's JF-17 Thunder and F-16s are formidable, India leads in overall air power and capability. Notably, Pakistan excels in military trainer aircraft, operating 565, significantly outnumbering India's 351.

#### Naval Strength:

India's navy ranks 6th globally, with 293 vessels, including two aircraft carriers (INS Vikramaditya and INS Vikrant), 13 destroyers, and 18 submarines. This positions India as a blue-water navy capable of projecting power beyond regional waters. On the other hand, Pakistan's navy consists of 121 vessels, lacking aircraft carriers or destroyers, and operates 8 submarines. Pakistan's navy is classified as a green-water navy, focused primarily on coastal defense.

#### Nuclear and Missile Capabilities:

India's nuclear deterrent is enhanced by the Agni-V missile, with a range exceeding 5,200 km, and the upcoming Agni-VI, reinforcing its position against both Pakistan and China. Pakistan's Shaheen-III missile has a range of approximately 2,750 km, with efforts underway to extend its range to over 3,000 km, possibly with assistance from China and Belarus. Both countries possess nuclear weapons and delivery systems, forming a critical aspect of their deterrence strategies.

#### Arms Imports and Military Support:

India's defense imports are primarily from Russia, France, Israel, and the United States, with an increasing share coming from indigenous production. Pakistan, designated a Major Non-NATO Ally



(MNNA) by the US, relies heavily on China for military supplies, followed by Turkey, France, and Russia. Both nations are ramping up their domestic defense industries to reduce dependence on foreign suppliers.

### Major India-Pakistan Escalations and Conflicts (1947-2025) at a glance

#### 1. First Indo-Pak War (1947-1948) - First Kashmir War

- ✓ Trigger: Invasion by Pakistani tribal militias and troops after Maharaja Hari Singh's accession of Kashmir to India.
- ✓ Outcome: UN-brokered ceasefire in 1949, establishment of the Line of Control (LoC), and creation of a UN observer mission.

#### 2. Second Indo-Pak War (1965) - Rann of Kutch and Kashmir

- ✓ Trigger: Border skirmishes in Rann of Kutch followed by Pakistani Operation Gibraltar to infiltrate Kashmir.
- ✓ Outcome: Ceasefire through the Tashkent Agreement in 1966, status quo maintained, heavy losses on both sides.

#### 3. Third Indo-Pak War (1971) - Bangladesh Liberation War

- ✓ Trigger: Crackdown by West Pakistan on East Pakistan's independence movement, India's support for Mukti Bahini.
- ✓ Outcome: Decisive Indian victory, creation of Bangladesh, 93,000 Pakistani troops surrendered, Simla Agreement signed in 1972.

#### 4. Siachen Conflict (1984-Present) - Operation Meghdoot

- ✓ Trigger: India's preemptive move to occupy strategic heights on the Siachen Glacier, countering Pakistan's planned occupation.
- ✓ Outcome: India established control over the highest battlefield in the world; ongoing low-intensity conflict.

#### 5. Kargil War (1999) - Operation Vijay

- ✓ Trigger: Pakistani military's infiltration across the LoC in the Kargil sector.
- ✓ Outcome: Indian military victory, Pakistan's withdrawal under international pressure, significant diplomatic fallout.

#### 6. 2001-2002 Standoff - Operation Parakram

- ✓ Trigger: Attack on the Indian Parliament by Jaish-e-Mohammed terrorists.
- ✓ Outcome: Massive military buildup, diplomatic pressure led to de-escalation without full-scale war.

#### 7. 2008 Mumbai Attacks (26/11)

- ✓ Trigger: Coordinated terror attacks by Pakistan-based Lashkar-e-Taiba, killing 166 people.
- ✓ Outcome: Severe diplomatic strain, global condemnation, and increased international pressure on Pakistan to curb terror networks.

#### 8. Uri Attack and Surgical Strikes (2016)

- ✓ Trigger: Attack on an Indian Army base in Uri, Jammu and Kashmir, killing 19 soldiers.
- ✓ Outcome: Indian Army conducted cross-LoC surgical strikes targeting terrorist launch pads.

#### 9. Pulwama Attack and Balakot Airstrike (2019)

- ✓ Trigger: Suicide bombing in Pulwama, Jammu and Kashmir, killing 40 Indian CRPF personnel.
- ✓ Outcome: Indian Air Force conducted airstrikes on Jaish-e-Mohammed camp in Balakot, Pakistan, leading to aerial dogfights.

#### 10. Operation Sindoor (2025)

- ✓ Trigger: Pahalgam terror attack killing 26 Indian tourists.
- ✓ Outcome: Indian missile strikes targeting nine terror camps in Pakistan and Pakistan-administered Kashmir, marking a significant escalation.





## Infographics

## The World's Record Heat Waves

Selection of national heat records broken during the last six years, by country (in °C/F)



As of Apr. 30, 2025

Sources: World Meteorological Organization, media reports, Statista research

## IMF: India Remains Fastest-Growing Economy

Real GDP growth projections for selected countries, by year

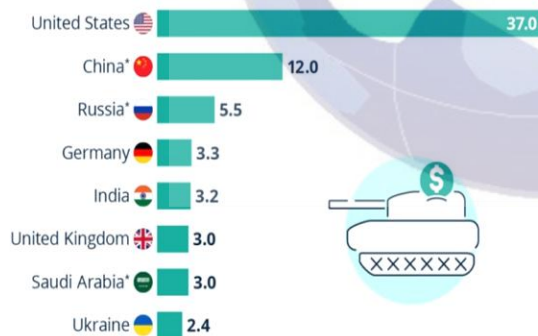


As of Apr. 2025

Source: IMF

## The Countries Dominating Global Military Spending

Share of worldwide military spending in 2024, by country (in percent)



\* SIPRI estimate

Source: SIPRI

## Malaria Deaths Plummet in Southeast Asia

Estimated number of malaria deaths in Southeast Asia and selected countries in the region in 2000 and 2023



\* Includes countries in Southeast and South Asia

Source: WHO World Malaria Report 2024



## The Countries Armed With Nuclear Weapons

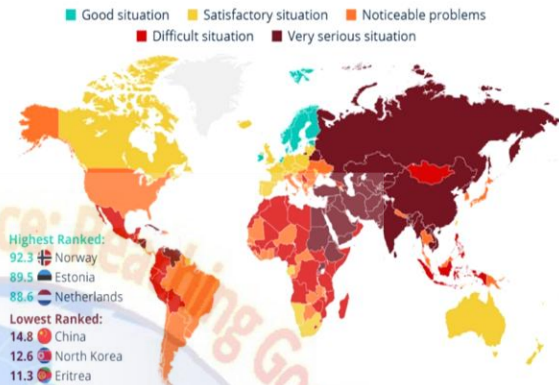
Estimated nuclear warhead inventories (as of Jan. 2024)\*



\* Deployed warheads as well as warheads in central storage. Excludes retired warheads  
Source: SIPRI

## The State of World Press Freedom

Countries ranked by level of press freedom in 2025\*



\* 100 = best possible score. Index based on attacks on journalists, expert interviews covering security, legal, social, economic and political aspects  
Source: World Press Freedom Index/Reporters Without Borders

## India's Military Budget Outgrows Pakistan's

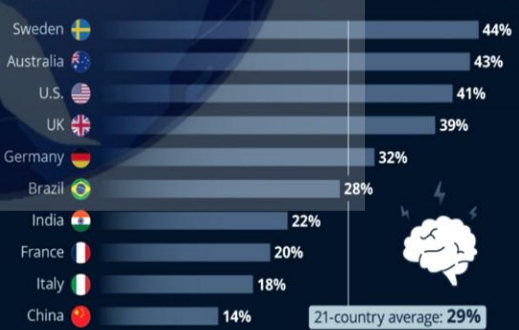
Total military expenditure by India and Pakistan (in billion U.S. dollars)



At current prices and exchange rates  
Source: SIPRI

## How Widespread Are Stress, Depression and Anxiety?

Share of respondents in selected countries who have experienced mental health problems in the last 12 months



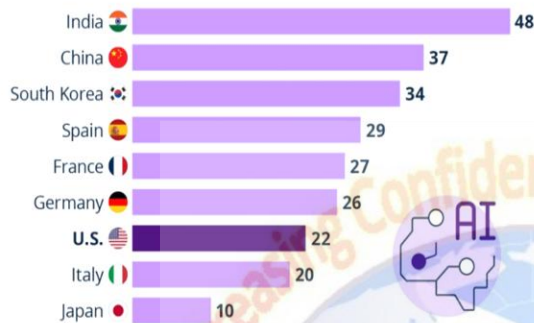
1,900-9,700 respondents (18-64 y/o) per country surveyed Apr. 2024-Mar. 2025  
Source: Statista Consumer Insights





## Few Americans Enjoy Using AI

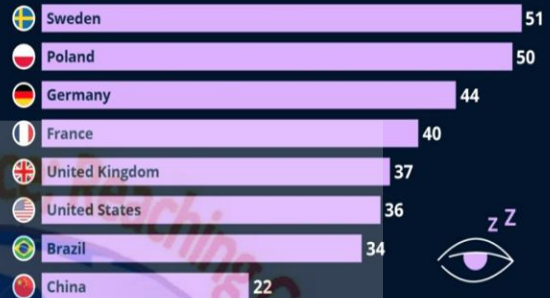
Share of respondents from selected countries who like to use AI applications like ChatGPT (in percent)



12,000-60,000 respondents (18-64 y/o) per country surveyed Apr. 2024-Mar. 2025  
Source: Statista Consumer Insights

## Sleepless in Sweden

Share of respondents in selected countries who suffered from sleep disorders in the last twelve months (in %)\*



\* Problems falling asleep or staying asleep, among others  
1,700-9,700 respondents (18-64 y/o) per country surveyed Apr. 2024-Mar. 2025  
Source: Statista Consumer Insights

## How Widespread Are Food Intolerances?

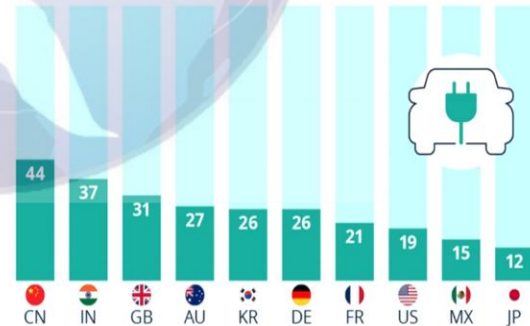
Share of respondents from selected countries who said they had/didn't have a food intolerance (in percent)



1,050 respondents (18-74 y/o) per country surveyed Sep. 2024  
Source: Statista Consumer Insights

## Which Nations Are Considering Electric Vehicles?

Share of respondents in selected countries who would consider an EV when buying a car (in percent)



~2,000-10,000 respondents (18-64 y/o) per country surveyed Apr. 2024-Mar. 2025  
Source: Statista Consumer Insights



## Only One Pope Lived Longer Than Francis

Years lived by the most senior popes in office and lengths of their reign



Pope	Reign	Years lived	Pontificate (in years)
Leo XIII	1878-1903	93 years, 140 days	25.4
Francis	2013-2025	88 years, 123 days	12.1
Clement XII	1758-1769	87 years, 305 days	9.5
Clement X	1670-1676	86 years, 9 days	6.2
Benedict XVI	2005-2013	85 years, 318 days	7.8
Pius IX	1846-1878	85 years, 270 days	31.6
Innocent XII	1691-1700	85 years, 198 days	9.2
John Paul II	1978-2005	84 years, 319 days	26.5

As of Apr. 21, 2025

Sources: Vaticanists, Wikipedia, Statista calculations

## Leo XIV Is the Youngest Pope Since John Paul II

Age of popes at election and end of papacy since 1900

■ Age at election ■ Age at death/end of papacy

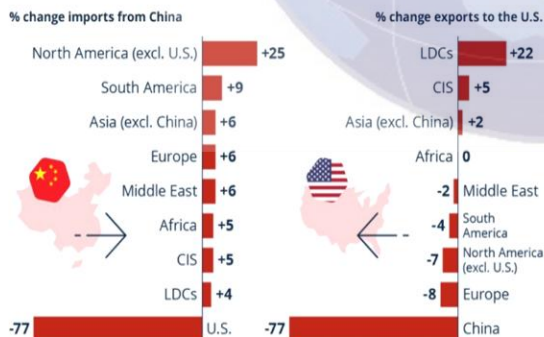
Pope	Elected	Age at election	Age at death/end of papacy
Pius X	Aug. 04, 1903	68	79
Benedict XV	Sep. 03, 1914	59	67
Pius XI	Feb. 06, 1922	64	81
Pius XII	Mar. 02, 1939	63	82
John XXIII	Oct. 28, 1958	76	81
Paul VI	Jun. 21, 1963	65	80
John Paul I	Aug. 26, 1978	65	
John Paul II	Oct. 16, 1978	58	84
Benedict XVI*	Apr. 19, 2005	78	85
Francis	Mar. 13, 2013	76	88
Leo XIV	May 08, 2025	69	

\* Benedict XVI renounced the papacy in 2013 at age 85 and died at age 95 in 2022.

Source: Wikipedia

## WTO: Chinese Exports to U.S. Expected to Drop by 77%

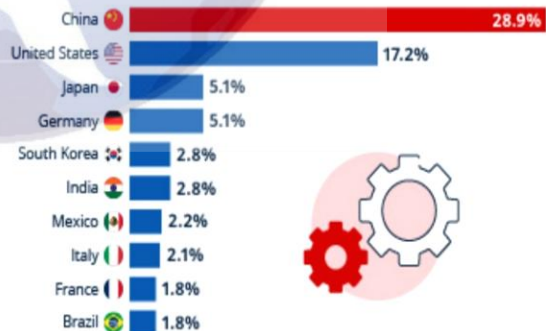
Projected changes in merchandise exports to the U.S. and imports from China in 2025 (in percent)



Source: World Trade Organization

## China Is the World's Manufacturing Superpower

Countries with the highest share of global manufacturing output in 2023\*



\* Output measured on a value-added basis in current U.S. dollars

Source: United Nations Statistics Division







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