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Current Affairs

Daily

Banking

SkyCast System Launched

30 May 2026



NATIONAL

INDIA LAUNCHES SKYCAST SYSTEM

Union Minister of State Dr. Jitendra Singh has inaugurated **India's first 'SkyCast' system** at the **Indira Gandhi International Airport** in **New Delhi**. With this, **India** has become the **19th country globally** to implement this **advanced integrated aviation weather monitoring system**.

Developed under '**Mission Mausam**', the system aims to **enhance aviation safety** by facilitating safer take-offs and landings. It integrates **advanced atmospheric sensors** to monitor atmospheric conditions up to an altitude of **3 km**. A **second facility** is planned to be established at the **Jewar Airport** in **Uttar Pradesh**.

UMMID PROGRAMME PHASE II LAUNCHED

Union Minister of State Dr Jitendra Singh has launched the **second phase** of the **Unique Methods of Management and Treatment of Inherited Disorders (UMMID) programme** for **Rare Genetic Disorders (RGDs)** in **New Delhi**.

Under **Phase-II**, the initiative will expand its network by setting up **25 additional National Inherited Diseases Administration (NIDAN) Kendras** across **13 states and one Union Territory**, along with **three proposed training centres** in **Hyderabad, Bengaluru, and Chandigarh**. The NIDAN Kendras are designed to provide **genetic testing and counselling**.

It is to be noted that the **first phase of the UMMID initiative** was **launched in 2019** by the **Ministry of Science and Technology** as the first comprehensive national program in India to introduce **molecular diagnostics for rare genetic diseases**.

INSTITUTIONS FOR RESEARCH PROGRAMME

The **Anusandhan National Research Foundation (ANRF)** has selected **10 institutions** under its **Convergence Research Centres of Excellence (CoE)** programme. The initiative aims to **promote multidisciplinary and transdisciplinary research** to **address complex societal challenges**.

The selected institutes include **IIT Gandhinagar** (Gujarat), **IIT Madras**, **IIT Dharwad** (Karnataka), and **IIT Kanpur**. These centres are eligible for **funding support of up to ₹25 crore** for projects with a **maximum duration of 5 years**.

BANKING

RECORD SURPLUS TRANSFER BY RBI

The **RBI** has approved a **record surplus transfer** of **₹2.87 lakh crore** to the **Government of India (GoI)** for **FY26**. This is **higher than the previous year transfer** of ₹2.69 lakh crore.

As of **March 2026**, the **balance sheet of the RBI** expanded by **20.61%** to reach **₹91.97 lakh crore**. It is to be noted that under the **revised Economic Capital Framework (ECF)**, the **RBI** is required to maintain a **Contingent Risk Buffer (CRB)** within a range of **4.5% to 7.5%** of the balance sheet size.

NEW PORTAL FOR UNCLAIMED FINANCIAL ASSETS

The **Department of Financial Services (DFS)** under the **Ministry of Finance** has launched the '**Common Landing Portal for Unclaimed Financial Assets**'.

Developed in collaboration with the **Public Sector Bank (PSB) Alliance**, this **unified platform** allows users to **search for unclaimed bank deposits, insurance claims, shares, dividends, and mutual funds** across the financial ecosystem.

ZIKZUK RECEIVES RBI AUTHORIZATION

ZikZuk Technologies Pvt Ltd has received **final authorization** from the **RBI** to operate as a **Prepaid Payment Instrument (PPI) issuer** under the **Payment and Settlement Systems Act (PSSA), 2007**.

NEW INITIATIVES BY SIDBI

Union Minister **Nirmala Sitharaman** has launched a series of **Small Industries Development Bank of India (SIDBI)**-backed strategic web portals and initiatives during its **37th foundation day** celebrations in Mumbai.

The initiatives include the “**SIDBI-RRB Co-Lending Platform**” to facilitate collaborations between SIDBI and **Regional Rural Banks (RRBs)** to enhance credit flow to **Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs)** in semi-urban and rural areas.

The “**Modernization of Rural Enterprises**” (**MoRE Programme**) was also launched to support **10,000 rural micro and artisan units** through cluster-based interventions over the next **3 years**. Additionally, the “**Micro Credit Card Scheme**” for MSMEs allows Udyam-registered micro enterprises to access credit of **up to ₹5 lakh** with a **75% guarantee coverage** and without the requirement of mandatory primary security.

AGREEMENTS

SAIL SIGNS MOU WITH EDCIL

Steel Authority of India Ltd (SAIL) has signed an MoU with **EdCIL (India) Ltd**, a **Public Sector Undertaking (PSU)** under the **Ministry of Education**, to promote **inclusive education** under the former's **Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR)** initiatives.

The collaboration focuses on installing ‘**Smart Digital Classrooms**’ in schools located near the operational areas of SAIL.

AGREEMENT WITH FLIPKART

The **Department of Posts** has signed an agreement with **Flipkart India** to **strengthen the e-commerce logistics ecosystem** in India.

The partnership aims to **enhance the efficiency of parcel delivery** across **urban, semi-urban, rural, and remote regions** of the country.

Flipkart:

Parent – Walmart

CEO – Kalyan Krishnamurthy

Headquarters – Bengaluru

Established in – 2007

MOU BY ODISHA GOVT

The **Government of Odisha** has signed an MoU with **Intel Corporation** and **3DGS Inc** to establish an **Advanced Packaging Glass Core Substrate Manufacturing Facility** in the **Bhubaneswar-Khurda region**.

The project involves an estimated investment of **\$3.3 billion**, making it one of the **largest high-technology manufacturing investments in India**.

DELHI GOVERNMENT SIGNS MOU WITH SBI

The **Delhi government** has signed an MoU with the **State Bank of India (SBI)** to implement an **integrated digital payment solution, ‘e-Pay’**, on the state's **e-procurement portal**.

REPORTS

NATIONAL FAMILY HEALTH SURVEY

The **Ministry of Health & Family Welfare (MoHFW)** has released findings from the **National Family Health Survey (NFHS)**, highlighting India's progress in maternal and child health, nutrition, and financial protection. **Institutional deliveries** have reached **90.6%**, while **Antenatal Care (ANC) coverage** has improved from 92.6% to **95.9%**.

The **Total Fertility Rate (TFR)** remains stable at **2.0**, while the **Contraceptive Prevalence Rate (CPR)** has increased from 66.7% to **69.1%**. **Full immunization coverage** has improved from 83.8% to **87.1%**, with **vaccination rates for children aged 12-23 months** remaining consistently high at **over 96%**.

Public health facilities remain the preferred choice for immunization, with **95.6% of children** receiving most vaccinations through these channels. **Child nutrition indicators** have shown improvement, with **stunting reduced by 17%** and **severe wasting reduced by 32%**.

INTERNATIONAL

79TH WORLD HEALTH ASSEMBLY

The **79th edition** of the **World Health Assembly (WHA79)** was organised by the **World Health Organization (WHO)** in **Geneva, Switzerland**, under the theme “**Reshaping Global Health: A Shared Responsibility**”.

The assembly was chaired by **Victor Atallah Lajam**, the **Minister of Health of the Dominican Republic**, who served as the **President of the assembly**. **Union Minister JP Nadda** addressed the **plenary session of the WHA79**.

During the session, member states adopted **more than 20 decisions and 13 resolutions** on public health issues. Notably, the assembly passed its **first-ever resolution on stroke** to formally recognise it as a **global public health priority**. The resolution was **led by Egypt** and **co-sponsored by Chile, Georgia, Palestine, Paraguay, and Tunisia**.

World Health Organisation (WHO):

Director General – Dr Tedros Adhanom

Headquarters – Geneva, Switzerland

Established in – 1948

PM MODI VISIT TO SWEDEN

PM Narendra Modi has **visited Sweden** at the invitation of the PM of Sweden, **Ulf Kristersson**. The visit transitioned the bilateral relations into a formal **“Strategic Partnership”** and adopted the **“Joint Action Plan (2026-2030)”**.

Building on a record **\$7.75 billion** bilateral trade volume achieved in 2025, both nations agreed to **double their trade over the next 5 years**. During his address to the **European Round Table for Industry (ERT)** in Gothenburg, PM Modi highlighted that India has followed a **“12-year trajectory of reforms, performance, and transformation”**.

The **“India-Sweden Small and Medium Enterprises (SME) and Start-up Platform”** was initiated. The leaders also endorsed the **“India-Sweden Technology and Artificial Intelligence Corridor (SITAC)”**. Additionally, a virtual **“India-Sweden Joint Science and Technology Centre (ISJSTC)”** was launched to strengthen bilateral scientific cooperation.

In the field of space exploration, Sweden announced its participation in the **Venus Orbiter Mission (“Shukrayaan”)** of India, with the **Swedish Institute of Space Physics** supplying the advanced **Venusian Neutrals Analyzer** to fly aboard the spacecraft of the **ISRO**. Furthermore, both nations rolled out the **“Tagore-Sweden” Lecture Series** to deepen academic connections.

JAPAN HALTS INDIAN MANGO IMPORTS

Japan has **suspended all fresh mango imports from India** for the **2026 season**, following the identification of **critical safety lapses** at Indian export processing centres.

This suspension, issued by the **Yokohama Plant Protection Association**, **halts 20 years of uninterrupted trade** during the peak summer harvesting window.

SCIENCE

CHINA LAUNCHES SHENZHOU-23

China has launched the **Shenzhou-23 spacecraft** carrying **3 astronauts** to the **Tiangong Space Station** for scientific research and orbital operations.

The spacecraft was launched onboard a **Long March-2F Y23 (LM-2F Y23) carrier rocket** from the **Jiuquan Satellite Launch Center**. The mission marks the first spaceflight of the country expected to support a **year-long human residency in orbit**. It is scheduled to conduct **over 100 scientific experiments** during its orbital tenure.

STATE

FIRST ELECTRIC FLYING BOAT

India has launched its **first electric hydrofoil vessel**, the **“Candela P12”** (also called a **“flying boat”**), in **Mumbai**.

Developed by the **Swedish manufacturer Candela**, the vessel will be operated by **JalVimana**. The deployment is part of the initiative of the **Maharashtra government** to **strengthen water-based transport infrastructure**.

APPOINTMENTS

NEW VICE CHIEF OF NAVAL STAFF

Vice Admiral Ajay Kochhar has been appointed as the **48th Vice Chief of the Naval Staff (VCNS)** of the **Indian Navy**. He succeeds **Vice Admiral Sanjay Vatsayan**.

Prior to this, he served as the **Commander-in-Chief of the Andaman and Nicobar Command**. He was awarded the **Ati Vishisht Seva Medal (AVSM) in 2022** and the **Param Vishisht Seva Medal (PVSM) in 2026**.

AWARDS

CANNES FILM FESTIVAL 2026

The **79th edition of the annual Cannes International Film Festival 2026** was hosted in **Cannes, France**. The **Palme d'Or**, the highest award, was won by **Romanian director Cristian Mungiu** for his drama **'Fjord'**, marking his second win. The **Grand Prix** was awarded to **Russian director Andrey Zvyagintsev** for his political thriller **'Minotaur'**.

The **Jury Prize** was conferred upon **'The Dreamed Adventure'** by **Valeska Grisebach** (Germany). The **Best Director award** was jointly presented to **Javier Calvo and Javier Ambrossi** (Spain) for **'La Bola Negra'** and **Paweł Pawlikowski** (Poland) for **'Fatherland'**.

The **Best Actor award** was shared by **Emmanuel Macchia and Valentin Campagne** (Belgium) for **'Coward'**, while the **Best Actress award** was jointly awarded to **Virginie Efira** (Belgium-France) and **Tao Okamoto** (Japan) for **'All Of A Sudden'**.

The **Best Screenplay award** was presented to **Emmanuel Marre** (France) for **'A Man of His Time'**, and the **Camera d'Or** for Best First Film was awarded to **'Ben'Imana'** by **Marie-Clementine Dusabejambo** (Rwanda).

NEW FELLOWS OF ROYAL SOCIETY

Professor Manindra Agrawal, the **Director of the IIT Kanpur**, and **Dr. Soumya Swaminathan**, the **former Chief Scientist of the WHO**, have been elected as **Fellows of the Royal Society (FRS)**. The **Royal Society** is one of the oldest and most prestigious scientific academies in the world.

BOOKS

SECOND EDITION OF BAZAAR

Sukhvinder Singh Sukhu, the **CM of Himachal Pradesh**, has launched the **second edition** of the novel titled **"Bazaar"**, authored by **Niranjan Dev Sharma**.

The book is published by **Aadhar Prakashan Pvt Ltd** and chronicles significant social and political events from **1971 to 1992**.

DAYS

INTERNATIONAL MUSEUM DAY

Day – May 18

Theme 2026 – "Museums Uniting a Divided World"

Observed by – International Council of Museums (ICOM)

Observed since – 1977

WORLD METROLOGY DAY

Day – May 20

Theme 2026 – "Metrology: Building Trust in Policy Making"

Observed by – UNESCO

Observed since – 2000

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Publication Guide

Volume
#1.8

Issue
#D1

The Volume tag indicates the Year and the Month. The value before the decimal point indicates the Year. The value after the decimal indicates the Month.

The Issue tag indicates the Day or Week or Month. 'D' indicates Day, and 'M' indicates Month.

In the given example, the Volume tag is 23.8 and the Issue tag is D1. This indicates that the PDF is from the Day 1 of the Month 8 of the Year 2023 which is 01-08-2023.

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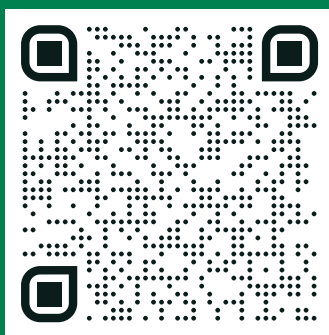
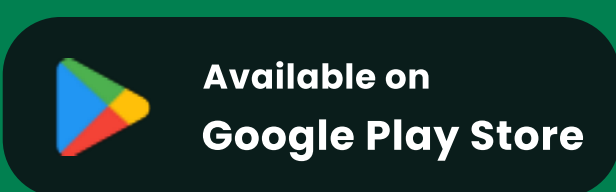
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