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100

UPDATES

9

SECTIONS

55+

GK BYTES

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EDITION: MAY 2026 · ALL-ROUND COVERAGE

Contents

Nine thematic sections covering 100 must-know updates from May 2026. Each entry has a heading, a crisp explanation, and many carry a **GK Byte** strip that links the news to static general knowledge for instant revision.

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How to use this capsule

Read the **heading** first (recall trigger), then the **explanation** (prelims facts + mains context), then the **GK Byte** (static linkage). Revise the GK Bytes and the **Rapid Revision** table at the end the night before your exam for quick, high-yield wins.



1 Supreme Court Judge Strength Raised via Ordinance (May 16)

President Droupadi Murmu promulgated the Supreme Court (Number of Judges) Amendment Ordinance, 2026, raising the number of judges (excluding the CJI) from 33 to 37, taking total strength from 34 to 38. The Union Cabinet had approved the proposal on May 5, 2026.

GK BYTE

SC established: 1950

Article 124: establishes Supreme Court

New strength: 38

2 SC Upholds Election Commission's Power to Conduct SIR (May 27)

The Supreme Court upheld the Special Intensive Revision (SIR) of electoral rolls in Bihar, affirming the Election Commission's power under Article 324 of the Constitution and Section 21(3) of the Representation of the People Act, 1950.

GK BYTE

ECI Est.: 25 Jan 1950

Article: 324

RP Act: 1950

3 SC on ECI and Citizenship Checks (May 27)

The Court held that the ECI can undertake a limited inquiry into an individual's citizenship to decide eligibility for inclusion in the electoral roll, but clarified that such a determination is not a final or conclusive decision on citizenship.

4 SC Flags Reservations on Denial of UAPA Bail in Delhi Riots Case (May 18)

A bench of Justices B.V. Nagarathna and Ujjal Bhuyan expressed serious reservations over a January 2026 judgment that denied UAPA bail to accused in the 2020 Delhi riots conspiracy case, noting it overlooked the binding precedent in *Union of India v. K.A. Najeeb* (2021).

GK BYTE

UAPA: enacted 1967

Anti-terror law

5 Interim Bail to Two Delhi Riots UAPA Accused (May 22)

The Supreme Court granted six-month interim bail to Khalid Saifi and Tasleem Ahmad, and referred to a larger bench the question of whether prolonged pre-trial incarceration should outweigh stringent UAPA bail restrictions.

6 High-Level Committee on Demographic Change Constituted (May 26)

The Home Ministry set up a committee chaired by Justice (Retd.) Prakash Prabhakar Navlekar to study demographic change from illegal immigration and recommend measures on deportation and border management, with its report due within one year.

7 Central Rules Notified under the Four Labour Codes (May 8)

The Labour Ministry notified rules operationalising the four Labour Codes, capping weekly working hours at 48, allowing women night shifts with consent and safeguards, and giving gig/platform workers social-security eligibility.

 GK BYTE

4 Codes: Wages, Industrial Relations, Social Security, OSH

Subsume 29 central labour laws

8 Central Motor Vehicles (Sixth Amendment) Rules, 2026 (May 8)

The rules define a vehicle not declared fit within 180 days as an 'end-of-life vehicle' and require geo-tagged video capture of fitness tests uploaded via a central government app, tightening the vehicle scrappage framework.

9 Draft Amendments to the National Anti-Doping Act (May 19)

The Youth Affairs and Sports Ministry released draft amendments proposing up to 5 years' imprisonment and Rs 2 lakh fine for trafficking prohibited substances, with up to 10 years for offences involving minors.

 GK BYTE

NADA India: established 2005

Anti-Doping Act: 2022



Government Schemes, Cabinet & Bills

10 - 20

10 Cabinet Approves ECLGS 5.0 (May 5)

The Cabinet approved the Emergency Credit Line Guarantee Scheme 5.0 for MSMEs, non-MSMEs and scheduled passenger airlines. Cover is up to 20% of peak Q4 FY26 working capital (max Rs 100 crore) for firms and up to 100% (max Rs 1,500 crore) for airlines, for loans sanctioned until March 31, 2027.

GK BYTE

ECLGS first launched: 2020 (COVID relief)

11 Cabinet Approves Mission for Cotton Productivity (May 5)

The Cabinet approved the Mission for 2026-27 to 2030-31 with an outlay of Rs 5,659 crore, covering 140 districts across 14 cotton-producing states and focusing on high-yielding seeds and quality-testing infrastructure.

GK BYTE

India is among the world's largest cotton producers

12 Cabinet Fixes FRP for Sugarcane (May 5)

The Cabinet fixed the Fair and Remunerative Price for sugarcane for sugar season 2026-27 at Rs 365 per quintal, at a 10.25% recovery rate.

GK BYTE

FRP recommended by: CACP

Under the Essential Commodities Act

13 Cabinet Approves Kharif MSP for 2026-27 (May 13)

The Cabinet raised MSPs, with paddy (common) up 3% to Rs 2,441/quintal and larger hikes for jowar (+9%), sunflower (+8%), soybean (+7%) and cotton (+7%).

GK BYTE

MSP recommended by: CACP

CACP under Agriculture Ministry

14 Cabinet Approves Surface Coal/Lignite Gasification Scheme (May 13)

The Cabinet approved a scheme with a total outlay of Rs 37,500 crore, offering incentives up to 20% of plant and machinery cost (capped at Rs 5,000 crore per project) through competitive bidding.

 GK BYTE

Coal Ministry target: 100 MT coal gasification by 2030

15 Cabinet Continues SARTHAK-PDS Scheme (May 27)

The Cabinet extended the ration transport, handling and PDS-automation umbrella scheme until March 2031, with an estimated central outlay of Rs 25,530 crore under the National Food Security Act, 2013.

 GK BYTE

NFSA: enacted 2013

Covers ~two-thirds of the population

16 FDI in Insurance Raised to 100% (May 2)

The Finance Ministry notified the FEMA (Non-debt Instruments) Second Amendment Rules, 2026, removing the 74% cap and allowing up to 100% foreign investment in insurance companies under the automatic route (LIC remains capped at 20%).

 GK BYTE

Regulator: IRDAI (HQ: Hyderabad)

LIC cap: 20%

17 BHAVYA Scheme Guidelines Released (May 23)

DPIIT issued guidelines for the Bharat Audyogik Vikas Yojna to build 100 industrial parks (50 in phase one) between 2026-27 and 2031-32, with central funding up to Rs 1 crore per acre through NICDIT.

 GK BYTE

By: DPIIT (Commerce Ministry)

18 Scheme for Investment Promotion Extended (May 8)

The government extended the 2008 Scheme for Investment Promotion up to 2030-31, with an estimated outlay of Rs 996 crore, to support investor facilitation and 'Make in India'.

19 Draft Rules Released under the MGNREGA-replacement Act

The Rural Development Ministry released draft rules under the Viksit Bharat-Guarantee for Rozgar and Aajeevika Mission (Gramin) Act, 2025 - which replaces MGNREGA from July 1, 2026 - mandating all wages via DBT and using 16th Finance Commission parameters.

 GK BYTE

MGNREGA: enacted 2005 (100 days)

16th Finance Commission: Arvind Panagariya

20 CSR Allowed via Social Stock Exchange Instruments (May 27)

The Corporate Affairs Ministry amended Schedule VII of the Companies Act to make subscription to Zero Coupon Zero Principal Instruments issued by NPOs on a social stock exchange an eligible CSR activity (up to 10% of annual CSR spend).

 GK BYTE

CSR: mandatory under Section 135, Companies Act 2013

🗺️ States & Governance

21 - 26

21 2026 Assembly Election Results Declared (May 4)

Results for West Bengal, Assam, Kerala, Tamil Nadu and Puducherry were announced. The BJP won a majority in West Bengal, retained Assam for a third term, the Congress-led UDF won Kerala ousting the LDF, while regional churn marked Tamil Nadu.

 GK BYTE

Capitals: WB-Kolkata, Assam-Dispur, Kerala-Thiruvananthapuram, TN-Chennai

22 Himanta Biswa Sarma Sworn In for Second Term, Assam (May 12)

Himanta Biswa Sarma took oath as Assam Chief Minister for a second successive term, with the ceremony attended by Prime Minister Modi and senior Union ministers.

 GK BYTE

Assam Capital: Dispur

Governor appoints CM: Art. 164

23 Karnataka Reverses 2022 Hijab Ban (May 13)

The Karnataka government withdrew the 2022 order, allowing limited traditional and religious symbols including hijabs alongside prescribed uniforms in schools and colleges.

 GK BYTE

Karnataka Capital: Bengaluru

24 West Bengal Scraps Religion-based Welfare Categorisation (May 18)

The new West Bengal government decided to discontinue welfare programmes based on religious categorisation, scrapping the existing list of 113 backward sub-groups and forming a new panel for quota eligibility.

 GK BYTE

WB Capital: Kolkata

25 Manipur SIR and Supreme Court's Voter-ID Direction

As the ECI prepared to conduct a Special Intensive Revision of electoral rolls in Manipur, the Supreme Court asked it to accept voter ID cards as valid documents, given the displacement of tribal communities amid ethnic violence.

26 Great Nicobar Tribal Rights Concerns Flagged (May 13)

Concerns were raised over alleged violations of the Forest Rights Act, 2006 in the diversion of more than 13,000 hectares of forest land on Great Nicobar Island for a mega-infrastructure project.

 GK BYTE

Forest Rights Act: 2006

Great Nicobar: Andaman & Nicobar Islands



International & Summits

27 - 41

27 3rd India-Nordic Summit Held in Oslo (May 19)

PM Modi joined the PMs of Denmark, Finland, Iceland, Norway and Sweden, elevating ties to a 'Green Technology and Innovation Strategic Partnership' focused on green hydrogen, offshore wind and the circular economy. The 4th summit will be hosted by Finland.

GK BYTE

Nordic 5: Denmark, Norway, Finland, Iceland, Sweden

28 11th Quad Foreign Ministers' Meeting in New Delhi (May 26)

India hosted the foreign ministers of Australia, Japan and the US Secretary of State, launching the Indo-Pacific Maritime Surveillance Collaboration, the Quad Critical Minerals Initiative Framework and an Indo-Pacific energy security initiative.

GK BYTE

Quad: India, US, Japan, Australia

Revived 2017

29 79th World Health Assembly Convenes in Geneva (May 18-23)

The 79th WHA met under the theme 'Reshaping global health', adopting 13 resolutions and over 20 decisions. Dr Victor Elias Atallah Lajam of the Dominican Republic was elected President of the Assembly.

GK BYTE

WHO HQ: Geneva

Est.: 1948

DG: Tedros Adhanom

30 PM Modi's Visit to the UAE (May 15-16)

PM Modi held talks with President Sheikh Mohamed bin Zayed Al Nahyan and signed five agreements, including expanding UAE crude storage in India's strategic reserves to 30 million barrels and a Framework for Strategic Defence Partnership.

GK BYTE

UAE Capital: Abu Dhabi

Currency: Dirham

India-UAE CEPA since 2022

31 PM Modi's Historic Visit to Norway (May 18-19)

PM Modi made a two-day visit to Norway - the first by an Indian PM in 43 years - holding bilateral talks with PM Jonas Gahr Store in Oslo and elevating ties to a Green Strategic Partnership.

 GK BYTE

Norway Capital: Oslo

Currency: Norwegian Krone

32 India-Italy Elevated to 'Special Strategic Partnership' (May 19-20)

PM Modi and Italian PM Giorgia Meloni upgraded ties with 15 outcomes, agreeing a Defence Industrial Roadmap, an MoU on critical minerals, and raising the bilateral trade target from EUR 14 billion to EUR 20 billion.

 GK BYTE

Italy Capital: Rome

Currency: Euro

PM: Giorgia Meloni

33 India-US Critical Minerals Framework Signed (May 26)

India and the US signed a framework on 'Securing of Supply in the Mining and Processing of Critical Minerals and Rare Earths', covering mining, processing, recycling and related investments.

 GK BYTE

Rare earths: 17 elements

China is the dominant global supplier

34 India-Netherlands Elevated to Strategic Partnership (May 15-17)

During PM Modi's visit, ties were elevated to a strategic partnership with a Roadmap 2026-2030 covering semiconductors, critical minerals and clean energy, including a Tata Electronics-ASML MoU.

 GK BYTE

Netherlands Capital: Amsterdam

ASML: world leader in lithography machines

35 India-Norway Sign 12 Bilateral Agreements (May 18)

India and Norway signed 12 bilateral agreements on the sidelines of the Nordic Summit, setting a target to double bilateral trade by 2030 across sectors such as blue economy and clean energy.

36 India-Finland to Co-host World Circular Economy Forum

India and Finland announced joint hosting of the World Circular Economy Forum in Gandhinagar, Gujarat, in September 2026, deepening cooperation on sustainability and the circular economy.

37 ISRO-Norwegian Space Agency Framework Agreement

The Nordic Summit welcomed a Framework Agreement between ISRO and the Norwegian Space Agency on space cooperation, expanding India's international space partnerships.

38 WHA79 Adopts First-ever Resolution on Stroke

Member states approved the first-ever World Health Assembly resolution on stroke, calling for integrated prevention, acute care and rehabilitation, noting one in four adults is expected to suffer a stroke in their lifetime.

39 WHA79 Adopts Landmark Resolution on Precision Medicine

WHA79 adopted a first-of-its-kind resolution on precision medicine with health equity at its core, calling on WHO to develop a global strategy so genomics and personalised therapies benefit all nations.

40 WHA79 Approves Global Action Plan on AMR (2026-2036)

Countries approved the Global Action Plan on Antimicrobial Resistance (GAP-AMR) 2026-2036, using a One Health approach to preserve effective antimicrobials worldwide.

 GK BYTE

AMR: Antimicrobial Resistance

One Health: humans, animals, environment

41 WHO Updates Global Code on Health Worker Recruitment

For the first time in 16 years, the WHO Global Code of Practice on the International Recruitment of Health Personnel was updated, now explicitly including care workers and clarifying rules during emergencies.



Economy & Banking

42 - 61

42 RBI Approves Record Surplus Transfer to Government (May 22)

The RBI Central Board approved a record surplus transfer of Rs 2,86,588 crore (~Rs 2.87 lakh crore) to the Central Government for FY26, as its balance sheet expanded over 20%. The Contingent Risk Buffer allocation more than doubled.

GK BYTE

Surplus policy: Economic Capital Framework (Bimal Jalan panel)

43 Retail (CPI) Inflation for May 2026

India's CPI inflation for May 2026 was a provisional 3.93%, the fifth straight monthly rise, with food inflation at 4.78%. The uptick was partly driven by four fuel price hikes in May, the first in four years. (Released in early June.)

GK BYTE

Compiled by: NSO / MoSPI

CPI tracks retail price change

44 Index of Industrial Production for May 2026

IIP grew 5.1% in May 2026, a five-month high, led by electricity and gas (+9.9%) and manufacturing (+5.5%), while mining contracted 1.6%. (Released end-June.)

GK BYTE

New IIP base year: 2022-23

3 sectors: Mining, Manufacturing, Electricity

45 New IIP Series with Base Year 2022-23 Launched

MoSPI launched a revamped IIP series updating the base year from 2011-12 to 2022-23, adding items such as rare earths, gas supply and aircraft parts to better reflect the modern economy.

GK BYTE

MoSPI: Ministry of Statistics & Programme Implementation

46 GST Collection for May 2026

Gross GST collection for May 2026 stood at Rs 1,94,184 crore, a 3.2% year-on-year rise, moderating from the record Rs 2,42,702 crore in April 2026.

 GK BYTE

GST rolled out: 1 July 2017

Apex body: GST Council

47 India's Forex Reserves Fall to One-year Low

India's foreign exchange reserves fell to a one-year low of about \$681 billion in the week ended May 22, 2026, as the RBI sold dollars to defend the rupee amid the oil-price shock and FPI outflows.

 GK BYTE

Components: FCA, Gold, SDRs, Reserve position in IMF

48 World Bank Raises India's FY27 Growth Forecast to 6.6%

The World Bank raised India's FY 2026-27 growth forecast to 6.6%, citing strong domestic demand, keeping India the fastest-growing major economy.

49 Rohit Jain Takes Charge as RBI Deputy Governor (May 4)

Rohit Jain took charge as RBI Deputy Governor for a three-year term, after which the RBI reassigned portfolios among its four deputy governors.

 GK BYTE

RBI Deputy Governors: 4

RBI Governor: Sanjay Malhotra

50 RBI Opens Term Money Market to Non-banks

The RBI allowed non-bank entities - NBFCs, corporates, housing finance companies and all-India financial institutions - to participate in the term money market (14 days to one year), to deepen liquidity and improve policy transmission.

51 RBI Penalises Banks and Pine Labs

The RBI imposed monetary penalties on Union Bank of India, Central Bank of India, Bank of India and fintech firm Pine Labs for lapses in crediting customer accounts, priority sector lending and KYC norms.

52 RBI Approves Emirates NBD's Stake in RBL Bank

The RBI approved UAE-based Emirates NBD to acquire up to a 74% stake in RBL Bank for around \$3 billion - described as the largest foreign investment in an Indian bank.

 GK BYTE

Largest foreign investment in an Indian bank

53 RBI Extends Enhanced Export Credit Period

The RBI extended the enhanced 450-day export credit period for pre- and post-shipment finance until June 30, 2026, a facility introduced in November 2025 to help exporters amid West Asia disruptions.

54 UPI Hits Record High in May 2026

NPCI data showed UPI transactions reached a record 23.2 billion in volume worth Rs 29.90 lakh crore in May 2026 - up 24% in volume year-on-year - aided by summer travel and IPL spending.

 GK BYTE

NPCI Est.: 2008

Products: UPI, RuPay, IMPS, FASTag

55 SMBC to Acquire 20% Stake in Yes Bank

Japan's Sumitomo Mitsui Banking Corporation (SMBC) agreed to acquire a 20% stake in Yes Bank for about \$1.6 billion, a major foreign investment in the private lender.

56 BillDesk to Acquire Worldline India's Payments Arm

Fintech major BillDesk agreed to buy Worldline India's payments arm in a deal pegged at \$100-150 million, strengthening its merchant aggregation and omnichannel capabilities.

57 Axis Max Life-Max Financial Amalgamation Approved In-principle

The boards of Axis Max Life Insurance and Max Financial Services granted in-principle approval for their amalgamation, subject to regulatory and shareholder clearances.

58 Poly Medicure to Acquire Italy's Citieffe Group

Medical device maker Poly Medicure Ltd signed a definitive agreement to fully acquire Italy-based Citieffe Group at an enterprise value of Rs 324 crore (EUR 31 million), expanding its global footprint.

59 RBI Draft Rules on Loan Recovery Agents (May 20)

The RBI invited comments on draft norms barring lenders from disabling a borrower's mobile device, requiring advance notice before in-person visits, and mandating IIBF certification for recovery agents.

60 SEBI Draft on Third-party Payments in Mutual Funds (May 20)

SEBI proposed allowing AMCs to accept consolidated payments via salary deduction, allotment of MF units in lieu of cash trail commission, and investor donations to NGOs, with KYC safeguards.

 GK BYTE

SEBI HQ: Mumbai

Chairman: Tuhin Kanta Pandey

61 UN WESP Mid-2026 Update Cuts Global Growth to 2.5%

The UN's World Economic Situation and Prospects mid-2026 update cut global GDP growth to 2.5%, while India remained the fastest-growing major economy, projected around 6.6% for 2026.

 GK BYTE

WESP: by UN DESA



Science, Space & Defence

62 - 82

62 DRDO Tests Long-Range Hypersonic Anti-Ship Missile (May 4)

DRDO conducted the second flight test of its Long-Range Hypersonic Anti-Ship Missile (LR-AShM) off the Odisha coast, reportedly at hypersonic speeds, marking a major leap in India's strike capability.

GK BYTE

DRDO HQ: New Delhi

Est.: 1958

Hypersonic: above Mach 5

63 DRDO Achieves 1,200-second Scramjet Combustor Test (May 9)

DRDO's DRDL achieved a run-time of over 1,200 seconds (20 minutes) in an actively cooled full-scale scramjet combustor test in Hyderabad, a foundation for India's Hypersonic Cruise Missile Development Programme.

GK BYTE

Scramjet: supersonic-combustion ramjet

64 DRDO Completes ULPGM-V3 Drone-launched Missile Trials (May 20)

DRDO completed developmental trials of the final configuration of the UAV-launched Precision Guided Missile (ULPGM-V3) in air-to-ground and air-to-air modes at a test range near Kurnool, Andhra Pradesh.

65 Exercise PRAGATI-I 2026 Concludes in Meghalaya (May 30)

India's maiden multilateral military Exercise PRAGATI-I 2026, held at Umroi, Meghalaya, brought together troops from 12 friendly nations for counter-terrorism drills in jungle and semi-mountainous terrain.

GK BYTE

Venue: Umroi, Meghalaya

Nations: 12

66 First Anniversary of Operation Sindoor

May 2026 marked the first anniversary of Operation Sindoor (May 7-10, 2025), India's response to the April 22, 2025 Pahalgam terror attack, with commemorations highlighting drone and multi-domain warfare lessons.

 GK BYTE

Op Sindoor: 7-10 May 2025

Response to Pahalgam attack

67 DAC Clears Major Acquisitions Including S-400 Expansion

The Defence Acquisition Council advanced a major modernisation package, including a decision to acquire five additional S-400 Triumf air-defence systems from Russia, plus remotely piloted strike platforms and transport aircraft.

 GK BYTE

S-400 Triumf: Russian air-defence system

DAC chaired by Defence Minister

68 Rajnath Singh's Vietnam and South Korea Engagements (May 19-21)

Defence Minister Rajnath Singh held talks with Vietnam's Defence Minister in Hanoi and jointly inaugurated the Indian War Memorial at Imjingak Park, Seoul, with South Korea's Minister of Patriots and Veterans Affairs.

69 NASA's Psyche Spacecraft Performs Mars Gravity Assist (May 15)

NASA's Psyche spacecraft flew about 4,500 km above Mars in a gravity-assist manoeuvre, en route to the metal-rich asteroid 16 Psyche.

 GK BYTE

Target: metal asteroid 16 Psyche

By: NASA

70 SpaceX CRS-34 Cargo Mission Launched (May 15)

SpaceX launched its CRS-34 cargo resupply mission to the International Space Station, carrying scientific experiments and supplies for the crew.

71 ESA-CAS SMILE Heliophysics Mission Launched (May 19)

The European Space Agency and the Chinese Academy of Sciences jointly launched the SMILE mission to study the interaction between the solar wind and Earth's magnetosphere.

72 China Launches Shenzhou-23 Crewed Mission (May 24)

China launched three astronauts aboard Shenzhou-23 to its Tiangong space station; the crew included Lai Ka-ying, the first astronaut from Hong Kong to fly to space.

 GK BYTE

Station: Tiangong

First Hong Kong astronaut in space

73 SpaceX Conducts Starship Flight 12 (May 22)

SpaceX carried out a partially successful suborbital Starship Flight 12, during which the vehicle deployed 20 dummy Starlink satellites and made a water landing in the Indian Ocean.

74 Shubhanshu Shukla Authors Memoir 'The Second Orbit'

Group Captain Shubhanshu Shukla - India's first astronaut to visit the ISS, via Axiom-4 in 2025 - authored his memoir 'The Second Orbit' recounting his space experience.

 GK BYTE

India's first astronaut aboard the ISS

Axiom-4 mission (2025)

75 National Technology Day 2026 (May 11)

India observed its 28th National Technology Day, marking the 1998 Pokhran-II (Operation Shakti) nuclear tests. The 2026 theme was 'Responsible Innovation for Inclusive Growth.'

 GK BYTE

May 11: Pokhran-II, 1998

Codename: Operation Shakti

Then PM: A.B. Vajpayee

76 CSIR-CBRI Transfers 13 Breakthrough Technologies (May 11)

On National Technology Day, CSIR-Central Building Research Institute, Roorkee transferred 13 indigenous technologies to industries and start-ups, targeting fire safety, green construction and energy-efficient infrastructure.

 GK BYTE

CSIR HQ: New Delhi

Est.: 1942

77 Merck-CSIR-IICT Research MoU

Merck Life Science India signed an MoU with CSIR-Indian Institute of Chemical Technology, Hyderabad, to strengthen collaboration in scientific research, innovation and academia-industry engagement.

78 CSIR Wins Clarivate South Asia Innovation Award 2026

CSIR received the Clarivate South Asia Innovation Award 2026 in the Government Sector category, recognising its patent and innovation output.

79 Tata Electronics-ASML Semiconductor Agreement (May 16)

Tata Electronics and Netherlands-based ASML signed a strategic agreement under which ASML supplies advanced lithography technology for Tata's first front-end semiconductor fab; Tata plans to invest about \$11 billion in the fab at Dholera, Gujarat.

 GK BYTE

Fab location: Dholera, Gujarat

ASML: Dutch lithography leader

80 India's First 3D Semiconductor Packaging Unit in Odisha

India held the groundbreaking of its first advanced 3D semiconductor packaging unit in Odisha in early May 2026, aimed at boosting AI, 5G and defence technology applications.

81 IndiaAI-ICMR Healthcare MoU

The government signed an MoU between IndiaAI (MeitY) and the Indian Council of Medical Research to integrate AI into healthcare delivery, biomedical research and public health management.

 GK BYTE

ICMR: est. 1911 (HQ: New Delhi)

IndiaAI under MeitY

82 Chandrayaan-3 Wins 2026 AIAA Goddard Astronautics Award (May 21)

ISRO's Chandrayaan-3 mission received the American Institute of Aeronautics and Astronautics' Goddard Astronautics Award at the ASCEND Conference in Washington DC, honouring the 2023 lunar south-pole soft landing.

 GK BYTE

Chandrayaan-3: landed near lunar south pole (Aug 2023)

**Environment & Ecology**

83 - 87

83 International Day for Biological Diversity 2026 (May 22)

Observed globally on May 22 with the theme 'Acting locally for global impact', a call to halt and reverse biodiversity loss in line with the global biodiversity framework.

 GK BYTE

CBD: adopted at 1992 Rio Earth Summit

Day: May 22

84 IMD May 2026 Temperature and Monsoon Outlook

The India Meteorological Department forecast normal-to-below-normal maximum temperatures in many regions due to above-normal rainfall, while issuing heatwave alerts for parts of north, central and east India amid an intensifying El Nino.

 GK BYTE

IMD HQ: New Delhi (est. 1875)

El Nino: Pacific warming, weakens monsoon

85 India's Ramsar Sites Tally at 99

As of May 2026, India had 99 Ramsar wetland sites covering about 13.85 lakh hectares, with Tamil Nadu (20 sites) leading; the 99th site, Shekha Jheel Bird Sanctuary (Aligarh, UP), was designated in April 2026.

 GK BYTE

Ramsar Convention: 1971, Ramsar, Iran

Most sites: Tamil Nadu

86 All India Tiger Estimation 2026 Underway

The sixth cycle of the All India Tiger Estimation - the world's largest wildlife monitoring exercise - continued through 2026, building on the previous count of 3,682 tigers (about 74% of the world's wild tigers).

 GK BYTE

Project Tiger: launched 1973

Previous count: 3,682 tigers

87 ICMR Seeks Partners for Cervical Cancer Drug SHetA2 (May 20)

ICMR invited Expressions of Interest for technology transfer and commercialisation of SHetA2, an investigational drug candidate for HPV-induced cervical dysplasia and cervical cancer, with a May 20 applications deadline.

 GK BYTE

Cervical cancer: linked to HPV

Prevented by HPV vaccine

**Sports, Awards & Appointments**

88 - 95

88 IPL 2026 - RCB Win Second Consecutive Title (May 31)

Royal Challengers Bengaluru beat Gujarat Titans by 5 wickets in the final at Narendra Modi Stadium, Ahmedabad, chasing 161 in 18 overs. Virat Kohli (75* off 42) was Player of the Match as RCB claimed back-to-back titles.

 GK BYTE

Venue: Narendra Modi Stadium (world's largest cricket stadium)

89 IPL 2026 - Orange Cap: Vaibhav Sooryavanshi

The 15-year-old topped the run charts with 776 runs at a strike rate of 237.30 - the highest ever among Orange Cap winners - ahead of Shubman Gill (732) and Sai Sudharsan (722).

90 IPL 2026 - Purple Cap: Kagiso Rabada

Gujarat Titans pacer Kagiso Rabada finished as the tournament's leading wicket-taker with 29 wickets, earning the Purple Cap.

91 Thomas Cup 2026 - China Champions (May 3)

China defended the Thomas Cup, beating France 3-1 at Horsens, Denmark, retaining the premier men's team badminton title.

 GK BYTE

Thomas Cup: men's team badminton

Governed by BWF

92 Uber Cup 2026 - South Korea Champions (May 3)

South Korea beat defending champions China 3-1 at Horsens, Denmark, for their third Uber Cup title in women's team badminton.

 GK BYTE

Uber Cup: women's team badminton

93 Padma Awards 2026 - Civil Investiture Ceremony-I (May 25)

President Droupadi Murmu presented Padma Awards at Rashtrapati Bhavan, conferring 66 awards in the first phase (2 Padma Vibhushan, 6 Padma Bhushan, 58 Padma Shri). A total of 131 Padma Awards were announced for 2026.

 GK BYTE

Instituted: 1954

Highest civilian award: Bharat Ratna

94 Prasoon Joshi Appointed Chairman, Prasar Bharati (May 2)

The Ministry of Information & Broadcasting appointed lyricist-writer Prasoon Joshi as Chairman of Prasar Bharati, India's public service broadcaster.

 GK BYTE**Prasar Bharati:** est. 1997 (DD + AIR)**95 Shashi Shekhar Vempati Appointed CBFC Chairperson (May 6)**

Former Prasar Bharati CEO Shashi Shekhar Vempati was appointed Chairperson of the Central Board of Film Certification for a three-year term.

 GK BYTE**CBFC:** under I&B Ministry

Certifies films for public exhibition

 July
17**Important Days & Obituaries**

96 - 100

96 World Press Freedom Day (May 3)

Observed globally with the 2026 theme 'Shaping a Future at Peace: Promoting Press Freedom for Human Rights, Development, and Security', highlighting the role of a free press.

 GK BYTE**Led by:** UNESCO**Day:** May 3**97 International Nurses Day (May 12)**

Observed on May 12 with the theme 'Our Nurses. Our Future.', marking the birth anniversary of Florence Nightingale and honouring the nursing workforce worldwide.

 GK BYTE**Marks:** Florence Nightingale's birthday

'The Lady with the Lamp'

98 Anti-Terrorism Day (May 21)

Observed across India on May 21 to spread awareness against terrorism and violence, marking the death anniversary of former Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi.

 GK BYTE**May 21:** Rajiv Gandhi's death anniversary (1991)**99 World No Tobacco Day (May 31)**

The WHO-led global observance on May 31 raises awareness of the health harms of tobacco use and advocates effective policies to reduce consumption.

 GK BYTE**Led by:** WHO**Day:** May 31**100 Obituary: Legendary Playback Singer Suman Kalyanpur (May 31)**

Suman Kalyanpur, the legendary Hindi and multilingual playback singer known for her melodious voice across the 1950s-70s, passed away on May 31, 2026 at the age of 89.

Rapid Revision — One-Line Facts

High-yield one-liners distilled from this capsule. Skim these last, right before your exam.

Question / Cue	Answer
New Supreme Court total judge strength (Ordinance)	38 (from 34)
2026 Assembly polls - BJP wins / retains	West Bengal & Assam
Kerala 2026 - winning front	Congress-led UDF
Assam CM (2nd term)	Himanta Biswa Sarma
FDI in insurance raised to	100% (LIC still 20%)
Mission for Cotton Productivity outlay	Rs 5,659 crore
3rd India-Nordic Summit venue	Oslo, Norway
11th Quad Foreign Ministers' Meeting host	India (New Delhi)
India-Italy ties elevated to	Special Strategic Partnership
First Indian PM to visit Norway in 43 years	Narendra Modi
79th World Health Assembly venue	Geneva (May 18-23)
RBI surplus transfer to govt (FY26)	Rs 2.87 lakh crore (record)
New RBI Deputy Governor	Rohit Jain
New IIP base year	2022-23
Emirates NBD stake in RBL Bank	74% (~\$3 bn)
UPI transactions in May 2026	23.2 billion (record)
DRDO scramjet combustor test duration	1,200+ seconds
India's maiden multilateral Army exercise	PRAGATI-I 2026 (Meghalaya)
National Technology Day & event marked	May 11 · Pokhran-II (1998)
Tata's semiconductor fab partner / site	ASML / Dholera, Gujarat
Chandrayaan-3 international award (2026)	AIAA Goddard Astronautics

Question / Cue	Answer
IPL 2026 Champions	Royal Challengers Bengaluru
IPL 2026 Orange / Purple Cap	V. Sooryavanshi / K. Rabada
Thomas & Uber Cup 2026 winners	China / South Korea
Prasar Bharati new Chairman	Prasoon Joshi
India's Ramsar sites tally (May 2026)	99 sites
Anti-Terrorism Day	May 21 (Rajiv Gandhi death anniv.)

Disclaimer: Compiled from May 2026 news and current-affairs sources for exam preparation. A few economic data points (CPI, IIP, GST, forex) pertain to May but were officially released in early June 2026. Verify exact figures, names and dates against primary sources (PIB, RBI, MEA, MoSPI, PRS) before final use. © MockSutra · www.mocksutra.com