

# Daily Current Affairs

## 16 May 2025

### National Dengue Day

- **National Dengue Day is observed every year on May 16** across India to raise awareness about the prevention and control of dengue fever — a mosquito-borne viral disease that poses a serious public health threat, especially during the monsoon season.
- **Organised by the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare**, this day highlights the need for public education, early diagnosis, community engagement, and strong healthcare responses to reduce the incidence and mortality of dengue.



- National Dengue Day is an annual public health observance aimed at raising awareness about dengue fever, promoting preventive measures, and encouraging early medical intervention.
- Initiated by: **Ministry of Health and Family Welfare**, Government of India
- Objective: To reduce dengue-related illness and death through awareness, prevention, and timely treatment.
- Importance of National Dengue Day 2025

- Public awareness is one of the most effective strategies for preventing and managing dengue.



- **National Dengue Day 2025 aims to,**
- Educate people about early symptoms of dengue.
- Emphasize timely medical intervention to avoid complications.
- Promote mosquito control practices at the community level.
- Encourage people to avoid stigma and seek immediate care if symptoms arise.
- Timely diagnosis and treatment can prevent dengue from progressing into severe or hemorrhagic forms.
- History of National Dengue Day
- Initiated by the **Ministry of Health and Family Welfare**, National Dengue Day was introduced to address the rising incidence of dengue across India.
- The observance became part of the **larger Dengue Prevention Program** under the National Health Mission.
- Over time, the day evolved into a major public health event, involving schools, community bodies, hospitals, and state governments.

## India-Honduras

- **External Affairs Minister Dr S. Jaishankar** said that the economic engagements **between India and Honduras in the last three decades** have grown steadily, with bilateral trade reaching more **than 300 million dollars**.
- The minister was speaking at the **inauguration of the Embassy of Honduras** in New Delhi. Dr Jaishankar acknowledged Honduras for issuing a statement of solidarity after the cowardly terrorist attack at Pahalgam in Jammu and Kashmir.



- He added that the opening of the Embassy of Honduras in the National Capital will go a long way to facilitate trade promotion. The minister asserted that the economic engagements between the two nations have been underpinned by trade, investment, and technical cooperation.
- He said that **India and Honduras have a diversified basket** that includes pharmaceuticals, textiles, automobiles, and machinery, and India imports coffee, wood, and leather from Honduras.
- **The union minister emphasised that the commercial exchange** between the two nations highlights the considerable potential in areas such as agriculture, business, renewable energy, health care, information technology, and manufacturing.
- Mr Jaishankar further mentioned **that India and Honduras are now engaged in installing** an early warning system aimed at strengthening Honduras' preparedness for disaster resilience. He added that the collaboration of the two

nations on the global stage has found many meaningful expressions, including in the United Nations, and the Indian diaspora in Honduras serves as a living bridge of friendship between the two countries. **Dr Jaishankar, along with his counterpart from Honduras**, Eduardo Enrique Reina Garcia, jointly inaugurated the Embassy of Honduras in the national capital today.

## Jamia Millia Islamia Suspends MoUs With Turkey

- **After Jawaharlal Nehru University (JNU)**, Jamia Millia Islamia announced the immediate suspension of all Memoranda of Understanding (MoUs) with **institutions affiliated with the Government of Turkey**. In a social media post, Jamia said, "It stands firmly with the Nation."



## Govt Appoints Legal Team

- **Government has appointed a team of lawyers** led by Solicitor General Tushar Mehta for the **trial in the 26/11 terror attack case**, where Tahawwur Hussain Rana is an accused.
- **Home Ministry said in a notification** that the team of special public prosecutors includes **Additional Solicitor General S V Raju**, senior advocate Dayan Krishnan, and advocate Narender Mann. The appointment has been made exercising the powers conferred under the National Investigation Agency Act, 2008, and the Bharatiya Nagarik Suraksha Sanhita, 2023.





## Brazilian Scientist Mariangela Hungria

- **Mariangela Hungria's recognition with the World Food Prize** comes at a time when global agriculture faces the dual challenges of meeting rising food demands while reducing harmful environmental impacts. Her innovative approach to **reducing chemical fertilizer use by harnessing soil bacteria** has gained renewed attention as countries seek sustainable farming solutions amid climate change and ecological degradation.

*She Let the Soil Speak*  
**AND THE LAND CAME ALIVE**



2025 WORLD FOOD PRIZE LAUREATE  
**MARIANGELA HUNGRIA**  
BRAZIL



**WORLD FOOD PRIZE**  
**LAUREATE**  
**ANNOUNCEMENT**

- **Aim and Objectives**

- To reduce dependency on chemical nitrogen fertilizers in agriculture.
- To promote biological nitrogen fixation as a natural, eco-friendly alternative.
- To increase crop yields sustainably, especially in soybean farming.
- To improve soil health and reduce pollution caused by chemical fertilizers.



- Background
- The **World Food Prize, founded by Nobel laureate Norman Borlaug in 1987**, honors individuals contributing significantly to global food security.
- Mariangela Hungria has researched biological seed and soil treatments for over 40 years.
- Her focus is on utilizing soil bacteria to naturally fix nitrogen and enhance plant growth.

## **India, EU Launch ₹391 Crore Projects**

- **India and the European Union (EU)** have launched two major research and innovation initiatives aimed at tackling marine plastic litter and developing waste-to-hydrogen technologies.
- These initiatives were introduced with a **joint investment of 391 crore rupees**. Despite global efforts, marine pollution continues to threaten biodiversity, disrupt ecosystems, and impact human health. In response, India and the EU have initiated a collaborative programme to combat marine pollution, with a particular focus on the pervasive issue of marine plastic litter.



- **A second coordinated initiative addresses the urgent need** for sustainable energy solutions through the development of technologies that convert waste into green hydrogen.
- With the global push towards clean energy, converting biogenic waste into hydrogen presents a promising avenue for achieving sustainability goals.  
**Lauding the collaboration, Principal Scientific Adviser to the Government** Professor Ajay Kumar Sood emphasised that collaborative research is the cornerstone of innovation. He said, These initiatives will harness the strengths of both Indian and European researchers to develop solutions that address our shared environmental challenges.

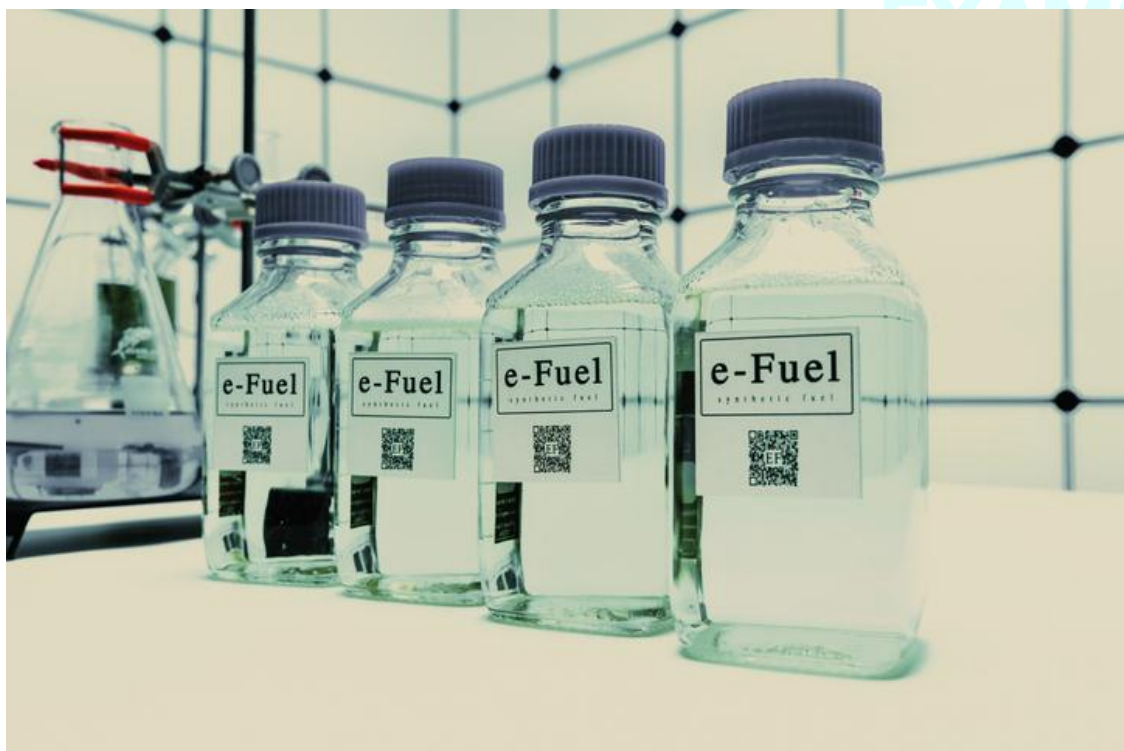
## World's First Commercial-Scale E-Methanol Plant

- Denmark inaugurated the **world's first commercial-scale e-methanol production** plant in Kasso, signaling a major leap forward in sustainable energy and green shipping fuels. The facility, developed by European Energy and Mitsui, will **produce 42,000 metric tons of e-methanol annually** using renewable energy and **captured CO<sub>2</sub>**, aiming to **reduce carbon emissions** in the global shipping industry.
- **Maersk, a global shipping leader, is a key customer**, planning to fuel its fleet of dual-fuel container ships with this low-emission alternative.





- The shipping sector faces growing international pressure to cut greenhouse gas emissions, following global commitments under the **International Maritime Organization (IMO)** to achieve carbon neutrality by 2050. **Traditional fossil fuels are being replaced by cleaner alternatives**, but cost and scale remain challenges. The opening of this plant represents a milestone in making green methanol commercially viable and scaling up sustainable maritime fuel solutions.





- Aim & Objectives
- **To produce e-methanol at commercial scale** as a low-carbon fuel alternative for the shipping industry.
- **To accelerate the transition from fossil fuels** to renewable energy sources in marine transport.
- To support the **IMO's target of eliminating carbon emissions** by 2050.
- To provide **sustainable methanol for other industries**, including plastics and pharmaceuticals.
- Background
- The **Kasso plant cost approximately €150 million (\$167 million)** and is a joint venture between Denmark's European Energy and Japan's Mitsui.
- It produces **53 million litres (42,000 metric tons) of e-methanol per year** using renewable electricity and CO<sub>2</sub> captured from biogas plants and waste incineration.
- Traditional methanol is produced mainly from fossil fuels like natural gas and coal, while e-methanol is carbon-neutral.

## Top Six Patent Filers in 6G Technology

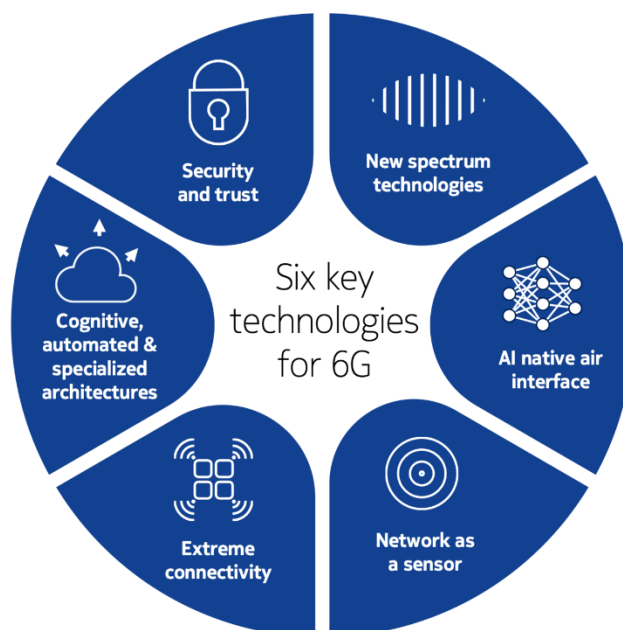
- **India has emerged as one of the top six countries** globally in filing patents for 6G technologies, according to Union Minister of State for Communications and Rural Development, **Dr. Chandra Sekhar Pemmasani**. Speaking at the Bharat 6G 2025 – **3rd International Conference and Exhibition in New Delhi** on May 14, 2025, the Minister emphasized India's commitment to becoming a global leader in next-generation telecom, backed by its proactive research ecosystem and international collaborations.



- **India's position among the top six patent filers in 6G signals** its rising capability in cutting-edge telecom innovation. The announcement aligns with the nation's broader Bharat 6G Vision, which targets global leadership in 6G by 2030. The news holds strategic relevance as countries worldwide compete to shape the standards and future of 6G communication technology.



- **Event:** Bharat 6G 2025 – 3rd International Conference and Exhibition held in New Delhi.
- **Key Speaker:** Dr. Chandra Sekhar Pemmasani, Union MoS for Communications and Rural Development.
- **Main Statement:** India is among the top 6 nations globally in 6G patent filings.



- **Aim: Position India as a global leader in 6G by 2030.**
- Mechanism: Through Bharat 6G Alliance and deep research investments.
- Technology Goals
- Terabit-level speeds.
- Sub-millisecond latency.
- Self-healing intelligent networks.
- Seamless volumetric connectivity – underwater to aerospace.
- Key Developments
- Research Projects: Over 111 funded initiatives, valued at ₹300 crore.
- International Cooperation: Partnerships with Japan, Singapore, and Finland.
- Tech Innovations: Focus on terahertz communication and AI-native networks.

## Khelo India Youth Games 2025 Ends

- **Khelo India Youth Games 2025 will** conclude this evening. Curtains of Youth Games will come down with a colourful and entertaining closing ceremony to be held at the Patliputra Sports Complex in Patna, Bihar, at 6:30 PM. The Youth Games commenced on the 4th of this month.
- **Maharashtra emerged as the overall champion at the games**, garnering 158 medals, including 58 gold and 47 silver. **Haryana, with 117 medals, secured** the second position, winning 39 gold and 27 silver. Rajasthan took third place with 60 medals, 24 gold and 12 silver. The final day witnessed mixed results in basketball, fencing, and weightlifting.

Ranking	State	1	2	3	Total
Grand Total		285	283	388	956
1	 Maharashtra	58	47	53	158 ✓
2	 Haryana	39	27	51	117 ✓
3	 Rajasthan	24	12	24	60 ✓
4	 Karnataka	17	26	15	58 ✓
5	 Delhi	16	20	32	68 ✓
6	 Tamil Nadu	15	21	29	65 ✓

## REVIEW QUESTIONS

**1. Who has recently taken the Oath of Office and Secrecy as Chairman of UPSC**

- A. Neeraj Chopra
- B. Dr. Ajay Kumar
- C. Anita Anand
- D. Mariangela Hungria

**ANSWER: B**

**2. On which date is National Dengue Day observed in India**

- A. May 10
- B. May 12
- C. May 15
- D. May 16

**ANSWER: D**

**3. What is the theme for National Dengue Day 2025**

- A. Prevent, Control, Cure
- B. Stop Dengue Now
- C. Act early, stop dengue: clean environment, healthy life
- D. Dengue Free India

**ANSWER: C**

**4. Who Has Been Awarded The 2025 World Food Prize**

- A. Norman Borlaug
- B. Dr. Ajay Kumar
- C. Anita Anand
- D. Mariangela Hungria

**ANSWER: D**

**5. Mariangela Hungria is recognized for her research in which field**

- A. Vaccine development
- B. Biological nitrogen fixation
- C. Desalination technology
- D. Genetic engineering

**ANSWER: B**



**6. What notable global position has India achieved in 6G patent filings**

- A. Top ten
- B. Top six
- C. Third
- D. First

**ANSWER: B**

**7. What is the goal of India's Bharat 6G Vision**

- A. Achieve net-zero emissions
- B. Become a space superpower by 2030
- C. Global leadership in 6G by 2030
- D. Build nationwide 5G network

**ANSWER: C**

**8. Where has the world's first commercial-scale e-methanol production plant been inaugurated**

- A. Norway
- B. Denmark
- C. Germany
- D. Sweden

**ANSWER: B**

**9. High Mobility Artillery Rocket System Is Developed By Which Country**

- A. United States
- B. France
- C. Israel
- D. Russia

**ANSWER: A**

**10. Bhoramdeo Wildlife Sanctuary Is Located In Which State**

- A. Maharashtra
- B. Bihar
- C. Chhattisgarh
- D. Tamil Nadu

**ANSWER: C**

**11. Which Country Developed A High-resolution Ocean Simulation System Called LICOMK++ To Better Study Ocean & Climate Patterns**

- A. Australia
- B. China
- C. Japan
- D. Russia

**ANSWER: B**

**12. Which Glacier In Nepal Believed To Be First Glacier To Be Declared “Dead”**

- A. Khumbu Glacier
- B. Yala Glacier
- C. Imja Glacier
- D. Ngozumpa Glacier

**ANSWER: B**

**13. ‘Nayi Disha’ Initiative Was Launched In Which City**

- A. Jaipur
- B. Bhopal
- C. New Delhi
- D. Chennai

**ANSWER: C**

**14. Which Company Designed And Developed ‘Bhargavastra’ Counter-swarm Drone System**

- A. Solar Defence and Aerospace Limited
- B. Bharat Dynamics Limited
- C. Hindustan Aeronautics Limited
- D. Defence Research and Development Organisation

**ANSWER: A**

**15. Where Is The ₹3,706 Crore HCL- Foxconn Semiconductor Assembly And Packaging Plant Being Established**

- A. Jewar
- B. Dholera
- C. Hosur
- D. Pune

**ANSWER: A**

**16. Which Indian athlete will be honored with the honorary Lieutenant Colonel rank in the Territorial Army**

- A. Bajrang Punia
- B. Neeraj Chopra
- C. PV Sindhu
- D. Abhinav Bindra

**ANSWER: B**

**17. Which company has launched the AI First India 2025 Startup Accelerator**

- A. Google
- B. Microsoft
- C. Amazon
- D. Meta

**ANSWER: A**

**18. Which state launched a policy to promote the use of artificial sand (m-sand) in government construction projects**

- A. Maharashtra
- B. Gujarat
- C. Karnataka
- D. Rajasthan

**ANSWER: A**

**19. Which city launched 'Sanchari Cauvery' 'Sarala Cauvery' water supply initiatives**

- A. Mumbai
- B. Hyderabad
- C. Bengaluru
- D. Chennai

**ANSWER: C**

**20. The Famous Painting “Bani Thani” Is From Which Among The Following Styles Of Painting**

- A. Kishangarh Painting
- B. Phad Painting
- C. Rajput painting
- D. None of them

**ANSWER: A**

