

# Daily Current Affairs

## 19 June 2025

### India - Croatia

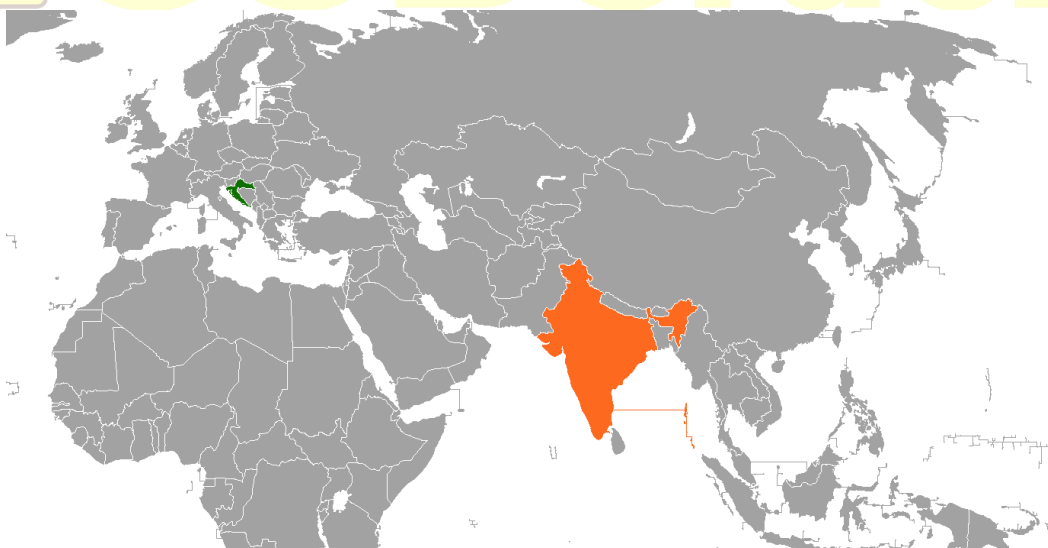
- **Prime Minister Narendra Modi** has concluded his historic and first-ever official visit to Croatia and is on his way to New Delhi. Packed with high-level engagements, the visit **marked a significant elevation in India-Croatia** ties and set the stage for future strategic collaborations.
- Prime Minister Modi held wide-ranging delegation-level talks with his **Croatian counterpart, Andrej Plenković**, at **Banski Dvori** during his day-long visit to the central and southeast European country.



- Both leaders issued a joint press statement, **emphasising their commitment to global peace, democratic values**, and expanding cooperation across trade, technology, and culture. Prime Minister Modi strongly advocated peaceful resolution of conflicts, stating that whether in Europe or Asia, solutions cannot be found on the battlefield.



- He said Dialogue and diplomacy are the **only viable paths forward**. Mr Modi also reaffirmed India's consistent stand on respecting the sovereignty and territorial integrity of all nations. Condemning terrorism as the enemy of humanity, Mr Modi thanked the Croatian leadership and people for standing in solidarity with India following the terrorist attack on April 22 in Pahalgam. He said such support in difficult times reflects the depth of mutual trust and friendship.



- **Both leaders also agreed to deepen** bilateral trade and build resilient, dependable supply chains. **New areas identified for enhanced cooperation** include Pharmaceuticals, Agriculture, Information Technology, Clean and Digital Technologies, Renewable Energy, and Semiconductors. Mr Modi highlighted growing cooperation in shipbuilding, cybersecurity, and defence.

- **A long-term Defence Cooperation Plan will be formulated to** include joint training, military exchanges, and industry-level partnerships. In a major step to strengthen ties, both nations signed four Memoranda of Understanding. First MoU has been inked for cooperation in the field of Agriculture and Allied Sectors.



- **The second MoU has been signed for the Cultural Exchange Programme** for the years 2026-2030. The third one is the Programme of Cooperation in the field of Science & Technology between the concerned Ministries of the two countries for the period 2025-2029. The fourth MoU is regarding the establishment of the Hindi Chair at the University of Zagreb.

## **Tripartite MoU Signed**

- **A tripartite Memorandum of Understanding** was signed in New Delhi between the Department of Empowerment of Persons with Disabilities, **the National Institute of Open Schooling (NIOS)**, and the **National Council of Educational Research and Training (NCERT)**. The MoU aims to **promote inclusive education** for persons with disabilities.
- The signing ceremony was presided over by the **Minister for Social Justice and Empowerment**, Dr. Virendra Kumar, and the Minister for Education, Dharmendra Pradhan. The **primary objective of this collaboration** is to establish a robust framework for promoting inclusive education for persons with

disabilities, in line with the **Rights of Persons with Disabilities Act, 2016**, and the National Education Policy (NEP) 2020.



- This partnership marks a significant step towards creating an inclusive educational **ecosystem that empowers persons with disabilities** and promotes equitable learning opportunities across the country.
- Under this agreement, NIOS will establish **Special Accredited Institutions** for the Education of the Disabled learners, recognizing special schools run by NGOs funded under Deendayal Disabled Rehabilitation Scheme.
- Further, **NCERT will review and adapt the curriculum and textbooks** to ensure alignment with the principles and pedagogical approaches of NEP 2020, focusing on relevance, accessibility, and inclusivity for learners with disabilities.

## Desi Oon

- **Desi Oon**, an animation film by filmmaker **Suresh Eriyat**, has brought international acclaim to Indian animation by winning the Jury Award for Best Commissioned Film at the **Annecy International Animation Festival 2025** in France.
- The **Film was recently crowned Best Film at the World Audio, Video and Entertainment Summit -WAVES 2025** which was held in Mumbai. Waves is India's leading animation and design recognition platform under the Create in India Challenge.



- In addition to the Annecy honour, the film has also been shortlisted at Cannes Lions 2025 in the Film Craft Lions category, making it a landmark achievement for India's animation industry.
- The Director of the animation film **Suresh Eriyat** said that winning in the **WAVES-2025** inspired the whole movement of Create in India challenge. The Create in India Challenge, launched by the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting as part of **WAVES 2025**, has emerged as a transformative platform to identify and elevate India's creative talent onto the global stage.
- One of its standout success stories, **Desi Oon**, widely regarded as the world's most prestigious stage for animation, this rare and monumental win places Indian animation on the world map.

## International Labour Conference

- The **113th International Labour Conference (ILC)** concluded on 13 June 2025. It marked milestone by adopting the **first international labour standards** aimed at protecting workers from biological hazards. This initiative is crucial for enhancing occupational health and safety globally. The newly established



Convention (C 192) sets a framework for Member States to implement national policies addressing biological risks in the workplace.

- **The Convention C 192 mandates that countries formulate policies** to prevent biological hazards. It obliges employers to take preventive measures in collaboration with workers. Training and information dissemination about hazards are essential components. The accompanying Recommendation provides detailed guidance on risk assessment and response measures for emergencies, including outbreaks and pandemics.



- The **Recommendation advises on establishing early warning systems** and training workers. It defines biological hazards and outlines specific routes of exposure. **These include airborne, contact, and vector-borne pathways.** This comprehensive approach aims to create a safer workplace environment.
- The **Conference addressed decent work in the platform economy.** It proposed a Convention and a Recommendation to improve conditions for digital platform workers. Key areas of focus include fair remuneration, social security, and occupational health. **The discussion will continue at the 114th ILC in 2026.**
- **A Resolution was adopted to reduce informality in the workforce.** It calls for urgent actions to enhance working conditions and extend social protection. The ILO is tasked with developing a global roadmap to support national strategies.



- Seven amendments to the **Maritime Labour Convention, 2006**, were approved. These changes address issues such as violence and harassment at sea. They also reinforce seafarers' rights, including shore leave and medical care access.



- The ILC urged Myanmar to implement recommendations on freedom of association and eliminate forced labour. It also expressed concern over Belarus's treatment of trade unionists. The Conference brought into light the need for international monitoring to safeguard workers' rights.
- The ILC decided to allow Palestine to participate as a non-member observer State. This change reflects a shift from its previous status as a liberation movement.

## Lucknow Aims For UNESCO City Of Gastronomy Title

- Lucknow, known for its rich culture and culinary heritage, is vying for recognition as a **UNESCO Creative City of Gastronomy**. The city has officially submitted its nomination, aiming to join the ranks of other global cities celebrated for their gastronomic contributions.
- **Currently, only Hyderabad holds this title in India.** Lucknow's application marks its vibrant food culture, which is a living tradition enriched over centuries. Lucknow's culinary landscape is deeply rooted in the Awadhi tradition. It



features a diverse array of dishes that reflect the city's historical significance. The local cuisine includes renowned items such as nihari, biryani, kebabs, and various sweets.



- **This rich gastronomic heritage is a result of influences** from the royal kitchens of Awadh and the contributions of various communities. The **UNESCO Creative Cities Network was established in 2004** to celebrate cities that excel in creativity across various fields.
- The gastronomy sector specifically recognises cities that have developed a distinctive culinary identity.



- **Cities like Alba in Italy and Arequipa in Peru are part of this prestigious network**, showcasing their unique food cultures. The nomination process



involves thorough documentation and verification by UNESCO. Lucknow's Department of Tourism and Culture is coordinating this effort.

- **The city's submission will include detailed information** about its culinary offerings, demonstrating its potential to contribute to the global gastronomic landscape.
- Lucknow's application emphasises several iconic dishes. **Tunday Kebab is a signature non-vegetarian dish** known for its tender texture. Awadhi Biryani is celebrated for its aromatic layers of meat and rice. The city also boasts a vibrant street food culture, offering vegetarian delights like khasta and kachauri. Sweets such as jalebi and motichur ke laddu are essential to Lucknow's culinary identity.

## International Day Against Unilateral Coercive Measures

- **UN General Assembly has adopted a resolution** declaring December 4 every year as the International Day Against Unilateral Coercive Measures. The resolution passed **with 116 votes in favour, 51 against**, and 6 abstentions. Countries from the Global North, including the EU, Australia, Britain, Canada, Japan, and the United States, voted against it.

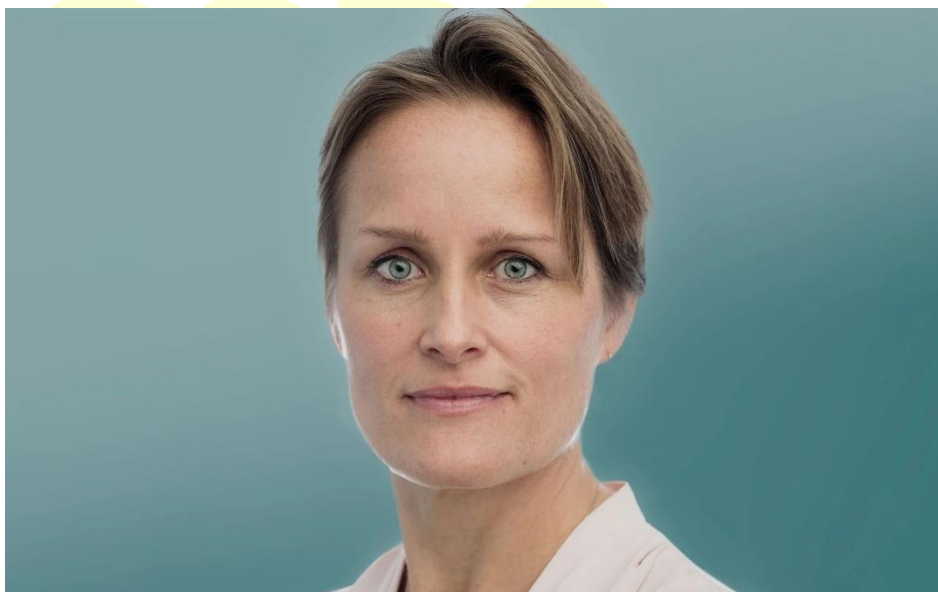


- It urges all states to refrain from using unilateral economic, financial, or trade measures that violate international law or the UN Charter. Such actions, it says, hinder **economic and social development, especially** in developing countries. The resolution aims to raise global awareness of the harmful impact of these measures.

- It also seeks to strengthen international cooperation and solidarity in addressing their consequences. The **UN Secretary-General is asked to ensure** the UN commemorates and promotes the day, as part of broader awareness efforts. All UN members, observers, organisations, civil society, and individuals are invited to observe the day and help spread awareness.

## UK's Foreign Intelligence Agency

- **UK's foreign intelligence agency, MI6**, will be led by a woman for the first time in its 116-year history. Blaise Metreweli, who joined the Secret Intelligence Service in 1999, will become the 18th chief of the organisation, taking over from Richard Moore later this year.
- **Metreweli, who currently oversees technology and innovation** at the agency, said she was proud and honoured to have been asked to lead. Prime Minister Keir Starmer called the appointment 'historic,' noting that it comes at a time when the work of our intelligence services has never been more vital.



## Tribal Empowerment Campaign

- In a landmark step towards inclusive governance and last-mile service delivery, the **Ministry of Tribal Affairs (MoTA)** has launched the DhartiAaba Janbhagidari Abhiyan, the largest-ever tribal empowerment campaign in India. The initiative aims to **saturate government benefits across 549 tribal districts**, 2,900+ blocks, and 207 Particularly Vulnerable Tribal Group (PVTG)-dominated districts, covering nearly 1 lakh villages and habitations. Union Tribal Affairs Minister Shri

Jual Oram described it as a major milestone in realizing the vision of Antyodaya and Viksit Bharat.



- The **DhartiAaba Janbhagidari Abhiyan**, launched on June 15, 2025, marks an ambitious effort to empower tribal communities through doorstep delivery of entitlements. It aligns with the **Janjatiya Gaurav Varsh celebrations** and supports the implementation of PM-JANMAN and DAJGUA initiatives. The campaign, running till June 30, symbolizes a historic convergence of ministries and stakeholders working to ensure no tribal household is left behind.



- **Key Objectives**
- Achieve benefit saturation in tribal areas.
- Deliver essential services to the doorstep of tribal households.
- Promote Janbhagidari (people's participation) in governance.
- Honor tribal heritage under Janjatiya Gaurav Varsh.
- Ensure last-mile delivery under the vision of PM Modi.
- **Coverage and Scale**

- 549 tribal districts, 207 PVTG-dominated districts
- 2,900+ blocks and around 1 lakh villages/habitations
- Involvement of District Magistrates, PRI members, community leaders, and multiple central ministries



- **Services Delivered at Village Camps**
- Aadhaar enrolments and updates
- Ayushman Bharat Health Card issuance
- Jan Dhan Yojana bank account openings
- PM-Kisan enrolments
- Old-age and widow pensions
- Scholarships for tribal students
- Life and accident insurance schemes
- Skill training and livelihood programs
- **Implementation Strategy**
- Camp-based model at village level
- Pre-campaign mobilization by DMs/Deputy Commissioners
- Awareness drives involving Panchayati Raj Institutions
- Ground-level collaboration with community leaders and functionaries
- Larger Umbrella Programs
- PM-JANMAN (Prime Minister's Janjatiya Nyaya Mahabhiyan)
- DAJGUA (Dharti Aaba Janjatiya Gram Utkarsh Abhiyan)



## REVIEW QUESTIONS

**1. The Dharti Aaba Janbhagidari Abhiyan Is Implemented Under Which Larger National Framework**

- A. PM-SURAJ
- B. PM-VIKAS
- C. PM-JANMAN
- D. PM-UTKARSH

**ANSWER: C**

**2. Who Has Been Unanimously Elected As The President Of The International Big Cat Alliance**

- A. S.P. Yadav
- B. Narendra Modi
- C. Bhupendra Yadav
- D. Prakash Javadekar

**ANSWER: A**

**3. Which State Government Has Launched The Jal Ganga Sanvardhan Abhiyan For Water Conservation In 2025**

- A. Madhya Pradesh
- B. Gujarat
- C. Rajasthan
- D. Haryana

**ANSWER: A**

**4. Global Education Monitoring (GEM) Report Is Published By Which Organization**

- A. World Bank
- B. United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization
- C. United Nations Development Programme
- D. International Monetary Fund

**ANSWER: B**

**5. Koraput Kalajeera Rice Got GI Status, Is Cultivated In Which State**

- A. Punjab
- B. Odisha
- C. Andhra Pradesh
- D. Uttar Pradesh

**ANSWER: B**

**6. What Is The Name Of The Operation Launched By Iran In Retaliation Against Israel's Operation Rising Lion**

- A. Operation Desert Storm
- B. Operation Silent Thunder
- C. Operation True Promise 3
- D. Operation Iron Dome

**ANSWER: C**

**7. Which Government Department Has Initiated The NAKSHA Programme For Urban Land Survey**

- A. Department of Land Resources
- B. Department of Commerce
- C. Department of Economic Affairs
- D. Department of Rural Development

**ANSWER: A**

**8. Simhachalam Temple is located in which state**

- A. Kerala
- B. Andhra Pradesh
- C. Tamil Nadu
- D. Gujarat

**ANSWER: B**

**9. Which Country Is Positioning Itself To Become A Global Hub For Arbitration And Other Alternative Dispute Resolution Mechanisms**

- A. Singapore
- B. United Arab Emirates
- C. United Kingdom
- D. India

**ANSWER: D**

**10. Which City Has Been Selected As The National Host For The 11th International Day Of Yoga (IDY) In 2025**

- A. Bhopal
- B. Visakhapatnam
- C. Kochi
- D. Pune

**ANSWER: B**

**11. Who Has Been Appointed As New Managing Director And India Head Of Meta**

- A. Shivanth Thukral
- B. Sandhya Devanathan
- C. Ramesh Menon
- D. Arun Srinivas

**ANSWER: D**

**12. Who Were Runners-up In Men's Doubles Final At WTT Contender Skopje 2025**

- A. Jonghoon Lim and Junsung Oh
- B. Manav Thakkar and Manush Shah
- C. Sathyan Gnanasekaran and Sharath Kamal
- D. Fan Zhendong and Wang Chuqin

**ANSWER: B**

**13. Who Has Been Appointed As The First Female Chief Of The United Kingdom's Foreign Intelligence Agency, MI6**

- A. Blaise Metreweli
- B. Anneliese Stone
- C. Fiona Hill
- D. Samantha Knight

**ANSWER: A**

**14. In Which Year Was The Forest Rights Act, Implemented Under Which The Centre Sanctioned FRA Cells, Enacted**

- A. 2006
- B. 2010
- C. 2014
- D. 2020

**ANSWER: A**

**15. In Which City India's First Agri- Drone Indigenization Facility Inaugurated In June 2025**

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

**ANSWER: C**

**16. In Which Year Is India's 16th National Census, Including Caste Enumeration, Scheduled To Be Conducted**

- A. 2025
- B. 2027
- C. 2026
- D. 2030

**ANSWER: B**

**17. Which Ministry Has Inaugurated The Lok Samvardhan Parv In New Delhi**

- A. Ministry of Minority Affairs
- B. Ministry of Culture
- C. Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs
- D. Ministry of Home Affairs

**ANSWER: A**

**18. Which City In UP Officially Nominated For Inclusion In Unesco's Creative Cities Network As A City Of Gastronomy**

- A. Lucknow
- B. Varanasi
- C. Ayodhya
- D. Meerut

**ANSWER: A**



**19. Shongtong - Karcham Hydroelectric Project Is Located In Which State**

- A. Punjab
- B. Uttarakhand
- C. Himachal Pradesh
- D. Uttar Pradesh

**ANSWER: C**

**20. Which Of Following Culture Is Known For Brownish Red Pottery**

- A. Malwa culture
- B. Eastern Neolithic culture
- C. Burzahom culture
- D. Jorwe culture

**ANSWER: B**