

Daily Current Affairs

14 May 2026

India Imposes Immediate Ban on Sugar

- India has imposed an immediate ban on the exports of sugars until September 30, 2026. This policy aims to protect the domestic supply and controlling inflation risks. As India is world's second largest sugar producer this move affects both domestic markets and global sugar prices.
- The Directorate General of Foreign Trade (DGFT) under the Ministry of Commerce and Industry has officially changed the sugar export policy from 'restricted' to 'prohibited.'
- The ban applies to,
 - Raw sugar
 - White sugar
 - Refined sugar
- Estimated numbers are,
 - Sugar production: 275 lakh tonnes
 - Opening stock: 50 lakh tonnes
 - Total availability: 325 lakh tonnes
 - Domestic demand: 280 lakh tonnes
 - Closing stock estimate: 45 lakh tonnes
- That closing stock level would be among the lowest in the recent years.
- For comparison the stock levels had fallen to around 39.4 lakh tonnes in the year 2016-17 period in which it saw supply stress.



Yoweri Museveni Sworn In for Seventh Term as Uganda President

- Uganda's President Yoweri Museveni has created the landmark milestone as he has been sworn in as seventh term as President and extends one of the longest political regions in the modern Africa.
- According to the Uganda's Electoral Commission he had won 71.65% of the vote in the January presidential election.
- While his main challenger Mr. Bobi Wine has received the 24.72%.



Rahul Dravid Becomes Owner of Dublin Franchise in ETPL

- India's legend cricketer Rahul Dravid become the owner of the Dublin franchise in the European T20 Premier League (ETPL). As ETPL will be launch in this year and it is the Europe's first ICC sanctioned multi country franchise T20 competition.
- The European T20 Premier League (ETPL) is the new franchise based cricket competition which is designed to accelerate the cricket's growth in Europe.
- As compare to other domestic T20 leagues which are focused on one country and ETPL is built as a multi country tournament which involves cricket boards from,
 - Ireland
 - Scotland
 - Netherlands
- The competition has been launched in partnership with the,
 - Cricket Ireland
 - Cricket Scotland
 - Royal Dutch Cricket Association
- The full team lineup includes,
 - Dublin Guardians
 - Belfast franchise
 - Edinburgh franchise
 - Glasgow franchise
 - Amsterdam franchise
 - Rotterdam franchise



International Day of Families 2026

- The International Day of Families is observed every year on 15 May to highlight the importance of families in society and raise awareness about issues affecting family wellbeing across the world.
- The day also encourages governments and organizations to develop policies that support stronger, healthier, and more secure families.
- The official theme for International Day of Families 2026 is:
- “Families, Inequalities and Child Wellbeing”



India Approves Ahmedabad-Dholera Semi High-Speed Rail Project

- India approved the Ahmedabad (Sarkhej)–Dholera Semi High-Speed Double Line project on 13 May 2026. The project is estimated at about ₹20,667 crore and will add around 134 km of railway line in Gujarat. It is planned as India's first semi high-speed rail project developed with indigenous technology.
- The corridor will connect Ahmedabad, the Dholera Special Investment Region, the upcoming Dholera Airport, and the Lothal National Maritime Heritage Complex. The line is designed to improve rail access in the Ahmedabad-Dholera region, which is part of Gujarat's industrial and infrastructure network.
- The project is designed for train operation at 220 kmph and will operate at 200 kmph. The travel time between Sabarmati and Dholera is planned to reduce to 48 minutes. The project completion target is 2030–31.

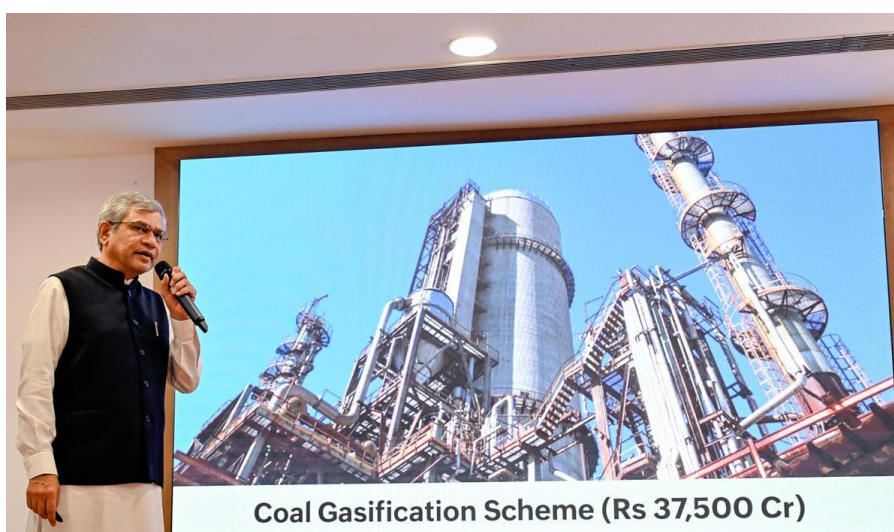


Cabinet Approves ₹37,500-crore Coal Gasification Scheme

- The Union Cabinet approved a ₹37,500 crore Scheme for Promotion of Surface Coal/Lignite Gasification Projects on 13 May 2026. The scheme covers coal and lignite gasification projects and includes financial incentives, project selection through competitive bidding, and milestone-linked disbursement.
- Coal gasification is a process that converts coal or lignite into synthesis gas, also called syngas, which mainly contains carbon monoxide, hydrogen, carbon

dioxide, methane, and water vapour. Syngas is used as an intermediate feedstock for chemicals, fertilisers, fuels, and industrial gases.

- The scheme aims to support gasification of about 75 million tonnes of coal and lignite through new projects. It targets investment mobilisation of ₹2.5–3 lakh crore and the creation of about 50,000 jobs. The national target for coal gasification is 100 million tonnes by 2030.
- The financial incentive is capped at 20% of the plant and machinery cost.
- The incentive limit is ₹5,000 crore per project.
- The incentive limit is ₹9,000 crore per product, excluding synthetic natural gas and urea.
- The incentive limit is ₹12,000 crore per entity group.
- India imports over 50% of its liquefied natural gas, about 20% of its urea, nearly 100% of its ammonia, and 80–90% of its methanol. Coal gasification projects can produce feedstock for methanol, ammonia, and synthetic natural gas, which are used in the fertiliser, chemical, and energy sectors.

**SSB**Crack
EXAMS

N. Rangasamy Sworn In as Puducherry CM

- N. Rangasamy was sworn in as the Chief Minister of Puducherry for the fifth time on 13 May 2026. The oath of office and secrecy was administered by Lieutenant Governor K. Kailashnathan at Lok Nivas in Puducherry. He leads a National Democratic Alliance government in the Union Territory, which began its second consecutive term in power.
- Puducherry is a Union Territory with a legislative assembly, and its Council of Ministers is headed by the Chief Minister. The Union Territory follows the parliamentary system of government under the Government of Union

Territories Act, 1963, and the Chief Minister is appointed by the Lieutenant Governor.

- The National Democratic Alliance in Puducherry includes the All-India N.R. Congress, Bharatiya Janata Party, All India Anna Dravida Munnetra Kazhagam, and Latchiya Jananayaga Katchi. Along with Rangasamy, Malladi Krishna Rao of the All-India N.R. Congress and A. Namassivayam of the Bharatiya Janata Party were sworn in as ministers.
- Puducherry is one of the eight Union Territories of India and has a legislative assembly.
- The Lieutenant Governor administers the oath of office and secrecy in Puducherry.
- Yanam is one of the four regions of Puducherry, along with Puducherry, Karaikal, and Mahe.



India-Oman CEPA to Come Into Force from June 1

- India and Oman have finalised the Comprehensive Economic Partnership Agreement (CEPA), which is expected to come into force on 1 June 2026. The agreement was signed in December 2025 and Oman ratified it through a Royal decree in February 2026.
- A Free Trade Agreement (FTA) is a trade pact between two or more economies that reduces or removes customs duties on specified goods and services. CEPA is a broader form of trade agreement that can cover goods, services, investment, and economic cooperation.

- India will get duty-free access for 98% of its exports to Oman under the agreement. These exports include textiles, agricultural products, and leather items. India will also reduce tariffs on Omani products such as dates, marbles, and petrochemical items.
- Bilateral trade between India and Oman stood at about US\$10.61 billion in FY2024-25. India and Oman held discussions in New Delhi on 12 May 2026 on economic cooperation and trade facilitation.
- CEPA stands for Comprehensive Economic Partnership Agreement.
- Oman ratified the agreement through a Royal decree in February 2026.
- India will receive duty-free access for 98% of its exports to Oman.
- Bilateral trade between India and Oman reached about US\$10.61 billion in FY2024-25.



REVIEW QUESTIONS

1. India imposed a ban on sugar exports until:

- A. December 2026
- B. March 2027
- C. September 30, 2026
- D. January 2027

Answer: C. September 30, 2026

Explanation: India banned sugar exports till September 30, 2026, to protect domestic supply and control inflation.

2. Which organisation changed India's sugar export policy from "restricted" to "prohibited"?

- A. RBI
- B. NITI Aayog
- C. DGFT
- D. SEBI

Answer: C. DGFT

Explanation: The Directorate General of Foreign Trade (DGFT) implemented the export ban policy.

3. Yoweri Museveni was sworn in for which term as Uganda's President?

- A. Fifth
- B. Sixth
- C. Seventh
- D. Eighth

Answer: C. Seventh

Explanation: Museveni began his seventh term, extending one of Africa's longest political tenures.

4. Who became the owner of the Dublin franchise in the European T20 Premier League (ETPL)?

- A. Virat Kohli
- B. Rahul Dravid
- C. MS Dhoni
- D. Rohit Sharma

Answer: B. Rahul Dravid

Explanation: Rahul Dravid became the owner of the Dublin franchise in the ETPL.

5. The official theme of the International Day of Families 2026 is:

- A. Families and Global Peace
- B. Families for Sustainable Future

- C. Families, Inequalities and Child Wellbeing
- D. Healthy Families, Healthy Nations

Answer: C. Families, Inequalities and Child Wellbeing

Explanation: This theme focuses on inequality and the wellbeing of children within families.

6. India's first indigenous semi high-speed rail project will connect Ahmedabad with:

- A. Surat
- B. Rajkot
- C. Dholera
- D. Gandhinagar

Answer: C. Dholera

Explanation: The Ahmedabad–Dholera Semi High-Speed Rail Project was approved in May 2026.

7. The Ahmedabad–Dholera rail corridor is designed for a maximum speed of:

- A. 160 kmph
- B. 180 kmph
- C. 200 kmph
- D. 220 kmph

Answer: D. 220 kmph

Explanation: The project is designed for speeds up to 220 kmph.

8. Coal gasification converts coal into:

- A. Biofuel
- B. Syngas
- C. Ethanol
- D. Hydrogen peroxide

Answer: B. Syngas

Explanation: Coal gasification produces synthesis gas (syngas), used in chemicals and fuels.

9. N. Rangasamy took oath as the Chief Minister of Puducherry for the:

- A. Third time
- B. Fourth time
- C. Fifth time
- D. Sixth time

Answer: C. Fifth time

Explanation: N. Rangasamy became the Chief Minister of Puducherry for the fifth time.

10. Under the India-Oman CEPA, India will receive duty-free access for what percentage of exports to Oman?

- A. 75%
- B. 85%
- C. 90%
- D. 98%

Answer: D. 98%

Explanation: The CEPA agreement provides India duty-free access for 98% of its exports to Oman.