

Daily Current Affairs

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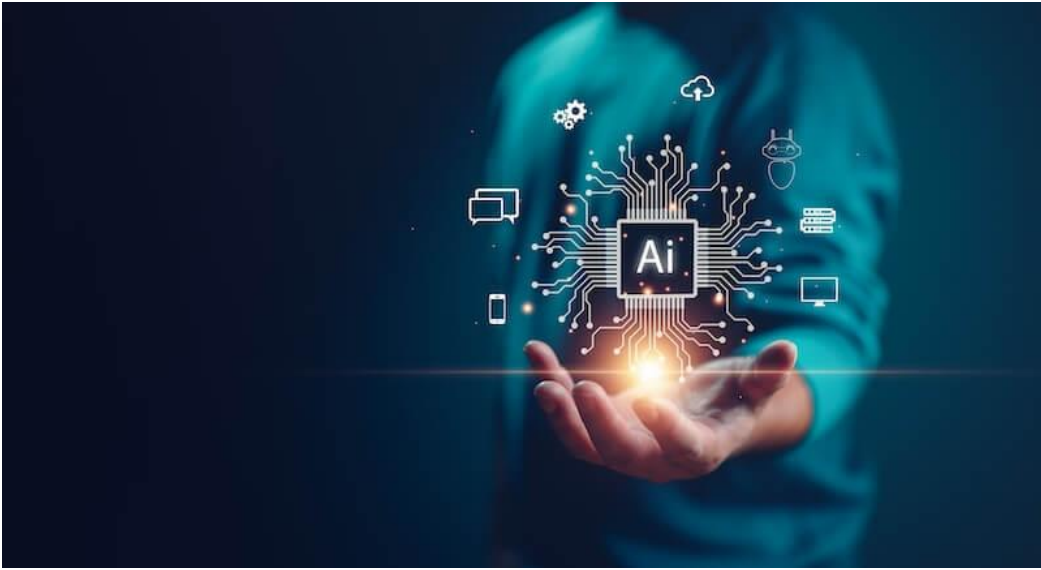
World No Tobacco Day 2026

- On 31st May every year world observes the World No Tobacco Day to raise the awareness about the harmful effects of tobacco use encourage global action against nicotine addiction.
- This day was established by the World Health Organization (WHO) in the year 1987 and the campaign serves as the reminder of health, social, economic and environmental consequences of tobacco consumption.
- The 2026 theme is '**Unmasking the Appeal: Countering Nicotine and Tobacco Addiction**' and focuses on exposing the tactics used by the tobacco and nicotine industry to attract the new users.
- Tobacco smoke contains the carcinogens compounds that damage DNA within cells.
- This damage can,
 - Trigger abnormal cell growth.
 - Cause mutations.
 - Weaken the immune system.
 - Increase chronic inflammation.



India Ranks 4th in AI Performance

- India ranked 4th globally in Artificial Intelligence performance and 5th in digital economy rankings in the State of India's Digital Economy 2026 report. India improved its digital economy position from 8th in 2025 to 5th in 2026, and it stood behind the United States, China and Singapore in AI performance.
- The State of India's Digital Economy 2026 report was released on 29 May 2026 by the ICRIER-Prosus Centre for Internet and Digital Economy. The report assessed India's position across AI performance, digital trade, talent, and digital adoption indicators.
- India ranked 4th globally in AI performance and placed ahead of several developed economies, including Germany, France, Japan, the United Kingdom and Canada, in key AI and digital metrics. India also has the world's second-largest AI talent pool.
- India generated about US\$328 billion in digitally delivered trade, including software exports, IT services and cloud-based solutions. Digitally delivered trade is a category used in global trade statistics for services delivered through digital networks.
- Developing countries accounted for 72% of global AI users, with India and China together making up nearly two-fifths of that total. A LinkedIn study cited in the Stanford University 2026 AI Index placed India first in AI skill penetration on LinkedIn and second in AI talent growth globally between 2019 and 2025.



Rajesh Singh Gets Additional Charge as DRDO Chairman

- Defence Secretary Rajesh Kumar Singh was given the additional charge of Secretary, Department of Defence Research and Development, and Chairman of the DRDO on 29 May 2026. He will take up the additional responsibilities from 31 May 2026, after the completion of the tenure of **Dr. Samir V. Kamat**.
- The DRDO is India's premier defence research agency under the Ministry of Defence. It works on military technology, weapons systems, and strategic research for the armed forces.
- The Appointments Committee of the Cabinet approves senior-level appointments in the Government of India. It issued the order for this additional charge on 29 May 2026.
- Rajesh Kumar Singh is a 1989-batch Indian Administrative Service officer of the Kerala cadre. He has served as Defence Secretary since 1 November 2024.



Myanmar President Begins Official Visit to India

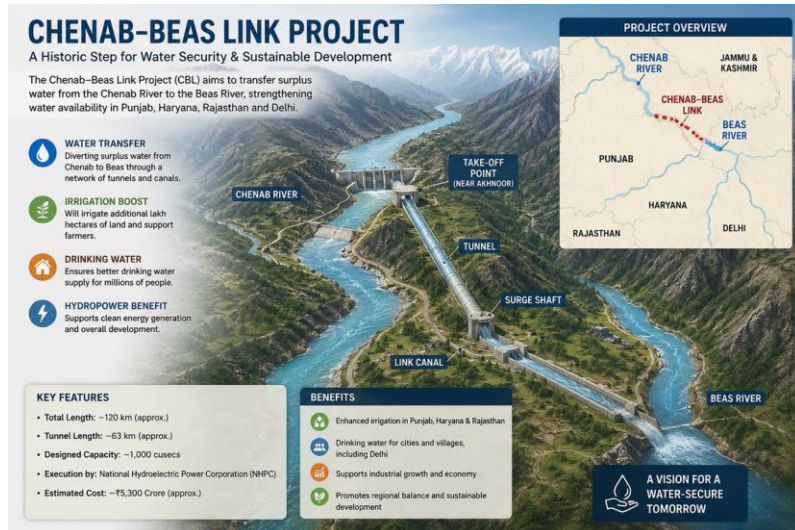
- Myanmar President U Min Aung Hlaing began a five-day official visit to India on 30 May 2026. The visit runs from 30 May to 3 June 2026 and includes meetings in New Delhi, Bodh Gaya, and Mumbai.
- India and Myanmar share a land border of about 1,643 kilometres across Arunachal Pradesh, Nagaland, Manipur, and Mizoram. The two countries have cooperation in trade, connectivity, border management, and defence under the framework of India's Act East Policy.
- Min Aung Hlaing is scheduled to meet Prime Minister Narendra Modi on 1 June 2026 in New Delhi. He is also expected to meet President Droupadi Murmu during the visit, and he will visit Bodh Gaya on 30 May 2026 and Mumbai on 2 June 2026 for business and industry interactions.
- Min Aung Hlaing was sworn in as Myanmar's president in April 2026 after leading the military takeover in 2021. The 2021 coup removed the elected government led by Aung San Suu Kyi and brought the military-backed administration to power.



Chenab–Beas River-Link Project Approved in Himachal Pradesh

- The Central government of India approved the Chenab–Beas Link Tunnel project in May 2026 as one of the major river-linking infrastructure projects connected with the Chenab River. The project is planned in Himachal Pradesh and has an estimated cost of **₹2,352 crore**.
- The project includes an 8.7-kilometre tunnel for diverting surplus water from the Chenab basin into the Beas river system. The diversion is linked to the Indus river system, which includes the Chenab, Jhelum, Ravi, Beas, and Sutlej rivers.
- Phase 1 of the project includes a proposed 19-metre-high barrage on the Chandra River near Koksar village in the Lahaul valley of Himachal Pradesh. The Chandra river is a tributary in the upper Chenab basin in the western Himalayas.
- The **National Hydroelectric Power Corporation**, or NHPC, will handle the project. The project is expected to facilitate nearly **4,000 MW** of additional hydropower generation in Himachal Pradesh.
- India placed the **Indus Waters Treaty** with Pakistan in abeyance in April 2025. The treaty, signed in 1960, governs the sharing of waters of the Indus river system between India and Pakistan.
- The Chenab River is one of the western rivers of the Indus river system under the Indus Waters Treaty.
- The Beas river is a tributary of the Sutlej River and flows through Himachal Pradesh and Punjab.
- NHPC is a central public sector enterprise engaged in hydropower development in India.

- River-linking projects in India are associated with inter-basin water transfer and irrigation planning.



Suman Kalyanpur Dies at 89

- Suman Kalyanpur, a veteran playback singer associated with Hindi and Marathi film music, died on 31 May 2026 at the age of 89. She died at her residence in Lokhandwala, Mumbai, due to age-related ailments. Her last rites were scheduled for 1 June 2026 at the Pawan Hans crematorium in Mumbai.
- Suman Kalyanpur sang in Hindi, Marathi, Bengali, Kannada, and Assamese film industries. Playback singing in Indian cinema refers to pre-recorded songs sung by professional singers for actors on screen. Her career spanned more than six decades and included songs such as Aajkal Tere Mere Pyar Ke Charche and Na Na Karte Pyar Tumhin Se.
- Suman Kalyanpur received the Padma Bhushan in 2023. The Padma Bhushan is India's third-highest civilian award, after the Bharat Ratna and the Padma Vibhushan. It is conferred by the Government of India for distinguished service of a high order in any field.



REVIEW QUESTIONS

1. World No Tobacco Day is observed every year on which date?

- A) 15 May
- B) 31 May
- C) 5 June
- D) 1 June

Answer: B) 31 May

2. What is the theme of World No Tobacco Day 2026?

- A) Tobacco-Free Future
- B) Quit Today, Live Tomorrow
- C) Unmasking the Appeal: Countering Nicotine and Tobacco Addiction
- D) Healthy Life Without Tobacco

Answer: C) Unmasking the Appeal: Countering Nicotine and Tobacco Addiction

3. Which organization established World No Tobacco Day in 1987?

- A) UNESCO
- B) UNICEF
- C) WHO
- D) UNDP

Answer: C) WHO

4. According to the State of India's Digital Economy 2026 Report, India ranked _____ globally in AI performance.

- A) 2nd
- B) 3rd
- C) 4th
- D) 5th

Answer: C) 4th

5. Which three countries ranked above India in AI performance in 2026?

- A) USA, China, Singapore
- B) USA, Japan, Germany
- C) China, UK, Singapore
- D) USA, South Korea, Japan

Answer: A) USA, China, Singapore

6. Who was given the additional charge of Chairman of DRDO in May 2026?

- A) Ajit Doval
- B) Rajesh Kumar Singh
- C) Samir V. Kamat
- D) Manoj Pande

Answer: B) Rajesh Kumar Singh

7. The Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) functions under which ministry?

- A) Ministry of Home Affairs
- B) Ministry of Science and Technology
- C) Ministry of Defence
- D) Ministry of External Affairs

Answer: C) Ministry of Defence

8. Myanmar President Min Aung Hlaing's official visit to India was scheduled from:

- A) 25–29 May 2026
- B) 28 May–1 June 2026

- C) 30 May–3 June 2026
- D) 1–5 June 2026

Answer: C) 30 May–3 June 2026

9. The Chenab–Beas River-Link Tunnel Project has an estimated cost of:

- A) ₹1,850 crore
- B) ₹2,352 crore
- C) ₹3,500 crore
- D) ₹4,000 crore

Answer: B) ₹2,352 crore

10. Which civilian award was conferred upon Suman Kalyanpur in 2023?

- A) Bharat Ratna
- B) Padma Shri
- C) Padma Vibhushan
- D) Padma Bhushan

Answer: D) Padma Bhushan

