

# Daily Current Affairs

## 24 June 2026

### International Day of Women in Diplomacy 2026

- On 24th June, International Day of Women in Diplomacy 2026 is observed all round the world. This celebrates the growing contributions of the women in international relations, diplomacy, and global decision-making.
- As in the current times, countries faces the complex challenges such as climate change, conflicts, economic uncertainty, and migration the role of the women to shaping the foreign policy has become increasingly important.
- The observance aims to achieve the several important goals such as,
  - Promote Gender Equality
  - Recognize Women's Contributions
  - Inspire Future Generations
  - Address Structural Barriers
  - Strengthen Inclusive Decision-Making
  - Building an Inclusive Diplomatic Future



## President Murmu Confers 65 Padma Awards

- In the Padma Awards 2026 ceremony Honourable President Droupadi Murmu honored the 65 distinguished personalities from diverse fields, including sports, cinema, music, literature, public affairs, and social service.
- This award recognize the exceptional contributions to the nation and it remain among the India's highest civilian honours. In the second phase of the awards President honored several figures like Rohit Sharma, R. Madhavan, Mammooty, Alka Yagnik, and Vijay Amritraj.
- According to official details, the awards presented included the,
  - 2 Padma Vibhushan awards
  - 7 Padma Bhushan awards
  - 56 Padma Shri awards
- These awards are divided into the three categories,
  - Padma Vibhushan – Exceptional and the distinguished service
  - Padma Bhushan – Distinguished service of high order
  - Padma Shri – Distinguished service in any field



## Cristiano Ronaldo Becomes First Player to Score in Six

- Football legend and global icon Cristiano Ronaldo achieved historic milestone as he becomes the first player in football history to score in the six different FIFA World Cup tournaments.

- He achieved the milestone during Portugal's dominant 5-0 victory over Uzbekistan in the 2026 FIFA World Cup. This historic performance came after the disappointing result from the first match against DR Congo.
- At the 41 years of age, Ronaldo continues to redefine his longevity and excellence in the international football.
- His first goal against the Uzbekistan came in the sixth minute when cross from João Cancelo found him inside the penalty area.
- Ronaldo's World Cup scoring record spans across the two decades and six tournaments,
- 2006,2010, 2014, 2018, 2022, 2026 FIFA World Cup
- **Most FIFA World Cup goals for Portugal**
- Cristiano Ronaldo – 10\*
- Eusebio – 9
- Pauleta – 4
- Jose Torres – 3
- Jose Augusto – 3
- Goncalo Ramos – 3



## QS World Future Skills Index 2027

- India has secured the 13th position in the QS World Future Skills Index of 2027 and it highlights the country's growing readiness for the artificial intelligence-driven future.
- The latest report which was released by the global higher education analytics firm QS has recognizes the India as one of the strongest-performing lower-middle-income economies in preparing for the AI-led economic transformation.
- The QS World Future Skills Index is the global assessment which measures how prepared countries are to capitalize the opportunities that are created by the artificial intelligence, digital technologies and emerging industries.
- India has achieved the overall score of the 89.4 out of 100 and it placing it as 13th globally.
- The top three countries in the QS World Future Skills Index 2027 are the,
  - United States
  - Australia
  - United Kingdom



## UN Launches Methane Action and AI Transparency Drive

- United Nations Secretary-General António Guterres addressed London Climate Action Week at Guildhall in London on 23 June 2026 and announced a global Call to Action on Methane and an AI Environmental Transparency Initiative.
- Methane is a greenhouse gas that is about 80 times more potent than carbon dioxide over the short term, and oil and gas operations account for a large share of global methane emissions.

- Methane is the second-largest driver of climate warming after carbon dioxide in many climate assessments. The oil and gas sector releases methane through leaks, venting, and flaring, and existing technology can eliminate around 70 per cent of these emissions in many cases.
- Guterres called for a new global standard for the oil and gas sector to achieve near-zero methane emissions across the value chain.
- The AI Environmental Transparency Initiative seeks public disclosure by major AI companies of carbon, water, and land footprints. Data centres used for artificial intelligence require electricity for computing, water for cooling, and land for infrastructure.
- Methane is the main component of natural gas and is classified as a potent greenhouse gas.
- Flaring is the controlled burning of natural gas at oil extraction sites.
- Data centres are facilities that store, process, and distribute digital data for computing services.
- Renewable energy sources include solar, wind, hydroelectric, and geothermal power.



## EU Joins Pax Silica AI Supply Chain Initiative

- The European Union agreed on 3 June 2026 to join Pax Silica, a United States-led initiative on artificial intelligence supply chains and export controls. The accession was announced at a Pax Silica summit in Washington, D.C., in June 2026, and the initiative was launched by the United States in December 2025.
- Pax Silica is a strategic framework for allied coordination on the AI ecosystem. Its scope includes computing power, semiconductors, critical minerals, energy,

and digital infrastructure. The initiative seeks to build a secure and innovation-driven silicon supply chain. It also covers export controls for sensitive technologies used in AI systems.

- The European Commission received approval from EU member states to formally join the initiative. France initially objected, while Germany, Italy, and the Netherlands supported a common EU position. The European Commission secured assurances that the Pax Silica declaration is a non-binding political statement.
- The arrangement does not alter EU internal decision-making or regulatory autonomy. The EU accession includes a commercial commitment to purchase at least 40 billion United States dollars' worth of U.S. AI chips under the broader EU-U.S. trade framework.



## REVIEW QUESTIONS

**1. International Day of Women in Diplomacy is observed every year on which date?**

- A. 21 June
- B. 22 June
- C. 23 June
- D. 24 June

**Answer:** D. 24 June

**Explanation:** The International Day of Women in Diplomacy is observed annually on 24 June to recognize and promote women's contributions to diplomacy and international relations.

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**2. Which of the following is NOT one of the objectives of the International Day of Women in Diplomacy?**

- A. Promote Gender Equality
- B. Inspire Future Generations
- C. Increase Military Spending
- D. Address Structural Barriers

**Answer:** C. Increase Military Spending

**Explanation:** The observance focuses on gender equality, recognition of women's contributions, and inclusive decision-making, not military expenditure.

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**3. How many Padma Awards were conferred by President Droupadi Murmu in the second phase of Padma Awards 2026?**

- A. 55
- B. 60
- C. 65
- D. 75

**Answer:** C. 65

**Explanation:** President Murmu honored 65 distinguished personalities from various fields during the ceremony.

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**4. Which Padma Award category is given for "Exceptional and Distinguished Service"?**

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

**Answer:** D. Padma Vibhushan

**Explanation:** Padma Vibhushan is India's second-highest civilian award and is given for exceptional and distinguished service.

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**5. Cristiano Ronaldo became the first footballer to score in how many different FIFA World Cup tournaments?**

- A. Four
- B. Five

- C. Six
- D. Seven

**Answer:** C. Six

**Explanation:** Ronaldo created history by scoring in six different FIFA World Cups (2006–2026).

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**6. Against which country did Cristiano Ronaldo achieve this historic World Cup milestone in 2026?**

- A. DR Congo
- B. Uzbekistan
- C. Brazil
- D. Morocco

**Answer:** B. Uzbekistan

**Explanation:** Ronaldo achieved the record during Portugal's 5–0 victory over Uzbekistan.

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**7. What was India's rank in the QS World Future Skills Index 2027?**

- A. 10th
- B. 11th
- C. 13th
- D. 15th

**Answer:** C. 13th

**Explanation:** India secured the 13th position with an overall score of 89.4 out of 100.

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**8. Which country ranked first in the QS World Future Skills Index 2027?**

- A. Australia
- B. United Kingdom
- C. Canada
- D. United States

**Answer:** D. United States

**Explanation:** The United States topped the QS World Future Skills Index 2027.

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**9. Methane is approximately how many times more potent than carbon dioxide in the short term?**

- A. 20 times
- B. 40 times
- C. 60 times
- D. 80 times

**Answer:** D. 80 times

**Explanation:** Methane is around 80 times more effective at trapping heat than carbon dioxide over the short term.

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**10. Pax Silica is primarily related to which sector?**

- A. Agriculture Supply Chains
- B. Artificial Intelligence Supply Chains
- C. Space Exploration
- D. Maritime Security

**Answer:** B. Artificial Intelligence Supply Chains

**Explanation:** Pax Silica is a U.S.-led initiative aimed at strengthening AI supply chains, semiconductor cooperation, and export controls on advanced technologies.

