

May - 29

TNPSC BITS

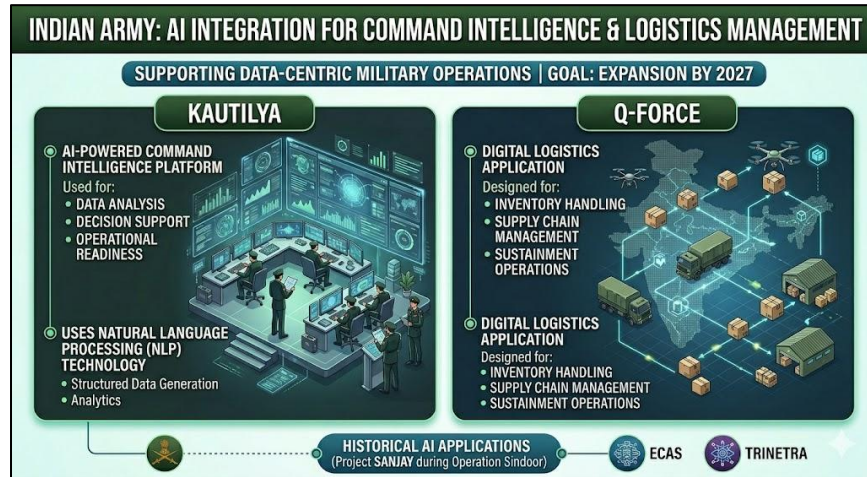
- ❖ Jharkhand will establish India's first Artificial Intelligence (AI)-based Human-Elephant Conflict Research Centre in the Palamu Tiger Reserve.
- ❖ Google introduced "Information Agents" at its 2026 developer conference, which are Artificial Intelligence (AI) tools that continuously monitor the internet and provide personalised updates based on user preferences.
 - These AI agents can track housing listings, travel plans, stock prices, and other personalised information automatically on behalf of users.
- ❖ China successfully launched the Shenzhou 23 spacecraft with three astronauts to the Tiangong Space Station to conduct experiments in space biology, medical science, human physiology, and technology research.
- ❖ India will send its first official freediving team to the World Apnea Pool Championship in Budapest, Hungary, from June 2, 2026.
- ❖ India entered the next generation of wireless connectivity with the start of local manufacturing of Wi-Fi 7 devices by TP-Link.
 - Wi-Fi 7, officially called IEEE 802.11be, is the latest wireless networking standard offering speeds up to 46 Gigabits per second (Gbps), nearly 4.8 times faster than Wi-Fi 6.
- ❖ The Museum of Medical Archives was opened in Ulloor, Thiruvananthapuram, as Kerala's first private medical museum and India's first private medical museum.
- ❖ World Schizophrenia Awareness Day is observed every year on May 24 to spread awareness about schizophrenia and reduce stigma related to mental health.
 - Schizophrenia is a chronic mental health condition that affects thinking, behaviour, emotions, and perception of reality.

NATIONAL NEWS

AI Platforms Kautilya and Q-FORCE

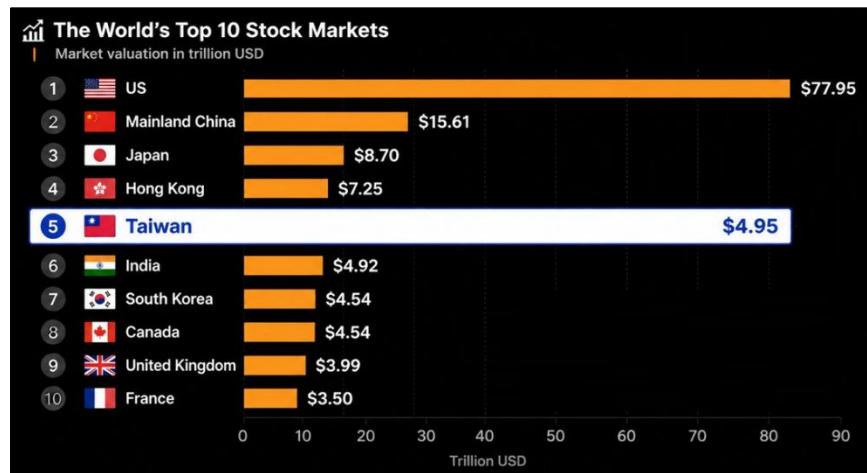
- ❖ The Indian Army developed two Artificial Intelligence (AI)-based platforms, Kautilya and Q-FORCE, for command intelligence and logistics management.
- ❖ Kautilya is an AI-powered command intelligence platform used for data analysis, decision support, and operational readiness.
- ❖ Q-FORCE is a digital logistics application designed for inventory handling, supply chain management, and sustainment operations.

- ❖ Kautilya uses Natural Language Processing (NLP) technology for structured data generation and analytics.
- ❖ The platforms support the Indian Army’s plan to expand AI integration and data-centric military operations by 2027.
- ❖ Earlier AI applications used by the Army included ECAS and TRINETRA under Project SANJAY during Operation Sindoor.



INTERNATIONAL NEWS

5th Largest Market - Taiwan



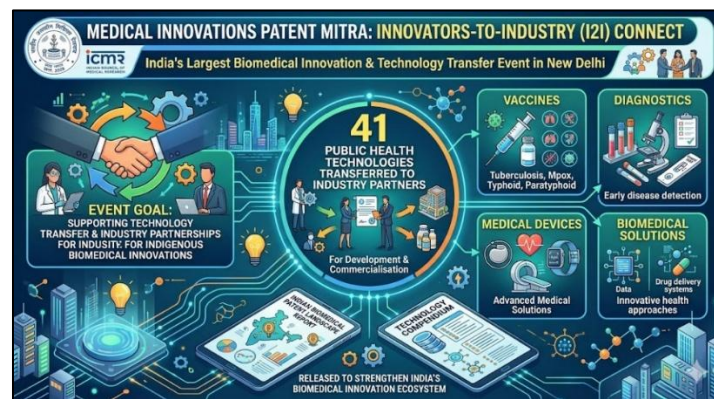
- ❖ Taiwan became the world’s fifth-largest stock market, overtaking India in total market value.
- ❖ Taiwan’s stock market capitalization reached about 4.95 trillion US dollars, while India’s stood at about 4.92 trillion US dollars.

- ❖ The rise was mainly driven by strong growth in Taiwan Semiconductor Manufacturing Company (TSMC), the world's largest chipmaker.
- ❖ According to the latest ranking, the world's largest stock markets are the United States, mainland China, Japan, Hong Kong, Taiwan, and India.
- ❖ Stock market capitalization means the total combined value of all listed companies in a country's stock market.

SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY NEWS

Biomedical Innovation Event

- ❖ Indian Council of Medical Research organised 'Medical Innovations Patent Mitra: Innovators-to-Industry (I2I) Connect', India's largest biomedical innovation and technology transfer event in New Delhi.
- ❖ The event aimed to support technology transfer and industry partnerships for indigenous biomedical innovations.
- ❖ During the event, 41 public health technologies were transferred to industry partners for development and commercialisation.
- ❖ The transferred technologies included vaccines, diagnostics, medical devices, and biomedical solutions for diseases like tuberculosis, Japanese Encephalitis, Mpx, typhoid, and paratyphoid.
- ❖ The 'Indian Biomedical Patent Landscape Report' and 'Technology Compendium' were also released to strengthen India's biomedical innovation ecosystem.



ENVIRONMENT NEWS

Rare Blueberry Rediscovered

- ❖ A rare blueberry relative named *Vaccinium piliferum* was rediscovered in the Changlang district of Arunachal Pradesh after 188 years.

- ❖ The plant was first collected in 1836 from the Mishmi Hills and later recorded in 1850 from the Khasi Hills of Meghalaya.
- ❖ It belongs to the Ericaceae family and is a climbing shrub related to wild blueberry plants.
- ❖ Researchers found only 16 plants in a 2 square kilometre area near the Noa-Dihing River in Vijoynagar, Changlang district, Arunachal Pradesh.
- ❖ The species is listed as “Endangered” by the IUCN.



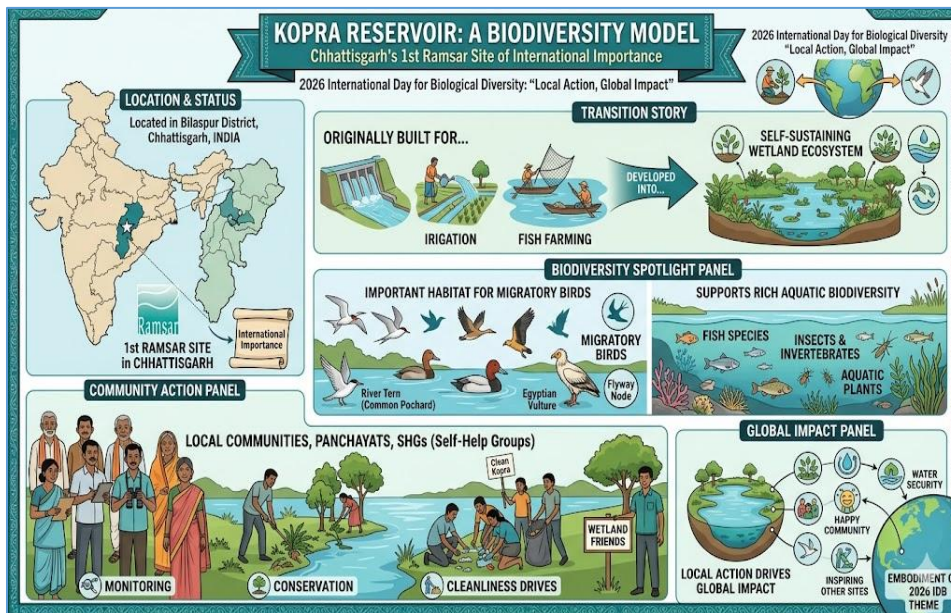
India - IRCC Issuance

- ❖ India became the world leader in issuing Internationally Recognised Certificates of Compliance (IRCCs) under the Nagoya Protocol.
- ❖ India issued around 3,556 IRCCs out of the global total of 6,311 certificates recorded in the ABS (Access and Benefit-Sharing) Clearing-House.
- ❖ The Nagoya Protocol is linked to the Convention on Biological Diversity and focuses on fair sharing of benefits from genetic resources.
- ❖ IRCCs confirm that Prior Informed Consent and Mutually Agreed Terms were followed for using genetic resources.
- ❖ India’s biodiversity framework includes the Biological Diversity Act, 2002, National Biodiversity Authority, State Biodiversity Boards, and Biodiversity Management Committees.

- ❖ Between 2017 and 2025, India generated about ₹263 crore through ABS approvals.



Kopra Reservoir

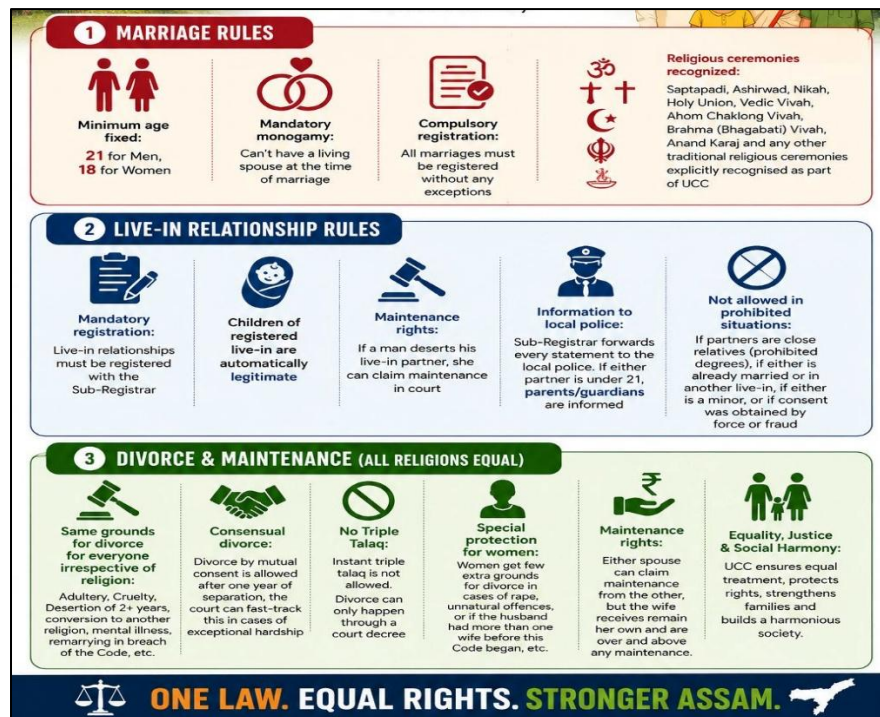


- ❖ The Kopra Reservoir emerged as a biodiversity model under the 2026 International Day for Biological Diversity theme, "Local Action, Global Impact."
- ❖ The Kopra Reservoir is located in the Bilaspur district of Chhattisgarh and is the State's first Ramsar Site of International Importance.
- ❖ It was originally built for irrigation and fish farming and later developed into a self-sustaining wetland ecosystem.

- ❖ The reservoir is an important habitat for migratory birds and supports rich aquatic biodiversity.
- ❖ Local communities, village panchayats, and self-help groups (SHGs) take part in wetland conservation and monitoring activities.

STATE NEWS

Uniform Civil Code Bill 2026 – Assam



1 MARRIAGE RULES

- Minimum age fixed:** 21 for Men, 18 for Women
- Mandatory monogamy:** Can't have a living spouse at the time of marriage
- Compulsory registration:** All marriages must be registered without any exceptions
- Religious ceremonies recognized:** Saptapadi, Ashirwad, Nikah, Holy Union, Vedic Vivah, Ahom Chaklong Vivah, Brahma (Bhagabati) Vivah, Anand Karaj and any other traditional religious ceremonies explicitly recognised as part of UCC

2 LIVE-IN RELATIONSHIP RULES

- Mandatory registration:** Live-in relationships must be registered with the Sub-Registrar
- Children of registered live-in are automatically legitimate**
- Maintenance rights:** If a man deserts his live-in partner, she can claim maintenance in court
- Information to local police:** Sub-Registrar forwards every statement to the local police. If either partner is under 21, parents/guardians are informed
- Not allowed in prohibited situations:** If partners are close relatives (prohibited degrees), if either is already married or in another live-in, if either is a minor, or if consent was obtained by force or fraud

3 DIVORCE & MAINTENANCE (ALL RELIGIONS EQUAL)

- Same grounds for divorce for everyone irrespective of religion:** Adultery, Cruelty, Desertion of 2+ years, conversion to another religion, mental illness, remaining in breach of the Code, etc.
- Consensual divorce:** Divorce by mutual consent is allowed after one year of separation, the court can fast-track this in cases of exceptional hardship
- No Triple Talaq:** Instant triple talaq is not allowed. Divorce can only happen through a court decree
- Special protection for women:** Women get few extra grounds for divorce in cases of rape, unnatural offences, or if the husband had more than one wife before this Code began, etc.
- Maintenance rights:** Either spouse can claim maintenance from the other, but the wife receives remain her own and are over and above any maintenance.
- Equality, Justice & Social Harmony:** UCC ensures equal treatment, protects rights, strengthens families and builds a harmonious society.

ONE LAW. EQUAL RIGHTS. STRONGER ASSAM.

- ❖ The Assam Assembly passed the Uniform Civil Code (UCC) Bill, 2026, to create a common civil law framework in the State.
- ❖ The Bill covers marriage, divorce, inheritance, and registration of live-in relationships.
- ❖ The legislation excludes Scheduled Tribes (STs) from its provisions in recognition of their customary laws.
- ❖ The law will promote gender justice, ban polygamy, and ensure equal succession rights.
- ❖ Assam became the third State after Uttarakhand and Gujarat to pass a Uniform Civil Code law.

AI Water Summit 2026

- ❖ India's first National AI and Digital Water Summit held in Bengaluru.
- ❖ The summit is organised by the Bangalore Water Supply and Sewerage Board (BWSSB) and Elets Technomedia Pvt. Ltd.
- ❖ The event will focus on Artificial Intelligence (AI)-based urban water management, smart infrastructure, and cybersecurity.
- ❖ BWSSB will showcase digital systems such as SCADA, Geographic Information System (GIS) mapping, Internet of Things (IoT)-enabled tanker tracking, and smart metering.
- ❖ The summit will present the "Five Panchasutras" framework for future urban water governance and climate-resilient water security.



Project Zero Against Corruption



- ❖ Kerala launched “Project Zero” as a state-level anti-corruption initiative through the Vigilance and Anti-Corruption Bureau (VACB).
- ❖ Project Zero aims to reduce bribery, cybercrimes, and corruption in government administration.
- ❖ The initiative encourages people to report corruption complaints directly to the Vigilance and Anti-Corruption Bureau (VACB).
- ❖ The programme includes protection and confidentiality for whistleblowers and complainants.
- ❖ It focuses on faster investigation using technology and improved administrative transparency.

PERSONALITIES, AWARDS, AND EVENTS

Padma Awards 2026



- ❖ The President of India presented the Padma Awards 2026 during the Civil Investiture Ceremony held at Rashtrapati Bhavan.
- ❖ Padma Awards were instituted in 1954 and are among the highest civilian awards in India.
- ❖ The awards are given in three categories — Padma Vibhushan, Padma Bhushan, and Padma Shri.
- ❖ A total of 131 awards will be conferred in 2026, including 19 women awardees, 16 posthumous awards, and 6 awardees from the Foreigners/Non-Resident Indians (NRIs)/Persons of Indian Origin (PIOs)/Overseas Citizens of India (OCIs) category.

- ❖ From Tamil Nadu, gastroenterologist Kallipatti Ramasamy Palaniswamy received the Padma Bhushan in Medicine, while S K M Maeilanandhan received the Padma Bhushan for Social Work.
- ❖ The awards recognise distinguished service in fields such as art, literature, science, medicine, public affairs, and social work.

IMPORTANT DAYS

Commonwealth Day in India 2026 – May 24

- ❖ The day aims to celebrate cooperation and shared values among Commonwealth nations.
- ❖ India became a republic on January 26, 1950, under the leadership of Jawaharlal Nehru.
- ❖ India became the first republic to remain a member of the Commonwealth after the 1949 agreement.
- ❖ The Commonwealth is a voluntary association of 56 independent countries working in trade, education, democracy, and development.
- ❖ King Charles III is the present symbolic Head of the Commonwealth.
- ❖ Commonwealth Day promotes unity, international cooperation, and strong relations among member countries.
- ❖ The theme for Commonwealth Day 2026 is “Unlocking Opportunities Together For A Prosperous Commonwealth”.



International Day of United Nations Peacekeepers 2026 - May 29

- ❖ The day aims to honour the service and sacrifice of UN peacekeepers.
- ❖ More than 53,000 civilian, military, and police personnel are currently serving in 11 UN peacekeeping missions worldwide.
- ❖ The day also honours nearly 4,500 peacekeepers who lost their lives while serving in peace missions.
- ❖ Since 1948, over two million peacekeepers have served in more than 70 United Nations peacekeeping missions across the world.
- ❖ The theme for the year 2026 is “Invest in Peace”.

