



**Lt. General N.S. Raja Subramani**

The Govt. of India appointed the 3<sup>rd</sup> **Chief of Defence Staff (CDS)**, the highest ranking military officer of the Indian Armed Forces.



# WEEKLY CURRENT AFFAIRS

*Coverage of*

**8<sup>th</sup> May - 14<sup>th</sup> May, 2026**

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8<sup>th</sup> MAY 2026

## JANANI Platform

- **Context:** The Ministry of Health and Family Welfare launched JANANI (Journey of Antenatal, Natal and Neonatal Integrated Care) at the recently concluded National Summit on Innovation and Inclusivity.



### About JANANI Platform

- It is a service-oriented digital platform designed to comprehensively monitor and maintain digital health records of women during their reproductive age.
- It is developed as an upgraded version of the existing Reproductive and Child Health (RCH) portal.
- It is a digital maternal and child health platform that introduces QR-enabled digital Mother and Child Health (MCH) Cards for easy and portable access to health records.
- It supports real-time monitoring through high-risk pregnancy alerts, supervisory dashboards, and due-list generation for timely interventions.
- It integrates with national systems such as U-WIN and POSHAN to enable seamless data sharing and coordinated beneficiary tracking.
- It allows beneficiary registration using ABHA, Aadhaar, or mobile numbers, supports self-registration, and ensures continuity of care for migratory populations while preventing duplicate records.

## Vadinar Ship Repair Facility

- **Context:** The Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs (CCEA) approved the development of a ship repair facility at Vadinar, Gujarat, at a combined investment of ₹1,570 crore.

### Key Facts

- Vadinar is on the western coast of Gujarat, in the Gulf of Kutch.
- It sits close to Kandla (Deendayal Port) and Mundra, two of India's busiest cargo ports and is well-positioned relative to major shipping lanes in the Arabian Sea.
- The site's natural deep draft makes it physically suitable for berthing very large vessels, which many Indian ports cannot accommodate.

### Do you Know?

India currently accounts for less than 1% of the global ship repair market, despite around 7-9% of all international shipping traffic passing within 300 nautical miles of its coastline. The domestic ship repair market is estimated at around ₹2,000 crore annually.

9<sup>th</sup> MAY 2026

## Somnath Swabhiman Parv

- **Context:** The Somnath Swabhiman Parv commemorates two major historical milestones associated with the Somnath Temple - completion of 1,000 years since the first recorded attack on the temple by Mahmud of Ghazni in 1026 CE; and 75 years since the temple's post-independence reopening in May 1951.

### Key Facts

- **Location:** Prabhas Patan along the Saurashtra coast in Gujrat. It is among India's most sacred pilgrimage centres.
- **Origin:** The origins of Somnath are deeply embedded in ancient Indian tradition. The site is closely linked with Lord Shiva and the worship of Chandra, the Moon God.

- **Characteristics:** Somnath holds a sacred place as the first among the twelve Aadi Jyotirlingas of Lord Shiva.
  - The temple complex includes the Garbhagriha, Sabha mandap and Nritya mandap.
  - It rises in grandeur along the Arabian Sea shoreline.
  - The temple is crowned by a 150-foot Shikhar, topped with a 10-tonne Kalash.
  - Rituals like Bilva Pooja attract over 13.77 lakh devotees yearly.



- **Importance:** It enshrines one of the most sacred Jyotirlingas mentioned in the Shiva Purana.
  - It is revered for the worship of Lord Shiva, Lord Krishna and Shakti.
  - The Dwadasha Jyotirlinga Stotram places Somnath first among the twelve Jyotirlingas
- **Attacks:** The most turbulent phase of Somnath's history began in the eleventh century.
  - In January 1026, Somnath faced its first recorded attack by invaders.
  - This marked the beginning of a long period during which the temple was repeatedly destroyed between the eleventh and eighteenth centuries.
- **Restoration:** Despite repeated destruction, the temple was rebuilt several times by local rulers and devotees.
  - Kumarapala restored the temple in the 12<sup>th</sup> Century.
  - The King of Junagarh again rebuilt it in the thirteenth century.

- Lokmata Ahilyabai Holkar, the Maratha queen of Indore chose to consecrate a new temple at Somnath in the eighteenth century after yet another destruction.
- **Post-independence status:** Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel visited the ruins of Somnath in 1947 and resolved to rebuild the temple. The present temple was constructed in the Kailash Mahameru Prasad architectural style.
  - The temple, which had been destroyed multiple times by Muslim invaders and the Portuguese, was rebuilt in the Chaulukya style of Hindu temple architecture and completed in May 1951. The reconstruction was overseen by Vallabhbhai Patel.
  - On 11 May 1951, the temple was ceremonially consecrated by President Dr. Rajendra Prasad.

### Various Initiatives

- **Somnath Swabhimani Parv:** It celebrates the enduring legacy and resilience of the Somnath Temple. It marks 1,000 years since the first recorded attack on the temple in 1026 and the 75<sup>th</sup> anniversary of its reopening on May 11, 1951, when it was dedicated to the nation by India's first President, Rajendra Prasad.
- Cultural initiatives have deepened public engagement with Somnath's heritage. The Light and Sound Show began in 2003 and was upgraded in 2017. It uses narration and 3D laser technology today. Programs like Vande Somnath Kala Mahotsav have revived 1,500 year-old dance traditions.
- Declared a "Swachh Iconic Place" in 2018, Somnath has adopted innovative sustainability practices.

### Capital to Risk Weighted Assets Ratio (CRAR)

- **Context:** The Reserve Bank of India has revised guidelines for including quarterly profits in banks' Common Equity Tier 1 (CET1) capital used to calculate the Capital to Risk Weighted Assets Ratio (CRAR).

## RBI's Revised Guidelines

- The Reserve Bank of India has relaxed norms allowing banks to include current-year quarterly profits in their capital adequacy calculations (CRAR) by removing an additional condition linked to non-performing assets (NPAs).
  - Earlier, banks could include quarterly profits in Common Equity Tier 1 (CET1) capital only if they met certain NPA-related conditions.
  - The revised directions now remove this requirement, simplifying the process.
- Under the updated framework, banks can reckon quarterly profits for CRAR calculations subject to specified conditions and formulas, along with mandatory audit or limited review of quarterly financial statements.
- Banks must ensure that quarterly financial statements are either fully audited or undergo a limited review before profits can be counted for regulatory capital.

### Do You Know?

Capital to Risk Weighted Assets Ratio (CRAR) is a key indicator used to measure a bank's financial strength and ability to absorb potential losses, while CET1 represents the core capital held by banks.

## TARA Glide Weapon

- **Context:** The DRDO and Indian Air Force successfully tested the Tactical Advanced Range Augmentation (TARA) weapon, designed to convert conventional unguided bombs (also known as dumb bombs, gravity bombs, or iron bombs) into precision-guided munitions (PGMs).



## Key Highlights

- It has been designed and developed by Research Centre Imarat, a Hyderabad-based DRDO laboratory, in collaboration with other DRDO facilities.
- The objective of TARA is to provide a low-cost solution to enhance the lethality and accuracy of existing unguided munitions.
- It is specifically designed to neutralize ground-based targets with high precision, reducing collateral damage and improving mission success rates.

10<sup>th</sup> MAY 2026

## New Labour Codes

- **Context:** Recently, the Union government fully operationalised the four Labour Codes by notifying the corresponding rules through more than 30 Gazette notifications.

## About Four Labour Codes

- **Background of Labour Reforms in India:** India's labour laws were complex and fragmented, compliance-heavy, difficult for businesses to navigate, and inadequate for the informal workforce.
  - The government consolidated 29 labour laws into four broad codes between 2019 and 2020 to improve the Ease of Doing Business.
  - The Codes came into force in November 2025, while the Rules notified in May 2026 complete their implementation framework.
- The four Labour Codes are:
  - Code on Wages, 2019
  - Industrial Relations Code, 2020
  - Code on Social Security, 2020
  - Occupational Safety, Health and Working Conditions (OSHC) Code, 2020
- The government has generated intense debate between the government, employers, trade unions, and opposition parties regarding labour flexibility, workers' rights, and social security protections.

## Key Features

- **Major Provisions of Code on Wages, 2019:**
  - **Universalisation of Minimum Wages:** The Code extends minimum wage provisions to all employees across organised and unorganised sectors.
  - **Floor Wage:** The Central government may fix a national floor wage after considering minimum living standards, food requirements, clothing, housing, and other socio-economic factors.
  - States cannot fix wages below the national floor wage.
  - **Working Hours:**
    - Daily wage employees:** 8 hour workday
    - Weekly work limit:** 48 hours
- **Wage Slips:** Employers must provide wage slips either electronically, or in physical form.
- **Major Provisions of Code on Social Security, 2020:** The Code consolidates laws relating to Employees' Provident Fund (EPF), Employees' State Insurance (ESI), maternity benefits, gratuity, gig and platform workers.
  - **Inclusion of Gig Workers:** Gig and platform workers are formally recognised under social security legislation for the first time.
  - **Changes in Existing Rules:** The Rules amend several frameworks including Employees' State Insurance (Central) Rules, 1950 and EPF Appellate Tribunal Rules, 1997.
- **Major Provisions of Industrial Relations Code, 2020:**
  - **Recognition of Trade Unions:** A trade union with at least 30% membership in an establishment can be recognised as the sole negotiating union.
  - **Other Features:** Simplified dispute resolution, provisions for fixed-term employment, and stricter conditions for strikes and lockouts.
  - **Occupational Safety, Health and Working Conditions Code, 2020:** The OSHWC Code aims to regulate workplace safety, health standards, welfare measures, and working conditions. It merges laws governing factories, mines, contract labour, and migrant workers.

## Multiple Independently Targeted Re-Entry Vehicle (MIRV) system

- **Context:** India conducted the successful flight-trial of an Advanced Agni missile with Multiple Independently Targeted Re-Entry Vehicle (MIRV) system from Dr APJ Abdul Kalam Island, Odisha.



### About Multiple Independently Targeted Re-Entry Vehicle (MIRV) system

- MIRV technology enables missiles to carry multiple warheads that can strike different targets simultaneously, causing extensive damage.
- It strengthens a country's counterattack capability, especially for nations like India with a no-first-use nuclear policy.
- It is difficult to intercept because each warhead follows a separate trajectory and can also carry dummy warheads to bypass missile defence systems.
  - Advanced sensors and avionics further improve targeting accuracy and effectiveness.
- Developed in the 1960s and first used by the United States and the Soviet Union, it was later adopted by China, United Kingdom, and France.

### Importance

- MIRV technology allows a single missile to carry multiple warheads that can strike the same or different targets simultaneously, making it more advanced than traditional single-warhead missiles.
- India's acquisition of MIRV capability significantly strengthens its Agni missile system, especially in response to similar developments by China and Pakistan.

11<sup>th</sup> MAY 2026

## NS Raja Subramani: The 3<sup>rd</sup> Chief of Defence Staff

- **Context:** The Government of India has appointed Lieutenant General NS Raja Subramani as the new Chief of Defence Staff (CDS). He will also function as the Secretary, Department of Military Affairs (DMA).



### About Chief of Defence Staff (CDS)

- The post of CDS was created in 2019 following recommendations of the Kargil Review Committee and subsequent defence reforms.
- The first CDS of India was General Bipin Rawat.
- Role and Responsibilities of the CDS:
  - **Principal Adviser:** Acts as the primary military adviser to the Defence Minister on all tri-services matters.
  - **Department of Military Affairs:** Functions as the Secretary to the Government of India for the Department of Military Affairs.
  - **Military Reform:** Focuses on enhancing synergy, jointness in operations, and modernization of the armed forces.
  - **Theater Commands:** Drives the restructuring of military commands into integrated theater commands.
  - **Strategic and Nuclear Role:** Serves as an important military adviser to the Nuclear Command Authority.

## Krishna Swaminathan: New Chief of the Naval Staff

- **Context:** The Government of India has appointed Vice Admiral Krishna Swaminathan as the next Chief of the Naval Staff (CNS). He will succeed Admiral Dinesh Kumar Tripathi, who is set to retire on May 31, 2026.



### Key Facts

- Vice Admiral Krishna Swaminathan was commissioned into the Indian Navy on July 1, 1987 and is a specialist in Communication and Electronic Warfare.
- He is currently serving as the Flag Officer Commanding-in-Chief of the Western Naval Command.
- He is an alumnus of National Defence Academy (Khadakvasla), Joint Services Command and Staff College (United Kingdom), College of Naval Warfare (Karanja), United States Naval War College (Newport).
- **He has been awarded:** Param Vishisht Seva Medal (PVSM), Ati Vishisht Seva Medal (AVSM), Vishisht Seva Medal (VSM).
- **Key Naval Commands and Roles:** Vice Admiral Krishna Swaminathan has held several major operational, training, and administrative appointments during his long naval career.

## National Technology Day, 2026

- **Context:** National Technology Day is observed annually on 11 May.

### About National Technology Day

- The day commemorates the successful nuclear tests conducted by India at Pokhran in Rajasthan in 1998 under Operation Shakti.
- The day recognizes the contribution of Indian scientists, engineers, and technological institutions to national development and strategic capability.

### About Pokhran-II Nuclear Tests

- India conducted a series of five underground nuclear tests on 11 and 13 May 1998 at the Pokhran Test Range.
- The first three tests were conducted simultaneously on 11 May 1998, followed by two additional tests on 13 May 1998.
- The operation demonstrated India's capability in designing and testing:
  - Fission weapons,
  - Low-yield tactical devices, and
  - Thermonuclear weapon designs.

- India declared itself a nuclear weapon state after the tests. They laid the foundation for India's doctrine of credible minimum deterrence and No First Use (NFU) policy.

## National Panchayat Awards 2025

- **Context:** Kawrthah North Village Council in Mizoram has secured the top rank at the national level under the "Clean and Green Panchayat" category of the Deen Dayal Upadhyay Panchayat Satat Vikas Puraskar 2025, for its work in sustainable rural development and environmental conservation.



### About National Panchayat Awards

- The Ministry of Panchayati Raj annually confers the National Panchayat Awards to recognize and incentivise best-performing Panchayats and promote inclusive, participatory, and sustainable development in rural India.
- The awards are given under the Incentivization of Panchayats (IoP) scheme, a central component of the Centrally Sponsored Scheme of Rashtriya Gram Swaraj Abhiyan (RGSA).
- Winning Panchayats receive financial incentives ranging from ₹50 lakh to ₹5 crore per awardee, depending on tier and category.

### Categories

- The Deen Dayal Upadhyay Panchayat Satat Vikas Puraskar awards recognise outstanding Gram Panchayats for their performance across themes linked to Sustainable Development Goals, including poverty-

free livelihoods, health, water sufficiency, sanitation, women-friendly governance and social justice.

- Under the Nanaji Deshmukh Sarvottam Panchayat Satat Vikas Puraskar, awards will be given to the best-performing Panchayats at the district, block and gram levels.

### Objectives

- These awards aim to encourage Panchayats to improve local governance, service delivery, and progress towards Sustainable Development Goals through community-led initiatives, reinforcing Panchayats' role in translating national priorities towards Viksit Bharat 2047.

### Latest Winners

- Karnataka has secured the highest number of awards with six Panchayats being selected, followed by Andhra Pradesh and Odisha with five awards each.

12<sup>th</sup> MAY 2026

### SEHAT Mission

- **Context:** Union Minister for Health and Family Welfare, and Chemicals and Fertilisers launched the Science Excellence for Health through Agricultural Transformation (SEHAT) Mission in Delhi.



### About SEHAT

- It is a national mission aimed at linking agriculture, nutrition, and public health by converting agricultural innovations into better health outcomes for people in India.

- It is a joint initiative of the Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR) and the Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR)

### Focus and Priority Areas

- The development and evaluation of biofortified and nutrient-dense crop varieties to address malnutrition and improve nutritional status;
- Strengthening integrated farming systems to promote dietary diversification, enhance farm incomes, and build resilience.
- Addressing occupational health risks among agricultural workers through targeted, evidence-based interventions.
- Advancing agriculture-enabled strategies for the prevention and management of non-communicable diseases through the promotion of functional foods and nutritionally superior crop varieties.
- Strengthening One Health preparedness through integrated surveillance, diagnostics, and research at the human–animal–environment interface.

### Objectives

- It aims to improve nutrition and public health through biofortified foods, integrated farming, better occupational health for farm workers, and support for the One Health Mission.
- It seeks to produce evidence-based and scalable solutions, strengthen coordination between the agriculture and health sectors, and create data-driven policies to address nutrition, preventive healthcare, non-communicable diseases, farmer welfare, and public health challenges.

### PCOS Renamed as PMOS

- **Context:** A global medical consensus has renamed Polycystic Ovary Syndrome (PCOS) as Polyendocrine Metabolic Ovarian Syndrome (PMOS) after nearly 14 years of scientific consultations involving doctors, researchers, and patient advocacy groups across the world.

### About PMOS

- PMOS, earlier known as PCOS, is a complex hormonal and metabolic disorder affecting women of reproductive age.
- It impacts the endocrine system, metabolism, reproductive health, and mental well-being.
- The disorder affects nearly one in eight women globally and is among the leading causes of infertility and menstrual irregularities.
- The earlier name Polycystic Ovary Syndrome was considered scientifically inaccurate and misleading, as many women diagnosed with the condition do not actually develop ovarian cysts.
- The earlier term primarily associated the disorder with reproductive organs, whereas the condition also significantly affects metabolism, hormones, cardiovascular health, and mental health.
- **Symptoms of PMOS:**
  - **Risk of Diabetes:** Insulin resistance can lead to Type-2 diabetes mellitus.
  - **Cardiovascular Risks:** Women with PMOS are more vulnerable to hypertension and heart diseases.
  - **Fertility Challenges:** The disorder affects ovulation and reproductive health.
  - **Mental Health Concerns:** Long-term stress, body image issues, and hormonal imbalance may contribute to psychological disorders.

### Long-Duration Scramjet Combustor Test

- **Context:** The Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) has successfully conducted an extensive, long-duration test of its Actively Cooled Full-Scale Scramjet Combustor in Hyderabad.



## Key Facts

- The test was conducted at the Scramjet Connect Pipe Test (SCPT) Facility.
- It achieved a sustained runtime of more than 1,200 seconds, improving upon the earlier 700-second test conducted in January 2026.

## About Scramjet Engine

- A Scramjet (Supersonic Combustion Ramjet) is an advanced air-breathing propulsion system designed for hypersonic speeds.
- It compresses incoming air using its high speed, allowing fuel combustion to occur in supersonic airflow. It uses oxygen present in the atmosphere for combustion.
- The successful test strengthens India's capability in developing indigenous hypersonic cruise missiles.
- It marks progress in advanced aerospace and next-generation defence technologies.

## About Hypersonic Technology

- Hypersonic technology refers to systems capable of travelling at speeds greater than Mach 5, which is five times the speed of sound.
- Hypersonic weapons can travel at extremely high speeds while maintaining manoeuvrability during flight, making them difficult to detect and intercept.

## Types of Hypersonic Weapons

- **Hypersonic Glide Vehicles (HGVs):** These are launched using rockets and glide towards the target at hypersonic speeds.
- **Hypersonic Cruise Missiles (HCMs):** These are powered throughout flight by advanced air-breathing engines such as scramjets.

13<sup>th</sup> MAY 2026

## National Florence Nightingale Awards, 2026

- **Context:** President Droupadi Murmu conferred the National Florence Nightingale Awards 2026 to nurses at a function held at Rashtrapati Bhavan.

## About National Florence Nightingale Awards

- Named after Florence Nightingale, the founder of modern nursing, it was instituted in 1973 by the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare.
- It recognizes meritorious services of nurses and nursing professionals who contribute significantly to society.
- A total of 15 awards are given in the category of Registered Auxiliary Nurses and Midwife, Registered Nurses and Midwife and Registered Lady Visitor.
- Eligible recipients include nursing personnel working in Central/State Governments, Union Territories, and Voluntary Organizations, whether in hospitals, community settings, educational institutions, or administration.
- Each award consists of a Certificate of Merit, Cash Award of ₹1,00,000/- and a medal.



## Praveen Sood

- **Context:** The Appointments Committee of the Cabinet (ACC) has approved a one-year extension in the tenure of Praveen Sood as Director of the Central Bureau of Investigation.



## About Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI)

- CBI, functioning under the Ministry of Personnel, Pension and Public Grievances, Government of India, is the premier investigating police agency in India.
- The CBI came into being during World War II, when the colonial government felt the need to probe cases of corruption in the War and Supply Department. A law came in 1941. It became the DSPE Act in 1946.
  - It was established by a resolution of the Ministry of Home Affairs, Government of India, in 1963.

- The Santhanam Committee on Prevention of Corruption recommended the establishment of the CBI.
- CBI was established with a view to investigate serious crimes related to the defense of India, corruption in high places, serious fraud, cheating, and embezzlement and social crime, particularly hoarding, black marketing, and profiteering in essential commodities, having all-India and inter-state ramifications. It is also the nodal police agency in India that coordinates investigations on behalf of Interpol member countries.
- CBI derives power to investigate from the Delhi Special Police Establishment Act, 1946.
  - Section 2 of the Act vests DSPE with jurisdiction to investigate offenses in the Union Territories only.
  - The jurisdiction can be extended by the Central Government to other areas including Railway areas and States under Section 5(1) of the Act, provided the State Government accords consent under Section 6 of the Act.

14<sup>th</sup> MAY 2026

## India's Gold and Silver Import Duty Hike

- **Context:** The Indian government increased the effective import tax on gold and silver from 9.2% to 18.4%. Customs duty was raised from 5% to 10%, while the Agriculture Infrastructure and Development Cess (AIDC) increased from 1% to 5%.



**Gold And Silver Import Tariffs To 15%**

## Key Terms

- **Current Account Deficit (CAD):** The CAD is the margin by which a country's total imports of goods, services, and transfers exceeds its exports.
- The Agriculture Infrastructure and Development Cess (AIDC) was introduced in the Union Budget 2021–22 as a tax levied on certain goods, including agricultural produce and related items, at specified rates.
  - Its main purpose is to generate funds for the development and improvement of agricultural infrastructure in India.
  - The cess applies to products such as gold, silver, alcoholic beverages, crude edible oils, apples, coal, fertilizers, pulses, and cotton.
- **Import duty:** It is a tax collected on imports and some exports by a country's customs authorities.

## Reason behind the latest decision

- The decision came soon after the Prime Minister urged citizens to reduce gold purchases temporarily to help protect the rupee and forex reserves.
- The government linked the move to concerns over
  - Rising current account deficit (CAD)
  - Pressure on foreign exchange reserves
  - Global uncertainty due to the West Asia crisis
  - Volatility in crude oil prices and shipping routes
- Foreign exchange should be prioritised for essential imports like crude oil, fertilisers, defence equipment, and industrial goods.

## National Social Assistance Programme (NSAP)

- **Context:** A recent evaluation of the National Social Assistance Programme (NSAP), commissioned by the Union Ministry of Rural Development, has found that the centre's contribution to social pensions has lost much of its value due to inflation.

## About National Social Assistance Programme (NSAP)

- It was launched in 1995 and is a key social welfare scheme.



- It provides pensions to vulnerable groups, including the elderly, widows, and persons with disabilities.
- It is 100% Centrally Sponsored Scheme.
  - Funds under NSAP are released to States/UTs based on the number of beneficiaries digitized or State/UT-wise cap, whichever is lower.
  - Thereafter, pensions are disbursed to beneficiaries at district/panchayat level by the State/UT.
- Currently, NSAP covers five schemes, including:
  - **Indira Gandhi National Old Age Pension Scheme (IGNOAPS):** Under IGNOAPS, the Centre provides

financial assistance of Rs 200 per month to individuals aged 60–79 years and ₹500 per month to those aged 80 and above.

- **Indira Gandhi National Widow Pension Scheme (IGNWPS):** Under IGNWPS, the Centre provides ₹300 per month to widows aged 40–79 years and ₹500 to those 80 and above.
- **Indira Gandhi National Disability Pension Scheme (IGNDPS):** Financial assistance of ₹300 per month is provided to individuals with severe or multiple disabilities aged 18–79, and ₹500 to those aged 80 years and above.
- **National Family Benefit Scheme (NFBS):** The amount of one-time financial assistance under NFBS is fixed at ₹20,000. This is provided to families after the death of a primary breadwinner aged 18 to 59.
- **Annapurna Scheme:** Under the Annapurna Scheme, 10 kg of food grains per month, free of cost, are provided to those senior citizens who, though eligible, were not receiving old-age pension.

