



## **CURRENT AFFAIRS OF MAY 2025**

### **Awards**

The Kannada-language Indian writer, activist, and lawyer who has been awarded the International Booker Prize 2025 for Heart Lamp, a selection of short stories translated by Deepa Bhashti – **Banu Mushtaq**

The Brazilian scientist who has won the 2025 World Food Prize for her pioneering work in reducing the use of chemical fertilisers and developing biological seed and soil treatments to boost crop yields and nutrition – **Ms. Mariangela Hungria**

The Hindu spiritual guru and sanskrit scholar who was conferred the 58th Jnanpith Award by the President Smt Draupadi Murmu (Lyricist Gulzar has also been awarded but could not attend the award ceremony) – **Swami Rambhadracharya**

### **Persons**

The Indian naturalist, conservationist and author of several books who passed away on 31 May 2025 – **Valmik Thapar**

The contestant from Thailand who has been crowned Miss World 2025 at the beauty pageant held in Hyderabad, Telangana – **Miss Suchata Chuangsri**

The Indian nuclear scientist and former Chairman of Atomic Energy Commission, known for his role in the development of India's nuclear power programme who passed away on 20 May 2025 – **Dr. MR Srinivasan**

The Indian science popularizer and museum maker, former director of Birla Industrial & Technological Museum and director general of the National Council of Science Museums who passed away on 17 May 2025 – **Shri Saroj Ghose**

The Indian aquaculture scientist and the former Director-General of Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR), Padma Shri recipient of 2022, who passed away on 10 May 2025 – **Shri Subbanna Ayyappan**

The new Chief Justice of India who has taken over as the 52nd Chief Justice of India following the retirement of Justice Sanjiv Khanna – **Justice Bhushan Ramkrishna Gavai**

The new Pope, head of the Catholic Church and sovereign of the Vatican City State ((also the first American) elected as the successor to Pope Francis – **Pope Leo XIV (born Robert Francis Prevost)**

The leader of Labor Party who has been re-elected as the Prime Minister of Australia in the 2025 Australian Federal Election – **Mr. Anthony Albanese**

The new Chancellor of Germany who has taken over from Mr. Olaf Scholz on 06 May 2025 – **Mr. Friedrich Merz**

The Air Officer who has taken over as the new Chief of Integrated Staff on the retirement of Lt Gen JP Mathew on April 30, 2025 – **Air Marshal Ashutosh Dixit**

### **Sports**

The 16-year old boy from Hyderabad who has become the youngest Indian to conquer 7 summits by climbing his 7th summit, Mt Everest – **Vishwanath Karthikey Padakanti**

The Nepali sherpa who has scaled Mount Everest for the 31st time, breaking his own record for the most climbs up the world's tallest peak – **Kami Rita Sherpa**

The English cricketer who has become the fastest to score 13000 runs in Test cricket by doing so in 153 innings breaking Jacques Kallis record of the score in 159 innings – **Joe Root**

The track and field event at which Neeraj Chopra became the first Indian to breach the 90m mark in javelin throw by throwing it at a distance of 90.23 m (Julian Weber of Germany was at the first position with a throw of 91.06m) – **2025 Doha Diamond League**

The chess player from Chennai who has become the 86th Grandmaster from India – **LR Srihari**

The Indian cricketers who have announced retirement from test cricket recently – **Rohit Sharma and Virat Kohli**

The country which has won the 2025 Sudirman Cup badminton championships defeating South Korea in the finals – **China**

### **Defence**

The 17th edition of India- Mongolia Joint Military Exercise scheduled to be conducted in Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia from 31st May to 13th June 2025 is named – **NOMADIC ELEPHANT**

The indigenous system to counter the threat of swarm drones in the battlefield developed by Solar Defence and Aerospace Limited and test fired recently at Seaward Firing Range in Odisha's Gopalpur is named – **Bhargavastra**

The first of eight indigenously built Anti-Submarine Warfare Shallow Water Crafts (ASW SWCs) delivered to the Indian Navy by Garden Reach Shipbuilders and Engineers (GRSE) Ltd is named – **INS Arnala**

The action launched by the Indian Armed Forces to hit terrorist infrastructure in Pakistan and Pakistan-occupied-Kashmir in retaliation against terrorist attack at Pahalgam on 22 April 2025 is named – **Operation Sindoor**

### **Miscellaneous**

The AI-powered video communication platform transforming 2D streams into immersive 3D experiences unveiled by Google as a part of their Project Starline is named – **Google Beam**

The Liberian container vessel which sank off the Kochi coast with hazardous cargo and whose 24 crew members on board were rescued by ICG and Indian Navy was named – **MSC ELSA 3**

The Indian state which has been declared India's first fully literate state for having achieved a literacy rate of 98.2% surpassing the benchmark of 95% for full literacy – **Mizoram**

The place in Kerala at which Vizhinjam International Seaport, India's first deep-water Transshipment Port was inaugurated by the Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi on 02 May 2025 – **Thiruvananthapuram**

The country to which Holy Relic of Buddha from Sarnath were sent for exposition at various place in the country – **Vietnam**

The venue of WAVES 2025, India's first-of-its-kind World Audio Visual and Entertainment Summit inaugurated by the Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi on 01 May 2025 – **Jio World Centre, Mumbai**

### **Miniratna Status to DPSUs**

The following Defence Public Sector Undertakings were conferred Miniratna status Category-I by the Govt of India

1. Munitions India Limited - HQs Pune
2. Armoured Vehicles Nigam Limited - HQs Avadi

3. India Optel Limited - HQs Dehradun

### **Important Days of May 2025**

<b>World Press Freedom Day:</b> 03 May 2024 Theme: <b>Reporting in the Brave New World – The Impact of Artificial Intelligence on Press Freedom and the Media.</b> Designated by: UN General Assembly First Observed in: 1994
<b>World Red Cross and Crescent Day:</b> 08 May 2024 Theme: <b>Keeping Humanity Alive</b> Designated by: International Committee of the Red Cross First Observed in: 1948
<b>World Asthma Day:</b> 06 May 2025 (1st Tuesday of May) Theme: <b>Make Inhaled Treatments Accessible for ALL</b> Designated by: Global Initiative for Asthma First Observed in: 1998
<b>World Migratory Bird Day:</b> 10 May 2024 Theme: <b>Shared Spaces: Creating Bird-Friendly Cities and Communities</b> Designated by: AEWA Secretariat First Observed in: 2006
<b>International Nurses Day:</b> 12 May 2024 Theme: <b>Caring for nurses strengthens economies</b> Designated by: International Council of Nurses First Observed in: 1974
<b>International Day of Families:</b> 15 May 2024 Theme: <b>Family-Oriented Policies for Sustainable Development: Towards the Second World Summit for Social Development</b> Designated by: UN General Assembly First Observed in: 1994
<b>World Telecommunication and Information Society Day:</b> 17 May 2024 Theme: <b>Gender Equality in Digital Transformation</b> Designated by: UN General Assembly First Observed in: 2007
<b>World Hypertension Day:</b> 17 May 2024 Theme: <b>Measure Your Blood Pressure Accurately, Control It, Live Longer!</b> Designated by: World Hypertension League First Observed in: 2005
<b>World Bee Day:</b> 20 May 2024 Theme: <b>Bee inspired by nature to nourish us all</b> Designated by: UN General Assembly First Observed in: 2018

<b>World Day for Cultural Diversity for Dialogue and Development:</b> 21 May 2024 Designated by: UN General Assembly First Observed in: 2003
<b>International Day for Biological Diversity:</b> 22 May 2024 Theme: Harmony with nature and sustainable development Designated by: UN General Assembly First Observed in: 2001
<b>World Football Day:</b> 25 May 2024 Designated by: UN General Assembly First Observed in: 2024
<b>International Day for UN Peacekeepers:</b> 29 May 2024 Theme: The Future of Peacekeeping Designated by: UN General Assembly First Observed in: 2003
<b>World No Tobacco Day:</b> 31 May 2024 Theme: Unmasking the Appeal Designated by: World Health Organisation First Observed in: 1987

### **Dr. Jayant Narlikar**

Born: 19 July 1938 - Passed away: 20 May 2025

Indian Astrophysicist and author

Awards:

- Padma Vibhushan (2004)
- Padma Bhushan (1965)
- Adams Prize (1967)
- Kalinga Prize (1996)
- Maharashtra Bhushan (2010)
- Sahitya Akademi Award (2014)

Books written

- The Return of Vaman
- The Adventure
- The Comet
- Facts and Speculations in Cosmology
- Fred Hoyle's Universe
- Scientific Edge: The Indian Scientist from Vedic to Modern Times

- An Introduction to Cosmology
- From Black Clouds to Black Holes

## **INSV Kaudinya**

**What is INSV Kaudinya:** It is an Ancient Stitched Vessel which was inducted into the Indian Navy at Naval Base, Karwar in May 2025.

**Description:** INSV Kaudinya is a stitched sail ship, based on a 5th century CE ship depicted in the paintings of Ajanta Caves. The project was initiated through a tripartite agreement signed in Jul 2023 between the Ministry of Culture, the Indian Navy, and M/s Hodi Innovations, with funding from the Ministry of Culture. Following the keel laying in September 2023, the vessel's construction was undertaken using a traditional method of stitching by a team of skilled artisans from Kerala, led by master shipwright Shri Babu Sankaran. Over several months, the team painstakingly stitched wooden planks on the ship's hull using coir rope, coconut fibre and natural resin. The ship was launched in Feb 2025 at Goa.

### **Significant features of the ship:**

Her sails display motifs of the Gandabherunda and the Sun, her bow bears a sculpted Simha Yali, and a symbolic Harappan style stone anchor adorns her deck

It is named after Kaundinya, the legendary Indian mariner who sailed across the Indian Ocean to Southeast Asia.

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