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Weekly Current Affairs

May 2026 — Week 4 (25–30 May)

Exam Revision Notes

APPSC · AP DSC · AP TET · AP Police SI

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50+ Topics	13 Sections	~30 min Read Time	May 2026 Week 4
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13. Miscellaneous	PM-AJAY Portal, PAIMANA Portal, Kimi Antonelli F1 Canadian GP, India's First Olympic Gold book

1) International Current Affairs

11th Quad Foreign Ministers' Meeting – New Delhi

The **11th Quad FMM** was held in **New Delhi** with India, USA, Japan, and Australia launching three new Indo-Pacific initiatives.

Initiative	Purpose
Indo-Pacific Maritime Surveillance Collaboration	Integrate and strengthen maritime surveillance; improve information sharing among Quad countries
Expansion of IPMDA (Indo-Pacific Maritime Domain Awareness)	Provide near-real-time maritime data to Indo-Pacific nations for emergency response, humanitarian assistance, and shipping monitoring
Quad Indo-Pacific Energy Security Initiative	Improve regional energy resilience; conduct emergency response exercises

India–US Critical Minerals Framework; Quad Critical Minerals Initiative (\$20 Billion)

India and the US finalised a **bilateral framework for critical minerals and rare earth supply chains** on the sidelines of the 11th Quad FMM. All four Quad nations launched the **Quad Critical Minerals Initiative Framework** — aiming to mobilise **~\$20 billion** in government and private-sector investments for stable and secure critical mineral supply chains.

Canada–India Joint Statement 2026 – CEPA Target by End of 2026

Canada and India reaffirmed their commitment to concluding a **Comprehensive Economic Partnership Agreement (CEPA) by end of 2026**. Both countries launched the **Canada–India Trade and Investment Forum**. A **Team Canada Trade Mission to India** was announced. Priority sectors: clean energy, critical minerals, agri-food, advanced manufacturing, and digital technologies.

2) National Current Affairs

Maithili Language Included in CBSE Curriculum

CBSE will include **Maithili** in its curriculum up to secondary level from the next academic session. Maithili is one of the **22 languages in the Eighth Schedule**. The **Mithila (Mithilanchal) region** spans northern Bihar and parts of Nepal — Darbhanga, Madhubani, Sitamarhi — traditionally regarded as the birthplace of Sita.

India's First Indigenous Hydrogen Train – Jind–Sonipat, Haryana

Indian Railways approved India's **first indigenous hydrogen fuel cell-based train** on the **Jind–Sonipat section, Northern Railway, Haryana**. A 10-car train with **1,200 KW hydrogen fuel cell propulsion**. India joins Germany, Japan, China, and the USA in operating hydrogen-powered trains.

International Day of Yoga 2026 – Kolkata; Theme: "Yoga for Healthy Ageing"

Main celebration of **International Day of Yoga 2026** will be in **Kolkata on June 21, 2026**. Theme: **"Yoga for Healthy Ageing."** Announced at **Yoga Mahotsav 2026** at the **Khajuraho Group of Monuments** (UNESCO World Heritage Site) — 25-day countdown event organised by the Morarji Desai National Institute of Yoga.

India's First Indigenous SkyCast System – India Becomes 19th Country

India's first **SkyCast System** inaugurated at **IGI Airport** under **Mission Mausam** — making India the **19th country** with this integrated atmospheric remote sensing technology. Improves aviation safety, fog monitoring, turbulence detection, and real-time weather forecasting. Enables short-term **snowcasting alerts within 3 hours**. Developed from the **Winter Fog Experiment (WiFEX, 2015)** by IITM and IMD.

3) Andhra Pradesh Current Affairs ★ Priority Section

SRKVM Scheme – Free School Kits for 35+ Lakh Government School Students

AP implements the **Sarvepalli Radhakrishnan Vidyarthi Mitra (SRKVM) Scheme** from 2025–26 — providing **free school kits to 35+ lakh students in Classes 1–10** in government schools.

Scheme Highlights:

Kit includes: School bag, textbooks, notebooks, uniform fabrics (shirting, suiting, chunni), shoes and socks.

Objectives: Reduce dropout rates, support economically weaker students, improve access to educational resources, remove political branding from educational materials.

SRKVM Mobile App launched to digitise and monitor kit distribution across all government schools.

Egyptian Vultures Facing Local Extinction in Sri Sathya Sai District

Wildlife experts raised serious concerns over rapid decline of the **Egyptian Vulture** in the rocky hill ranges of **Sri Sathya Sai district** — once common across Rayalaseema, now nearing **local extinction**.

Key Facts:

IUCN Status: Endangered | **Protection:** Schedule I, Wildlife Protection Act, 1972.

Primary habitat: Rocky cliffs around **Ratnagiri Fort, Rolla Mandal**, near Karnataka border.

Egyptian Vultures are critical scavengers — disposing of carcasses to prevent the spread of diseases like anthrax and rabies.

J. Ramudu – Best Individual Biodiversity Conservator Award 2026 (AP Biodiversity Board)

J. Ramudu, Botany lecturer at Dr. Lakkireddy Hanimireddy Government Degree College, **NTR district**, received the "**Best Individual Biodiversity Conservator Award-2026**" from the **AP Biodiversity Board** during International Day for Biological Diversity celebrations at Acharya Nagarjuna University.

Bandaru Dattatreya Launches Autobiography 'Prajala Kathe Naa Atmakatha' – Visakhapatnam

Senior BJP leader and **former Governor of Haryana, Bandaru Dattatreya**, launched his autobiography '**Prajala Kathe Naa Atmakatha**' at the Kakatiya Convention Centre, Visakhapatnam. Odisha Governor Hari Babu praised his role during the **Diviseema cyclone relief efforts**. The event also celebrated his annual cultural gathering "**Alai Balai**", known for bringing together leaders across party lines.

4) Polity & Governance

High-Level Committee on Demographic Change Constituted

Key Details:

Announced by PM Modi on **August 15, 2025** | Cabinet approval: **September 11, 2025** | Report within one year.

Chairman: Justice Prakash Prabhakar Navlekar.

Members: Durga Shankar Mishra, Balaji Srivatsava, Shamika Ravi, Census Commissioner of India.

Objectives: Study illegal immigration and abnormal settlement patterns; analyse structural population changes; recommend mechanisms for identification, detention, and deportation of illegal immigrants; strengthen border management.

5) Economy

Cold Water Fisheries – India's Emerging Blue Economy Component

Indicator	Data
India's total fish production (2024–25)	197.75 lakh tonnes
Cold water fisheries share	~3% of inland production; ~7,000 metric tonnes nationally
Trout production growth	Grew ~1.8x over last decade to ~6,000 metric tonnes
J&K; – leading state	~3,010 metric tonnes (2024–25) — India's top trout producer
Key species	Rainbow trout, Golden mahseer, Snow trout
Supporting schemes	PM Matsya Sampada Yojana, Blue Revolution, PM-MKSSY, Fisheries Infrastructure Fund

'Memflation' – AI Chip Boom Causes Smartphone Shortage in India

Memflation = inflation caused by shortages and rising prices of memory chips (NAND flash and DRAM). The global AI boom drives massive demand for **High Bandwidth Memory (HBM)**, which uses the capacity equivalent of 3x standard DRAM — forcing semiconductor companies to prioritise AI infrastructure over consumer memory.

Two Memory Types to Know:

DRAM (Dynamic RAM): Temporary memory in smartphones/computers for active data processing — data lost when power is off.

NAND Flash Memory: Permanent storage in smartphones that retains data without power (like internal storage).

India Impact: Entry-level smartphones (under ₹10,000–₹15,000) facing shortage; prices rising 15–20%.

6) Science & Technology

Evidence of Ancient Wildfires in Gondwana Coal Deposits – Godavari Valley Coalfield

Researchers from **BSIP** (Birbal Sahni Institute of Palaeosciences, DST) discovered molecular evidence of massive wildfires occurring **~250 million years ago (Permian period)** in the ancient supercontinent **Gondwana**. Study focused on coal-bearing sediments from the **Godavari Valley Coalfield, India**. Techniques: Palynofacies analysis, Raman Spectroscopy, and FTIR Spectroscopy.

'CLEAR' Technology – Advanced Protein Imaging for Cancer Diagnosis (JNCASR)

JNCASR researchers developed **CLEAR (Cleavable Light-Erased Antibody Reporter)** — a novel imaging platform enabling scientists to visualise a very large number of proteins within the same biological sample using a **single fluorescent marker (fluorophore)**. Applications: high-resolution protein mapping for **cancer diagnosis, immunology, and precision medicine**.

7) Environment

Water Governance Crisis in India's Peri-Urban Areas

Peri-urban areas — transitional zones between rural and urban — face serious water governance and sanitation gaps. Census towns grew from **1,362 to 3,784** in two decades; these areas lack adequate civic infrastructure.

Suggested Solutions:

- Create Nagar Panchayats for Census towns.
- Swachh Bharat Mission 3.0 focused on peri-urban sanitation.
- Decentralised wastewater treatment | GPS-based monitoring of desludging vehicles.
- Sustainable financing for peri-urban water infrastructure.

New Tree Species 'Humboldtia nairiana' Discovered in Kerala Western Ghats

Scientists from **JNTBGRI, Kerala** discovered a new evergreen tree — **Humboldtia nairiana** — in **Shendurney Wildlife Sanctuary, Agasthyamala Biosphere Reserve** (Southern Western Ghats). Named in honour of **G.M. Nair**, noted plant biotechnologist and former JNTBGRI Director.

8) Schemes

BHAVYA Scheme – ■33,660 Crore for 100 Industrial Parks (2026–32)

BHAVYA (Bharat Highly Advanced Ventures for Youth and Manufacturing Advancement):

Financial outlay: Rs 33,660 crore | **Duration:** 2026–27 to 2031–32 (6 years).

Target: 100 industrial parks (50 in Phase 1 via competitive selection).

Infrastructure: Plug-and-play, multimodal logistics, renewable energy, worker housing, skill centres, digital governance.

Land minimum: 100 acres (plains) | 25 acres (hilly/NE states/UTs).

Implementation: Through Special Purpose Vehicles (SPVs) under Companies Act, 2013.

Project Management Agency: National Industrial Corridor Development Corporation (NICDC).

Monitoring: GIS-based; National Level Steering Committee chaired by DPIIT Secretary.

SARTHAK-PDS – ■25,530 Crore Umbrella Scheme for 81.35 Crore NFSA Beneficiaries

SARTHAK-PDS (Scheme for Assistance in Ration Transport and Handling-Income with Automation in PDS) — new umbrella scheme approved by CCEA covering **~81.35 crore beneficiaries** under NFSA till **March 31, 2031**, with **Rs 25,530 crore** outlay over five years.

Two Integrated Components:

1. **Assistance to State Agencies** for intra-state foodgrain movement and FPS dealer margins under NFSA.
2. **SMART PDS** (Scheme for Modernisation and Reforms through Technology in PDS) — to reduce leakages, ensure last-mile delivery, and improve transparency through technology.

9) Defence

'Suryastra' – India's First 300 km Universal Rocket Launching System

Rajnath Singh and Devendra Fadnavis inaugurated the **NIBE Group's Defence Manufacturing Complex at Shirdi, Maharashtra** on May 23, 2026. "**Suryastra**" — India's **first 300 km Universal Rocket Launching System** — was flagged off. Also unveiled: indigenous **TNT and RDX plant technologies**. MoU signed between **NIBE Group and Blacksky** for satellite assembly. The complex will manufacture advanced artillery, missile systems, rocket systems, energetic materials, and autonomous defence platforms.

10) Awards & Honours

Major Abhilasha Barak – UN Military Gender Advocate of the Year 2025

Major Abhilasha Barak, Indian peacekeeper with the **United Nations Interim Force in Lebanon (UNIFIL)**, selected for the prestigious **2025 UN Military Gender Advocate of the Year Award** — awarded for exceptional efforts in promoting gender equality and women's empowerment in peacekeeping missions.

11) Ranks & Reports

Sample Registration Survey (SRS) 2024 – Key Demographic Indicators

India's annual **SRS 2024** (conducted by the Registrar General of India, started 1971) confirms continued demographic improvement.

Indicator	2014	2024
Birth Rate (per 1,000)	21.0	18.3
Death Rate (per 1,000)	6.7	6.4
IMR (per 1,000 live births)	39	24
Rural IMR	43	27
Urban IMR	26	17
Rural Birth Rate	22.7	20.2
Urban Birth Rate	17.4	14.7

Note: SRS is India's *annual* demographic survey — unlike NFHS (~every 5 years) or Census (every 10 years). Urban death rate slightly increased (5.5→5.6) — a persistent challenge.

Lightning – India's Most Fatal Natural Hazard (1,02,263 Deaths in 50 Years)

NCRB data shows lightning killed **1,02,263 people between 1975 and 2024** — the single deadliest year was **2016 with 3,315 deaths**. Most affected: Madhya Pradesh, Bihar, UP, Odisha, Chhattisgarh. **IMD's Damini app** provides real-time alerts in 23 languages. Rising due to higher temperatures, atmospheric moisture, and higher Convective Available Potential Energy (CAPE).

National Health Accounts (NHA) 2022–23 – Government Spending Triples; OOPE Falls

Indicator	2013-14	2022-23
Government Health Expenditure (GHE)	Rs 1.30 lakh crore	Rs 3.85 lakh crore (3x)
GHE as % of GDP	1.15%	1.43%
Per Capita GHE	Rs 1,042	Rs 2,786
Out-of-Pocket Expenditure (OOPE) as % THE	64.2%	43.4% ↓
Social Security Expenditure (% THE)	6%	9.9%

NFHS-6 (2023–24) – Key Health Improvements; 6.79 Lakh Households, 715 Districts

Indicator	NFHS-5	NFHS-6
Institutional deliveries	88.6%	90.6%
Full immunisation (12–23 months)	83.8%	87.1%
Rotavirus vaccination	36.4%	85.4% ↑
Stunting (under-5)	35.5%	29.3% ↓
Total Fertility Rate (TFR)	2.0	2.0 (stable)
Health insurance coverage	41%	60.2% ↑
Women using internet	33.3%	64.3% ↑
Women with own bank accounts	—	89%

12) Committees & Conferences

Quad Critical Minerals Initiative Framework – \$20 Billion Mobilisation

At the 11th Quad FMM, all four Quad nations (India, USA, Japan, Australia) launched the **Quad Critical Minerals Initiative Framework** to mobilise ~\$20 billion in investments for stable and secure critical mineral supply chains — a direct response to China's dominance in critical mineral processing globally.

Canada–India Trade and Investment Forum Launched

Canada and India launched the **Canada-India Trade and Investment Forum** as a structured platform for business collaboration and commercial partnerships, alongside their commitment to concluding CEPA by end of 2026.

13) Miscellaneous

Key Portals, Events & Appointments

PM-AJAY Portal	Pradhan Mantri Anusuchit Jaati Abhyuday Yojana portal and app by Ministry of Social Justice; tracks development in 47,000+ SC-majority villages covering 4 million beneficiaries; Adarsh Gram, GIA, and Hostel components.
PAIMANA Portal	Centralised MoSPI portal for monitoring Central Sector Infrastructure Projects worth Rs 150 crore and above; "One Data, One Entry" principle; improves transparency and data-driven project monitoring.
Kimi Antonelli – Canadian GP 2026	Italian teenager Kimi Antonelli (Mercedes) won the 2026 Canadian Grand Prix — his fourth consecutive F1 victory of the season, becoming the first driver in F1 history to win his first four races consecutively.
India's First Olympic Gold Book	'India's First Olympic Gold' by hockey historian K. Arumugam released in New Delhi by P.T. Usha; commemorates India's first Olympic gold medal in hockey at the 1928 Summer Olympics in Amsterdam.

Quick Revision Table — May 2026 Week 4

Toppers' Strategy: AP rows highlighted in brand blue (★). Selected high-relevance topics only — not all topics. One complete sentence per row. Rewrite weekly in your notebook.

Topic	One-Line Summary
★ AP – SRKVM Scheme	Sarvepalli Radhakrishnan Vidyarthi Mitra (SRKVM) Scheme provides free school kits (bag, books, notebooks, uniform, shoes) to 35+ lakh students in Classes 1–10 in AP government schools since 2025–26; SRKVM Mobile App tracks distribution.
★ AP – Egyptian Vulture	Egyptian Vulture (IUCN Endangered, Schedule I WPA) is facing local extinction in Sri Sathya Sai district's Ratnagiri Fort–Rolla Mandal rocky terrain near Karnataka border; once common across Rayalaseema, now nearing disappearance.
Quad 11th FMM	Three new initiatives at 11th Quad FMM (New Delhi): Indo-Pacific Maritime Surveillance Collaboration, expansion of IPMDA (near-real-time maritime data to Indo-Pacific nations), and Quad Indo-Pacific Energy Security Initiative.
Quad Critical Minerals – \$20 billion	India-US finalised Critical Minerals and Rare Earth Framework; Quad Critical Minerals Initiative launched to mobilise ~\$20 billion in investments for stable and secure critical mineral supply chains globally.
India's First Hydrogen Train	Indian Railways approved India's first indigenous hydrogen fuel cell-based train for Jind–Sonipat section, Northern Railway, Haryana — 10-car, 1,200 KW propulsion; India joins Germany, Japan, China, USA in hydrogen train group.
SkyCast System – India 19th	India's first indigenous SkyCast System inaugurated at IGI Airport under Mission Mausam, making India the 19th country with this integrated atmospheric sensing technology; improves fog monitoring, turbulence detection, and aviation safety; developed from WiFEX (2015).
IDoY 2026 – Kolkata	Main celebration of International Day of Yoga 2026 will be held in Kolkata on June 21; theme "Yoga for Healthy Ageing"; announced at Yoga Mahotsav 2026 at Khajuraho Group of Monuments (UNESCO WHS), by Morarji Desai National Institute of Yoga.
BHAVYA Scheme	BHAVYA (Bharat Highly Advanced Ventures for Youth and Manufacturing Advancement) — Rs 33,660 crore to develop 100 world-class industrial parks (2026–32) through SPVs; min 100 acres (plains) / 25 acres (hills/NE); managed by NICDC; GIS-monitored.
SARTHAK-PDS	SARTHAK-PDS (Scheme for Assistance in Ration Transport and Handling-Income with Automation in PDS) — umbrella scheme covering 81.35 crore NFSA beneficiaries till March 2031; Rs 25,530 crore; integrates FPS margin support with SMART PDS technology.
Suryastra	India's first 300 km Universal Rocket Launching System "Suryastra" flagged off at NIBE Group's Defence Complex in Shirdi, Maharashtra (May 23, 2026); also unveiled TNT and RDX plant technologies; MoU with Blacksky for satellite assembly.
Memflation	Memflation = inflation from NAND/DRAM chip shortages; AI boom's High Bandwidth Memory (HBM) demand (uses 3× DRAM capacity) diverts supply from consumer chips, causing India's entry-level smartphones to face shortages and 15–20% price rise.
SRS 2024	SRS 2024: India's Birth Rate fell from 21.0 to 18.3, Death Rate from 6.7 to 6.4, and IMR from 39 to 24 (per 1,000) between 2014 and 2024; SRS is India's annual demographic survey (started 1971), unlike NFHS (every ~5 yrs) or Census (every 10 yrs).

NFHS-6 (2023–24)	NFHS-6 (6.79L households, 715 districts): Rotavirus vaccination jumped from 36.4% to 85.4%; stunting dropped from 35.5% to 29.3%; TFR stable at 2.0; health insurance rose from 41% to 60.2%; women using internet rose from 33.3% to 64.3%.
NHA 2022–23	Government Health Expenditure tripled from Rs 1.30L cr to Rs 3.85L cr; GHE as % GDP rose from 1.15% to 1.43%; Out-of-Pocket Expenditure (OOPE) fell sharply from 64.2% to 43.4% of total health spending.
Lightning – Most Fatal Hazard	Lightning killed 1,02,263 people in India (1975–2024); highest single-year: 2016 (3,315 deaths); most affected: MP, Bihar, UP, Odisha, Chhattisgarh; IMD's Damini app provides real-time alerts in 23 regional languages.
Humboldtia nairiana	New evergreen tree Humboldtia nairiana discovered by JNTBGRI in Shendurney Wildlife Sanctuary, Agasthyamala Biosphere Reserve (Southern Western Ghats, Kerala); named after G.M. Nair, former JNTBGRI director.
Abhilasha Barak – UN Award	Major Abhilasha Barak, Indian peacekeeper with UNIFIL (Lebanon), selected for the UN Military Gender Advocate of the Year Award 2025 for promoting gender equality and women's empowerment in peacekeeping missions.
PM-AJAY & PAIMANA Portals	PM-AJAY Portal (Ministry of Social Justice) tracks 47,000+ SC-majority villages; PAIMANA (MoSPI) monitors Central Sector Infrastructure Projects worth Rs 150 crore+ on "One Data, One Entry" principle.
Canada-India CEPA 2026	Canada and India aim to conclude CEPA by end of 2026; launched Canada-India Trade and Investment Forum; Team Canada Trade Mission to India announced; priority sectors: clean energy, critical minerals, agri-food, advanced manufacturing, digital tech.