



### Current Affairs - May to July 2018

Month  Type



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(Showing **59** Important Ones)

#### Days

- ▶ 2019 Pravasi Bharatiya Divas will be held in Varanasi (Uttar Pradesh) in January 6-9, 2019, with theme *Role of Indian Diaspora in building a New India*.
- ▶ 20th of May 2018 is first World Bee day, declared by United Nations General Assembly. First World Bee Day celebrations held in Slovenia.
- ▶ 4 June: International Day of Innocent Children Victims of Aggression.. June 4, 2018 also marks 29th anniversary of Tiananmen Square protests of China. In 1989, Chinese troops violently retook Tiananmen Square in Beijing from pro-democracy protesters. It killed over 200 citizens, being biggest Massacre in Modern Chinese History.
- ▶ July 1 - Doctors Day in India.
  - ▶ It honours legendary physician and 2nd Chief Minister of West Bengal, Dr Bidhan Chandra Roy. He was born on July 1, 1882 and died on the same date in 1962, aged 80 years. He was honoured with highest civilian award *Bharat Ratna* in February 1961.
- ▶ July 1 - GST (Goods and Services Tax) Day. Govt. Launched GST regime on July 1, 2017. It replaced all indirect taxes in India with a single GST, with 4 Components - CGST, IGST, SGST and UTGST. GST has 5 Tax Slabs - 0%, 5 %, 12%, 18 % and 28 %.
- ▶ July 11 - World Population Day. 2018 theme is *Family Planning is a Human Right*. On this occasion, A workshop with title *Population stabilization: A right and Responsibility*, was organized in New Delhi.
- ▶ July 12- Observed as UN International Malala Day. According to World Bank, not educating girls or creating barriers in their school education globally costs between \$15-30 trillion.
  - ▶ July 12 is also Foundation day of National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD), founded in 1982. On this occasion, A national seminar on 'Collectivisation and Market linkages: Farmers Producers Organizations' organized in Mumbai.
- ▶ July 15 - World Youth Skills Day. It aims to raise awareness on importance of investing in youth skills development.
- ▶ July 17 - International Justice Day, marks 1998 Rome Statute that created International Criminal Court (ICC).
- ▶ July 18 - UN Nelson Mandela International Day 2018. This year marks 100th birth anniversary of Great South African Social Reformer Nelson Mandela.
- ▶ July 26 - Kargil Vijay Diwas. It marks success of Operation Vijay. On this day in 1999, India successfully took command of high outposts intruded by Pakistanis.
- ▶ July 28 - World Hepatitis Day. 2018 theme is *Test. Treat. Hepatitis*.
  - ▶ On this occasion, Government launched National Viral Hepatitis Control Program, aiming to eliminate viral hepatitis by 2030. India is also working to end TB by 2025, five years ahead of global target of 2030. It aims to reduce morbidity and mortality due to viral hepatitis.
- ▶ July 29 - International Tiger Day. The annual day is celebrated with slogan *Their survival is in our hands*.
- ▶ July 30 - World Day against Trafficking in Persons. 2018 Theme is *responding to the trafficking of children and young people*. On This occasion, Ministry of Women and Child Development launched a contest, '#Childline1098'. It invites people to share images of the Childline 1098 logo that they spot at unique locations and send it with a tagline.
- ▶ July 4 - American Independence Day. USA Attained independence from UK in 1776.
- ▶ June 01 - World Milk Day. India is leading Milk Producer in world with 23.69% increase during 2014-2018 and Annual increase of 6.3%. India's Milk production was 165.5 Million Tonnes in FY 2016-17. Also On June 1 2018, India's first superfast train, Deccan Queen

express from Mumbai to Pune marked 88 years of service.

17. ▶ June 1 - Global Day of Parents. It was Announced by UNICEF in 2012.
18. ▶ June 12 - World Day against Child Labour. 2018 theme is 'Generation Safe & Healthy'. Campaign aims to achieve Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) targets of ending all forms of child labour by 2025 and achieving safe working environments for all workers by 2030.
19. ▶ June 13 - International Albinism Awareness Day. 2018 theme is *shining our light to the world*.
20. ▶ June 14 - World Blood Donor Day. 2018 theme is *Be there for someone else. Give blood. Share life*. The 2018 host is Greece.
21. ▶ June 17 - World Day to Combat Desertification and Drought (WDCDD). 2018 Theme is *Land has true value – invest in it*. Global observance of WDCD 2018 was hosted by Ecuador.
22. ▶ June 18 - World Sustainable Gastronomy Day, proclaimed by United Nations General Assembly (UNGA) in December 2016.
23. ▶ June 2 - Telangana Statehood Day. It was formed in 2014, after Bifurcation of Andhra Pradesh.
24. ▶ June 20 - World Refugee Day. 2018 theme is *Now More Than Ever, We Need to Stand with Refugees*.
25. ▶ June 21 - World Music Day. 2018 theme is *Live the music together*.
26. ▶ June 21 is longest day of the year. It marks beginning of summer in Earth's Northern Hemisphere, referred to as 'summer solstice'. A solstice is an astronomical event when tilt of Earth's axis with respect to the Sun is maximum. After summer solstice, days start getting shorter till winter solstice on December 21, Northern Hemisphere's shortest day.
27. ▶ June 21, 2018 - 4th UN International Yoga Day. 2018 theme is *Yoga for Peace*.
  - ▶ Main Yoga Day 2018 events held in Dehradun (Uttarakhand).
  - ▶ Guinness world record was created by conducting largest yoga session on International Yoga Day at Kota (Rajasthan), where 1 lakh people together performed yogic exercises.
  - ▶ 3 day National Yoga Olympiad concluded at All India Council for Technical Education (AICTE) in New Delhi. Prizes were distributed by Eric Falt (Director and UNESCO Representative to India, Bhutan, Maldives and Sri Lanka), who was Chief Guest.
    - ▶ Yoga is inscribed since 2016 on UNESCO's Representative list of Intangible Cultural Heritage of Humanity.
    - ▶ Winners -
      - ▶ Upper Primary (Girls) – Gold won by the Sikkim team, Silver by Gujrat team and Bronze by Delhi
      - ▶ Upper Primary (Boys) – Gold won by Gujrat team, Silver by Delhi team and Bronze by Tamil Nadu.
      - ▶ Secondary (Girls) – Gold by Sikkim team, Silver by Manipur team and Bronze by Delhi team.
      - ▶ Secondary (Boys) – Gold by Delhi, Silver by Haryana and Bronze by Karnataka.
    - ▶ Shri Vishwas Mandalik, Nasik and The Yoga Institute, Mumbai are recipients of Prime Minister's Award for outstanding contribution for promotion and development of Yoga for the year 2018, selected from among 186 nominations.
    - ▶ HRD Ministry approves setting up an inter-university yoga centre at Swami Vivekananda Yoga Anusandhana Samsthana in Bengaluru.
    - ▶ Haryana CM Manohar Lal Khattar announced to set up a 'Yog Aayog' in state.
    - ▶ West Bengal University Visva-Bharati received INR 5 crores central grant for setting up a 'Yoga Gram' in university campus.
    - ▶ PM Modi inaugurated a nature center in New York City, through video conferencing called *YO1 Nature Cure Center*.
  - 28. ▶ June 23 - is observed as United Nations Public Service Day. It is also observed as International Olympics Day and UN International Widows' Day.
  - 29. ▶ June 25 - Day of the Seafarer. 2018 theme is *Seafarers wellbeing*.
  - 30. ▶ June 26 - International Day Against Drug Abuse and Illicit Trafficking. 2018 theme is *Listen First – Listening to children and youth is the first step to help them grow healthy and safe*.
  - 31. ▶ June 27 - UN Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises Day (MSME) Day. It was declared by UN General Assembly in 2017.
    - ▶ On this occasion, Udyam Sangam 2018 was held in New Delhi, where President Ram Nath Kovind launched Solar Charkha Mission. It will cover 50 clusters and every cluster will employ 400 to 2000 artisans. MSME Ministry will disburse subsidy of 550 crores to artisans.
    - ▶ Also, under Prime Minister's Employment Generation Programme (PMEGP) budgetary allocation for FY 2018-19 has been increased by 75% to 1800 crores.
    - ▶ A Portal of Ministry of MSME called *Sampark* was also launched by President.
  - 32. ▶ June 29 - International Day of Tropics.
  - 33. ▶ June 29 - National Statistics Day. It marks Birth anniversary of Regarded statistician Prof. Prasanta Chandra Mahalanobis, who founded Indian Statistical Institute. 2018 theme is *Quality Assurance in Official Statistics*.

- 2018 marks 125th Birth Anniversary of Prof. P. C. Mahalanobis and 12th Indian Statistics Day. On this occasion, Vice President M Venkaiah Naidu released commemorative coin of Rs 125 and circulation coin of Rs 5 denomination, at Indian Statistical Institute Kolkata.
34. ▶ June 3 - First UN World Bicycle Day. It aims to encourage a simple, affordable, reliable, clean and environmentally fit sustainable means of transportation.
  35. ▶ June 30 - International Day of Parliamentarism. It is also observed as International Asteroid Day.
  36. ▶ June 5 - World Environment Day. 2018 Theme is *Beat Plastic Pollution*. On this Occasion -
    - ▶ Ministry of Environment , Forest and Climate Change and The Energy and Resources Institute (TERI) signed MOU to set up a resource efficiency cell, aimin to focus on waste management and resource efficiency by enabling coordinated thinking among various ministries. It would focus on system based use of materials, products and processes in India. Effective collection , recycling and use of bio-degradable plastic can reduce emission of Green House Gases (GHG).
    - ▶ A thematic knowledge conference on “Plastic Pollution and Management” was organized at “Vigyan Bhawan” in New Delhi.
    - ▶ Environment Minister (IC) Mahesh Sharma Issued a Pledge Titled *Taj Declaration to Beat Plastic Pollution*, aiming to make 500-meter area around Taj Mahal litter free and phase out single use plastic.
    - ▶ Uttarakhand Government announced to completely prohibit use of polythene or plastic from July 31, 2018.
    - ▶ Tamil Nadu Govt also announced that state would ban use of plastic from 2019.
    - ▶ Telangana government also directed all urban local bodies and civic municipal bodies to ban usage of single-use plastic in offices.
    - ▶ June 5 is also observed as *International Day for the Fight against Illegal, Unreported and Unregulated Fishing*.
  37. ▶ June 8 - World Oceans Day. 2018 theme is *Peventing plastic pollution and encouraging solutions for a healthy ocean*. June 8 is also opserve as World Brain Tumor Day.
  38. ▶ May 01 - Statehood Day of Maharashtra and Gujarat. It commemorates formation of Maharashtra and Gujarat from division of the Bombay State on 1 May 1960.
  39. ▶ May 02 - World Tuna Day. 2018 theme is *Smart Tuna – Smart Ocean*.
  40. ▶ May 03 - World Press Freedom Day. was observed across the world on May 3, 2018 with an aim to celebrate the fundamental principles of press freedom, defend the media from attacks and pay tribute to journalists who have lost their lives while being on duty. The Theme for 2018 is ‘Keeping Power in Check: Media, Justice and The Rule of Law’.
  41. ▶ May 1 - World Asthma Day. 2018 theme is *Never too early, never too late. It's always the right time to address airways disease*.
  42. ▶ May 1 - International Workers' Day, also known as Labour Day AND May Day. 2018 Theme is *Uniting Workers for Social and Economic Advancement*.
  43. ▶ May 11 - National Technology Day. 2018 theme is *Science and Technology for a Sustainable Future*.
    - ▶ On 11th May 1998, India carried out series of nuclear tests at Pokhran. Also first indigenou aircraft "Hansa-3" was test flown on this day and India also performed successful test firing of Trishul missile on same day.
    - ▶ Considering these technological advancements, then Prime Minister Atal Bihari Vajpayee declared 11th May as National Technology Day.
    - ▶ On this occasion, Atal Tinkering Marathon’s Top 30 Innovations to be supported through industry partnerships were showcased. Atal Tinkering Labs of Atal Innovation Mission (AIM) of NITI Aayog organized an Atal Tinkering Marathon in an effort to identify India’s best student innovators. It was six month long nationwide challenge across 6 thematic areas - *clean energy, water resources, waste management, healthcare, smart mobility and agriculture-tech*.
  44. ▶ May 12 - International Nurses Day (IND). It marks birth anniversary of Florence Nightingale, founder of modern nursing. 2018 theme is *Nurses: A Voice to Lead – Health is a Human Right*. On this occasion, President conferred National Florence Nightingale Awards to nursing personnel from across country.
  45. ▶ May 12 - World Migratory Bird Day (WMBD). 2018 theme is *Unifying our Voices for Bird Conservation*.
  46. ▶ May 15 - International Day of Families. 2018 theme is *Families and inclusive societies*.
  47. ▶ May 16 - UNESCO International Day of Light AND International Day of Living Together in Peace.
  48. ▶ May 17 - World Hypertension Day. 2018 thee is *Know Your Numbers*.
  49. ▶ May 17 - World Telecommunication and Information Society Day. 2018 Theme is *Enabling the positive use of Artificial Intelligence for All*.
  50. ▶ May 18 - International Museum Day. 2018 theme is *Museums and Hyper Communication – New Approaches and New Public*. It is also observed as AIDS Vaccination day.
  51. ▶ May 20 - World Metrology Day. 2018 Theme is *Constant evolution of the International System of Units*.

52. ▶ May 21 - Anti Terrorism Day. It marks assassination of Former Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi in 1991. It is also observed as *World Day for Cultural Diversity for Dialogue and Development*.
53. ▶ May 22 - International Day for Biological Diversity. 2018 theme is *Celebrating 25 Years of Action for Biodiversity*.
- ✎ On this occasion, National Mission for Clean Ganga and World Wildlife Federation (WWF) - India jointly organised workshop *Ganga and its Bio-diversity: Developing a Road Map for Habitat and Species Conservation* in New Delhi. Also, national-level celebrations were held at Prof. Jayashankar Telangana State Agricultural University (PJ TSAU) in Hyderabad.
  - ✎ On this occasion, India Biodiversity Awards 2018 were announced in 4 categories -
    - ✎ Conservation of Wild and Domesticated Species -
      - ✎ Singchung Bugun Village Community Reserve Management Committee (Arunachal Pradesh) - For Conservation of Bugun Liocichla, a critically endangered bird.
      - ✎ Lemsachenlok Organization (Nagaland)
      - ✎ Kutch Unt Uchherak Maldhari Sangathan (Gujarat) - Conservation of Kharai camel, which is unique for its ability to adapt well to both terrestrial and marine ecosystems.
      - ✎ Kalden Singhi Bhutia (Sikkim) - For conservation of Tibetan sheep.
    - ✎ Sustainable Use of Biological Resources -
      - ✎ Sangham Women Farmers Group (Medak district of Telangana) - Working towards conservation of agro-biodiversity for 15 years.
      - ✎ Parvathi Nagarajan - (Tamil Nadu) - Works for environment protection, wellness and women's empowerment.
      - ✎ Raipassa Biodiversity Management Committee (Tripura) - Community depends on cultivation, collection and sale of broom grass for its livelihood. Villagers collect about 50 tonnes of broom grass per season, and sell it at Rs. 22/Kg.
    - ✎ Replicable Mechanisms for Access and Benefit Sharing
      - ✎ Best Biodiversity Management Committees -
        - ✎ Eraviperoor Grama Panchayat (Kerala) - is an excellent model of a multi-stakeholder partnership in local biodiversity conservation. BMC has rejuvenated a tributary of river Pampa, successfully recovered 13.5 acres of river bank and shown exemplary work in plastic waste management.
        - ✎ Pithorabad Grama Panchayat (Madhya Pradesh) - Sustained efforts towards the conservation and sustainable utilization of bio-resources. It conserves around 115 traditional types of paddies, 32 varieties of vegetables, and medicinal plants.
54. ▶ May 24 - Commonwealth Day.
55. ▶ May 28 - International Day of Action for Women's Health.
56. ▶ May 29 - International Day of UN Peacekeepers. 2018 Theme is *UN Peacekeepers: 70 Years of Service and Sacrifice*.
57. ▶ May 30 - Goa Statehood Day. It attained full statehood on 30th May 1987 becoming India's 25th state. Daman and Diu were separated from Goa and continue to be administered as a UT.
58. ▶ May 31 - World No Tobacco Day. 2018 theme is *Tobacco and heart disease*.
59. ▶ May 8 - World Red Cross Day. Theme of 2018 is *Memorable smiles from around the world*.

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