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TODAY'S EDITION (MAY 28, 2026):

35th WMCC India-China border talks in Beijing, **Sikkim becomes 5th fully literate state** under ULLAS, **SC Collegium recommends 5 elevations** to the Supreme Court, **SC declares right to trauma care under Article 21**, **India dispatches emergency Ebola supplies** to DR Congo via Africa CDC, **MHA notifies the High-Level Committee on Demographic Changes (HLCDC)** under Justice Naolekar, and the **convergence of Menstrual Hygiene Day + International Day of Action for Women's Health** on May 28.

AT A GLANCE

#	HEADLINE	GS PAPER	READ MORE
1	35th India-China WMCC border talks (Beijing)	GS2	Read
2	Sikkim — 5th fully literate state under ULLAS	GS2	Read
3	SC Collegium recommends 5 SC elevations	GS2	Read
4	SC: Right to trauma care under Article 21	GS2	Read
5	India sends emergency Ebola supplies to DRC	GS2/GS3	Read
6	MHA notifies HLCDC under Justice Naolekar	GS1/GS2	Read
7	Menstrual Hygiene Day + Women's Health Day	GS1/GS2	Read

1. INDIA-CHINA HOLD 35TH WMCC BORDER TALKS IN BEIJING

GS Paper 2 — IR: The 35th meeting of the **Working Mechanism for Consultation and Coordination on India-China Border Affairs (WMCC)** was held in **Beijing on May 27, 2026**. **Sujit Ghosh, JS (East Asia), MEA** led the Indian delegation; **Hou Yanqi (DG, Boundary and Oceanic Affairs Dept, MoFA)** led the Chinese side. The two sides reviewed the **3,488 km LAC** situation, discussed **delimitation** and trans-border rivers, and agreed to prepare for the next **Special Representatives** meeting in China. The WMCC (established **January 17, 2012**) operates below the SR Talks (since 2003) in the three-tier India-China border-

diplomacy architecture. The Government of India's stand remains that **Aksai Chin and Arunachal Pradesh are integral parts of India**; China's April 2024 "renaming" of 30 Arunachal places is rejected. Bilateral trade is now ~**USD 127 billion (FY25)**.

2. SIKKIM BECOMES INDIA'S FIFTH FULLY LITERATE STATE UNDER ULLAS

GS Paper 2 — Education: On **May 28, 2026**, **Sikkim** was officially declared a **Fully Literate State** under the **ULLAS (Understanding of Lifelong Learning for All in Society) / Nav Bharat Saaksharta Karyakram** at the **7th Convocation of Sikkim University in Gangtok** in the presence of **President Droupadi Murmu**. Sikkim recorded a **99.82% literacy rate**, surpassing the **95% benchmark** for the 15+ age group. **14,447 of 15,361 identified non-literate adults** were certified via the **FLNAT test (NIOS)**. Sikkim is the **5th state** (after Mizoram, Goa, Tripura, Himachal Pradesh) and 6th state/UT (Ladakh is a UT). ULLAS, launched in **2022** with a **₹1,037.90 crore** outlay, operationalises **NEP 2020 Para 21.3** on adult education and targets **5 crore non-literate adults by 2027**.

3. SC COLLEGIUM RECOMMENDS 4 HC CHIEF JUSTICES + SENIOR ADVOCATE V. MOHANA

GS Paper 2 — Polity: The Supreme Court Collegium, headed by **CJI Surya Kant**, on **May 27, 2026** finalised 5 elevation recommendations — **Justices Sheel Nagu, Shree Chandrashekhar, Sanjeev Sachdeva, Arun Palli** (sitting HC Chief Justices) and **Senior Advocate Mrs V. Mohana** from the Bar. V. Mohana's elevation would raise the **number of sitting women SC judges from one to two** (Justice **B.V. Nagarathna** is currently the lone woman judge, in line to become India's first woman CJI in **September 2027**). The SC has a **sanctioned strength of 34** (SC Number of Judges Act, 1956, amended 2019). The Collegium system, rooted in the **Three Judges Cases (1981/1993/1998)**, was restored after the **NJAC verdict (2015)** struck down the **99th Constitutional Amendment, 2014**.

4. SUPREME COURT — RIGHT TO TRAUMA CARE UNDER ARTICLE 21

GS Paper 2 — Polity/Health: In *Savelife Foundation v. Union of India*, a bench of Justices **J.K. Maheshwari** and **Atul S. Chandurkar** held on **May 27, 2026** that the **right to road-accident trauma care is integral to the right to life under Article 21**. The Court directed **all States/UTs to integrate every emergency/ambulance helpline into Helpline 112 within three months**, and to operationalise the **Good Samaritan Scheme** (statutorily anchored in **Section 134A, Motor Vehicles Act, 2019**; reward ₹5,000/case). India loses **~1.7 lakh lives annually** in road accidents (MoRTH 2022) and **~3% of GDP**. The verdict extends a long jurisprudential line — *Parmanand Katara* (1989), *Paschim Banga Khet Mazdoor Samity* (1996), *Common Cause* (2018), *K.S. Puttaswamy* (2017) — that reads Article 21 as a positive obligation.

5. INDIA DISPATCHES EMERGENCY MEDICAL SUPPLIES TO DRC FOR EBOLA OUTBREAK

GS Paper 2/3 — IR & Health Diplomacy: On **May 28, 2026**, India dispatched emergency pharmaceutical supplies — diagnostics, therapeutics, PPE, infection-prevention materials — to the **Africa CDC's Eastern Africa Regional Coordinating Centre in Uganda** for onward deployment to **Bundibugyo-strain Ebola outbreak zones in eastern DRC**. The **WHO declared a PHEIC on May 17, 2026**; as of May 27, the outbreak had **1,000+ suspected cases and 220+ deaths**. The Bundibugyo strain (first identified Uganda 2007) has historic CFR of ~25–50% (Uganda 2007 ~25%; DRC 2012 ~50%). India's response builds on its **Vaccine Maitri (Jan 2021)** legacy and ~USD 12.4 billion in **Lines of Credit** to 42 African countries.

6. MHA NOTIFIES HIGH-LEVEL COMMITTEE ON DEMOGRAPHIC CHANGES (HLCDC)

GS Paper 1/2 — Society & Internal Security: The MHA notified the **High-Level Committee on Demographic Changes (HLCDC)** via resolution dated **May 26, 2026**, chaired by **Justice (Retd.) Prakash Prabhakar Naolekar** (ex-SC judge, ex-CJ Gauhati HC). Members include **Census Commissioner M.K. Narayan, Durga Shankar Mishra (Retd. IAS), Balaji Srivastava (Retd. IPS), and economist Dr Shamika Ravi**. The committee operationalises PM Modi's **Independence Day 2025 (August 15)** announcement of a "**High-Powered Demography Mission**". It will assess shifts in **border areas, urban centres, industrial corridors and tribal belts** driven by illegal immigration and other causes, and recommend a time-bound action plan. Relevant laws: **Citizenship Act 1955, Foreigners Act 1946, Passport (Entry into India) Act 1920**.

7. MENSTRUAL HYGIENE DAY + INTERNATIONAL DAY OF ACTION FOR WOMEN'S HEALTH — MAY 28

GS Paper 1/2 — Society/Health: May 28 is observed globally as both the **International Day of Action for Women's Health (since 1987, WGNRR-initiated)** and **Menstrual Hygiene Day (since 2014, WASH United Berlin-initiated)**. May 28 was chosen because the **menstrual cycle averages 28 days and menstruation lasts ~5 days** (the 5th month). The **2026 Women's Health theme** is "*Essential, Not Optional: Strengthening Health Systems to Uphold Health Rights and SRHRJ in Times of Polycrisis*"; Menstrual Hygiene Day continues under "**Together for a #PeriodFriendlyWorld**". India indicators (NFHS-5): **77.3%** of women 15-24 use hygienic methods; MMR is **97/lakh** (SRS 2018-20); TFR is **2.0**. Key schemes: **Menstrual Hygiene Scheme (2011, MoHFW), Suvidha pads ₹1/pad under PMBJP (2018), Odisha's Khushi (2018), GST exemption on pads (July 2018)**.

BRIEF — OTHER IMPORTANT NEWS

Esha Singh — World Record + Gold at ISSF World Cup Munich

GS Paper 1 (Persons in News) / GS Paper 2 (Sports Policy): Indian shooter **Esha Singh (21)** won **gold in the Women's 25m Pistol** event at the **ISSF World Cup, Munich**, with a **world-record final score of 43** (bettering Korea's Kim Yeji's earlier 42 at Baku 2024). It is India's first individual shooting medal of the 2026 ISSF World Cup season and earned Esha **direct qualification** for the ISSF World Cup Final in Rome (December 2026). The **ISSF** (International Shooting Sport Federation) was founded in 1907 and is headquartered in Munich.

Nepal Marks 18th Republic Day (May 28, 2008)

GS Paper 2 — IR / Neighbourhood: Nepal observes **Ganatantra Diwas (Republic Day)** on **May 28** to commemorate the Constituent Assembly's declaration on **May 28, 2008** abolishing the **240-year-old Shah monarchy** and establishing the **Federal Democratic Republic of Nepal**. The 2026 commemoration is the **18th anniversary**. Nepal adopted its current **Constitution on September 20, 2015** (Constitution Day). Key India-Nepal anchors: **Treaty of Peace and Friendship 1950**, **Sugauli Treaty 1816** (Anglo-Nepalese), and the **EPG report (2018, unsubmitted)** on revisiting bilateral architecture.

India Crowned U23 Asian Wrestling Freestyle Champions

GS Paper 1 (Sports in News) / GS Paper 2 (Khelo India): India's freestyle wrestling team won the **U23 Asian Wrestling Championships** team title in **Da Nang, Vietnam** (May 27, 2026), finishing ahead of Kyrgyzstan and Kazakhstan. The total Indian contingent across freestyle, women's wrestling and Greco-Roman bagged **27 medals (11G/7S/9B)** — India's best-ever U23 Asian haul. Freestyle gold medallists included Akshay T. Dhere (57 kg), Kumar Mohit (65 kg), Chandermohan (79 kg) and Vicky (97 kg). Apex world body: **United World Wrestling (UWW)**, HQ Corsier-sur-Vevey, Switzerland.

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India-China three-tier border diplomacy	GS2	Post-Galwan normalisation, multi-alignment
ULLAS + NEP 2020 adult education	GS2	Functional literacy, SDG 4
Collegium system + judicial diversity	GS2	Judicial independence, MoP debate
Article 21 jurisprudence — trauma care	GS2	Positive obligation of State, golden hour
Health diplomacy as soft power	GS2	Vaccine Maitri legacy, Africa pivot
Demographic change + internal security	GS1/GS2	Citizenship Act, federalism, NE sensitivities
Menstrual hygiene + women's health	GS1/GS2	SRHRJ, period poverty, SDG 5

Watch for the next round of SC Collegium movements (Centre's response), updates on the DRC Ebola outbreak, and PIB releases on the HLCDC's first meeting.

Sources: MEA, PIB, The Hindu, Indian Express, LiveLaw, WHO, MoHFW

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