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Current Affairs Today — May 30, 2026

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TODAY'S EDITION (MAY 30, 2026):

A double-anniversary day — 200 years of Hindi journalism (*Udant Martand*, 1826) and 39 years of Goa Statehood (May 30, 1987). India's 2nd Chief of Defence Staff General Anil Chauhan completed his tenure today; Myanmar's President Min Aung Hlaing began a 4-day official visit; Vice Admiral Ajay Kochhar took over as 48th Vice Chief of Naval Staff. The 11th Quad Foreign Ministers' Meeting (May 26 at Hyderabad House) and parallel India-US Critical Minerals Framework continue to dominate IR discourse. Andhra Pradesh launched the ₹22,000-crore Green Energy Corridor Phase-III (18 GW RE integration); Netrasemi unveiled the A2000 edge AI SoC on May 28. The WHO declared the DRC-Uganda Ebola Bundibugyo outbreak a PHEIC on May 17 (Emergency Committee met May 19; 746+ suspected, ~85 confirmed as of mid-May); India's traveller advisory issued May 21 is active. ZSI described *Amolops kamal*, a new cascade-frog species from Nagaland's Indo-Burma hotspot. Shenzhou-21 taikonauts returned after a record 210-day Tiangong mission.

AT A GLANCE

#	HEADLINE	GS PAPER	READ MORE
1	Gen Anil Chauhan completes tenure as 2nd CDS	GS2/GS3	Read
2	Myanmar President Min Aung Hlaing begins India visit	GS2	Read
3	Quad FM Meeting Delhi + India-US Critical Minerals Framework	GS2/GS3	Read
4	AP Green Energy Corridor Phase-III (₹22,000 crore)	GS3	Read
5	Netrasemi A2000 edge AI SoC	GS3	Read
6	<i>Amolops kamal</i> — new frog from Nagaland	GS3	Read
7	Hindi Journalism Day — bicentenary of <i>Udant Martand</i>	GS1	Read
8	Goa Statehood Day — 39 years	GS1/GS2	Read
9	WHO Ebola PHEIC + India advisory	GS2/GS3	Read

OTHER NOTABLE ITEMS (ONE-LINERS)

Security & Defence — VAdm Ajay Kochhar takes over as 48th VCNS

Vice Admiral Ajay Kochhar, PVSM, AVSM, NM — a **gunnery and missile specialist** and former **Commander-in-Chief, Andaman & Nicobar Command (ANC)** — assumed charge as the **48th Vice Chief of Naval Staff (VCNS)** on **May 29, 2026** in New Delhi. Commissioned **July 1, 1988** from **NDA Pune**. He visited the **National War Memorial** on assuming office. The **ANC**, India's **only fully operational tri-service theatre command**, was established in **2001** and is headquartered at **Sri Vijaya Puram (formerly Port Blair)**. *GS3 (Security & Defence)*.

Science & Technology — Shenzhou-21 taikonauts return after record 210-day mission

Chinese taikonauts **Zhang Lu (commander)**, **Wu Fei**, and **Zhang Hongzhang** returned aboard the **Shenzhou-22 capsule** at **Dongfeng landing site, Inner Mongolia** at **8:11 PM (local)** on **May 29, 2026**, after **210 days** on China's **Tiangong space station** — a **new Chinese single-crew duration record**. **Tiangong** ("Heavenly Palace") is China's modular LEO space station, fully assembled in **November 2022**. India's parallel human-spaceflight programme is **Gaganyaan** (ISRO; uncrewed Vyommitra flight planned 2026; first crewed flight Q1 2027). India's planned space station is the **Bharatiya Antariksh Station (BAS)** by 2035. *GS3 (Science & Technology / IR)*.

International Relations — US SOUTHCOM-Cuban Army talks at Guantanamo perimeter

General Francis L. Donovan (US Southern Command (SOUTHCOM) commander) met **Corps General Roberto Legrá Sotolongo** (First Deputy Minister, Chief of General Staff, Cuban Revolutionary Armed Forces) at the **perimeter of US Naval Station Guantanamo Bay** on **May 29, 2026** — a rare direct US-Cuba military contact, framed as discussing "operational security matters." Context: US Carrier Strike Group **USS Nimitz** has been deployed to the Caribbean; significant US military buildup in the region. **SOUTHCOM** is one of **11 Unified Combatant Commands** of the US Department of Defense. The **US has leased Guantanamo Bay since 1903** under the Cuban-American Treaty; Cuba has formally rejected the lease since the 1959 revolution. *GS2 (IR — Latin America)*.

International Relations — China-Canada bilateral fully restored

Chinese FM **Wang Yi** declared China-Canada ties "**fully restored**" during his **Ottawa visit on May 28-30, 2026** — the **first visit by a Chinese FM to Canada in a decade**. The trip culminated in the **China-Canada Economic and Trade Cooperation Roadmap** covering **28 specific measures across 8 areas** (signed May 28-30). The thaw builds on Canadian **PM Mark Carney's January 2026 Beijing visit** that produced a preliminary trade deal and a path to resolve the **canola + EV tariff dispute**. Bilateral trade is **~USD 90 billion (2025)**. China-Canada ties had frozen after the **December 2018 arrest of Huawei CFO**

Meng Wanzhou in Vancouver and China's retaliatory detention of **Canadian citizens Michael Kovrig and Michael Spavor**. Implication for India: as US-China tensions persist, middle powers are recalibrating — questioning whether Western pragmatism with Beijing weakens India's friend-shoring positioning. **GS2 (IR)**.

Persons in News — K.P. Dhanapalan dies at 76

K.P. Dhanapalan, veteran Kerala Congress leader and former MP from Chalakudy (15th Lok Sabha, 2009-14), passed away on **May 30, 2026** in **Paravur, Kochi**. A close aide of **A.K. Antony**, he served as **DCC Ernakulam president** and **chairman of Milma** (the **Kerala Cooperative Milk Marketing Federation**, established **1980** on the Anand pattern). Milma is one of India's major dairy cooperatives within the **Operation Flood** legacy. **GS2/GS3 — Persons & Awards**.

ANNIVERSARIES OBSERVED ON MAY 30

ANNIVERSARY	YEAR	SIGNIFICANCE
Hindi Journalism Day	1826	200th anniversary (bicentenary) — <i>Udant Martand</i> launched by Pt. Jugal Kishore Shukla, Calcutta
Goa Statehood Day	1987	39th anniversary — Goa became India's 25th state via the 56th CAA and Goa Reorganisation Act 1987

TODAY'S MAINS HOOKS

- **GS2:** India's engagement with Myanmar's junta — Neighbourhood First vs democratic values; Quad's evolution as economic-security platform with USD 20 bn Critical Minerals Initiative.
- **GS3:** Theaterisation under departing CDS — what remains for the next CDS; pumped-storage and grid integration for the 60% non-fossil-by-2035 target; edge AI sovereignty under ISM and DLI scheme.
- **GS1:** Bicentenary of Hindi journalism — Indian-language press, colonial press laws, Vernacular Press Act 1878; Goa's path from Portuguese colony (1510-1961) → UT (1962) → state (1987).

TODAY'S PRELIMS HOOKS (HIGH-YIELD)

- CDS post created: **24 Dec 2019**; DMA created **Jan 2020**; first CDS Gen Rawat (Jan 1, 2020 – Dec 8, 2021); second CDS Gen Chauhan (Sep 30, 2022 – May 30, 2026)
- India-Myanmar land border: **1,643 km**; 4 bordering states (Arunachal, Nagaland, Manipur, Mizoram); **FMR scrapped 2024**
- *Udant Martand*: **May 30, 1826**, Calcutta, Pt. Jugal Kishore Shukla; weekly Tuesdays; ~79 issues; folded Dec 1827

- Goa: 25th state; statehood **May 30, 1987**; **56th CAA**; UCC inherited from **Portuguese Civil Code 1867**; Konkani added to **8th Schedule by 71st CAA, 1992**; Opinion Poll **January 16, 1967**
- Andaman & Nicobar Command (ANC): India's only tri-service theatre command; HQ Sri Vijaya Puram; est. **2001**
- India's critical minerals: **30-mineral list** (June 2023); **NCMM ₹34,300 cr** (2025-2031); India 5th globally in rare-earth reserves; 100% import-dependent on lithium, cobalt, nickel
- IHR-2005 in force June 15, 2007; current PHEICs — Polio (2014–), Mpox clade Ib (2024–), Ebola Bundibugyo (declared May 17, 2026); India's only BSL-4 lab: NIV Pune (2012)
- Indo-Burma is one of India's 4 biodiversity hotspots (Western Ghats-Sri Lanka, Eastern Himalaya, Indo-Burma, Sundaland-Nicobar); 36 globally (Conservation International, Norman Myers 1988)
- ISM launched Dec 21, 2021; ~₹76,000 cr outlay; DLI scheme ₹15 cr per startup; key fab: Tata-PSMC Dholera (28nm)
- Tiangong fully assembled Nov 2022; India's Gaganyaan + BAS by 2035
- Quad revived **Nov 2017** ASEAN Manila; first formal dialogue **May 2007** Manila

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