

GK NOW

WEEKLY CURRENT AFFAIRS

12 to 18 May 2024



MANTHAN

(The Churning, 1976)
Directed by Shyam Benegal
Restored by Film Heritage Foundation

FRIDAY, MAY 17, 2024
at 08:45 PM at Salle Binauel



ENGLISH



One Liner Weekly Current Affairs: 12 May to 18 May 2024

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Art and Culture Current Affairs



Shyam Benegal's film 'Manthan' to be screened at the Cannes Film Festival

Director Shyam Benegal's film 'Manthan,' inspired by the milk cooperative movement of Verghese Kurien, will be screened at the Cannes Film Festival on 18 May 2024.

The 1976 film, restored in 4K, is the only Indian film to be featured in the Cannes Classic section this year.

The restoration was carried out by the Film Heritage Foundation, led by Shivendra Singh Dungarpur.

The premiere will be attended by actor Naseeruddin Shah, family members of the late actress Smita Patil, the film's producers, and Shivendra Singh Dungarpur.



Ramcharitmanas, Panchatantra, and Sahṛdayāloka-Locana included in UNESCO's Memory of the World Asia-Pacific Regional Register

UNESCO Recognition: The Ramcharitmanas, Panchatantra, and Sahṛdayāloka-Locana have been included in UNESCO's Memory of the World Asia-Pacific Regional Register, affirming India's rich literary and cultural heritage.

Significance: This recognition by UNESCO is a source of pride for India and emphasizes the importance of preserving diverse narratives and artistic expressions globally.

Literary Impact: These works, authored by Goswami Tulsidas, Pandit Vishnu Sharma, and Acharya Anandvardhan respectively, have deeply influenced Indian literature and culture, shaping moral values and artistic expressions.

Timelessness: The timeless nature of these literary masterpieces transcends geographical and temporal boundaries, leaving a lasting impact on readers and artists worldwide.

Role of IGNCA: The Indira Gandhi National Centre for the Arts played a

crucial role in securing this recognition during the 10th meeting of the Memory of the World Committee for Asia and the Pacific in Ulaanbaatar.



Cannes Film Festival from May 14 to May 25, 2024

The 77th Cannes Film Festival, an esteemed international film festival, is held annually in Cannes, France.

Dates and Venue: Scheduled from May 14 to May 25, 2024, the festival will take place at the Palais des Festivals et des Congrès in Cannes, a renowned gathering spot for filmmakers, celebrities, and industry insiders.

Opening Film: "The Second Act," a French comedy directed by Quentin Dupieux, marks the festival's opening.

Indian Participation: India is actively participating in the 12-day event, with representatives from the Government of India, State Governments, and the film industry. This year, India will host a Bharat Parv at the Cannes Film Festival for the first time.

Environment Current Affairs



Monsoon will arrive in Kerala towards the end of May: IMD

The India Meteorological Department (IMD) predicts the south-west monsoon will likely arrive in Kerala towards the end of this month (May 2024).

Kerala has been experiencing sporadic rains recently. These rains have significantly reduced the temperature in the state.



Powerful Solar Storm hit Earth causing Celestial Light Displays in Skies from Australia to Britain

An unusually powerful solar storm hit Earth on the night of May 10, causing celestial light displays from Australia to Britain. The solar storm poses a threat of potential disruptions to Earth’s communications networks, satellites, and power grids as it continues into the weekend.

The solar storm was caused by coronal mass ejections (CMEs), expulsions of plasma and magnetic fields from the Sun.

It was upgraded to an ‘extreme’ geomagnetic storm, the first since the ‘Halloween Storms’ of October 2003.

More Coronal Mass Ejections are expected to impact the planet in the upcoming days.

Social media was filled with images of auroras from northern Europe to Australia, New Zealand, and neighboring islands in the Pacific Ocean.

The solar flares originated from a large cluster of sunspots; 17 times wider than Earth.

The Sun is nearing the peak of an 11-year cycle, resulting in increased solar activity.

Fluctuating magnetic fields during geomagnetic storms can create currents in long wires, potentially causing power outages and issues in engineering.

Spacecraft are vulnerable to high levels of radiation during solar storms, but Earth’s atmosphere shields the planet.

Pigeons and other species with internal biological compasses may be impacted by geomagnetic storms.

The Carrington Event, the most powerful geomagnetic storm in recorded history, occurred in September 1859.

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**Important Days
Current Affairs**



World Telecommunication Day – May 17

World Telecommunication Day: Celebrated annually on May 17 since 1969 to commemorate the founding of ITU and the signing of the first International Telegraph Convention in 1865. Instituted by the Plenipotentiary Conference in Malaga-Torremolinos in 1973.

World Information Society Day: Established following the World Summit on the Information Society in November 2005. The UN General Assembly declared May 17 as World Information Society Day in March 2006, focusing on the importance of ICT and related issues raised by WSIS.



World Football Day – 25th May

The United Nations General Assembly proclaimed 25th May as World Football Day. This proclamation occurred during the 80th plenary meeting of the General Assembly in New York.

The year 2024 marks the 100th anniversary of the first international football tournament during the 1924 Summer

Olympic Games in Paris.

The resolution was passed unanimously by the 193-member General Assembly.



Mother's Day : Second Sunday in May

Mother's Day is a special occasion celebrated in various countries around the world to honor mothers and mother-figures. In the United States, Mother's Day is observed on the **second Sunday in May**.

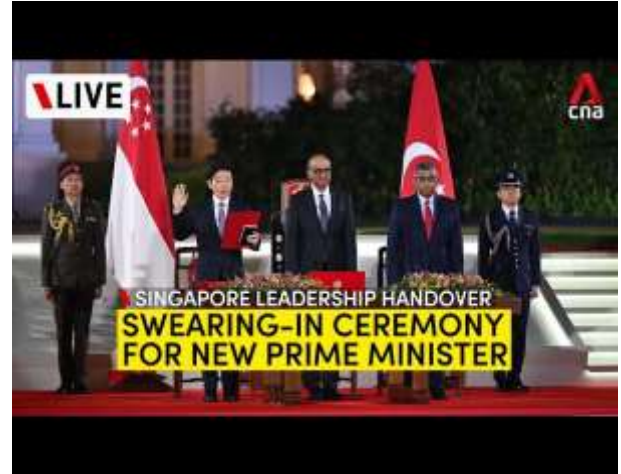
Origin:

The modern form of Mother's Day originated in the United States. Anna Jarvis, inspired by her mother Ann Reeves Jarvis (a peace activist during the American Civil War), campaigned to establish Mother's Day as a recognized holiday.

The first Mother's Day service took place in **1907** at Andrews Methodist Episcopal Church in Grafton, West Virginia.

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International Current Affairs



Lawrence Wong sworn in as the Singapore Prime Minister

Singapore's deputy leader Lawrence Wong was sworn in as the nation's fourth Prime Minister on 15 May 2024. Fifty-one-year-old Wong succeeds 72-year-old Lee Hsien Loong, who stepped down after two decades at the helm.

Lee's resignation marked the end of a family dynasty led by his father Lee Kuan Yew; Singapore's charismatic first leader who transformed the colonial trading outpost into a business-friendly, affluent country during 31 years in office.

Since becoming an independent nation in 1965, Singapore has only had three Prime Ministers, all from the ruling People's Action Party.



India and Iran signed a long-term contract for operating the Shahid-Beheshti Port Terminal in Chabahar

India and Iran signed a long-term contract for operating the Shahid-Beheshti Port Terminal to enhance cooperation and make Chabahar Port a regional trade transit and connectivity hub.

The Indian delegation, led by Union Minister Sarbananda Sonowal, witnessed the signing of the 10-year contract with Iran's Minister for Roads and Urban Development, Mehrdad Bazrpash.

India Ports Global Ltd (IPGL) will invest approximately \$120 million in equipping and operating the port under the contract.

Chabahar Port serves as an important transit port for trade with Afghanistan and Central Asian countries and is a flagship project of India-Iran cooperation.

India has been involved in developing and upgrading Chabahar Port's infrastructure to facilitate trade with landlocked Afghanistan and Central Asian countries.

Chabahar Port is situated in Iran's Sistan-Baluchistan province and provides a shorter trade route between India, Iran, Afghanistan, and Central Asia.

India Ports Global Limited (IPGL) operates the Chabahar Port through its subsidiary, India Ports Global Chabahar Free Zone (IPGCFZ), since December 2018.

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National Current Affairs



IndiaSkills 2024, India's biggest skill competition, started in New Delhi.

IndiaSkills 2024, India's biggest skill competition, started on 15 May 2024 in New Delhi.

1. **Participants:** Over 900 students from 30 states and Union territories are competing.
2. **Categories:** Competitions are held in 61 different skill areas, ranging from traditional crafts to the latest technologies.
3. **Inauguration:** Skill development Secretary Atul Kumar Tiwari inaugurated the event, highlighting its benefits for both youth and industries.
4. **Next Steps:** Winners will train with top industry trainers to prepare for the WorldSkills Competition in Lyon, France, in September.
5. **WorldSkills Details:** The WorldSkills Competition will feature 1,500 competitors from over 70 countries.



India-France Joint Military Exercise "Shakti" from May 13 to May 26 at Umroi, Meghalaya

The 7th edition of the India-France Joint Military Exercise "Shakti" began on May 13 and runs until May 26 at Umroi, Meghalaya.

Conducted every two years, alternating between India and France, with the previous edition held in France in November 2021.

Indian contingent comprises 90 personnel primarily from the Rajput Regiment, alongside other arms and services, with observers from the Indian Navy and Air Force.

French contingent includes 90 personnel from the 13th Foreign Legion Half-Brigade (13th DBLE).

Focuses on operations in semi-urban and mountainous terrain, aiming for high physical fitness and refining tactical operations.

Tactical drills encompass various scenarios like responding to terrorist actions, establishing Joint Command Posts, securing helipads, conducting Special Heliborne Operations, and employing drones.

Aims to promote inter-operability, camaraderie, and defense cooperation between India and France, enhancing bilateral relations.

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Polity Current Affairs



Lok Sabha election : 67.71 % Voter turnout for the fourth phase

Voter turnout for the fourth phase of the Lok Sabha election held on May 13, 2024, was recorded at 67.71%. Polling took place in 96 Lok Sabha seats across nine states and one Union Territory.

Andhra Pradesh had the highest turnout at 78.25%, while Bihar had 57.06% and Telangana had 64.93%.

Jammu and Kashmir had a turnout of 37.98%, Jharkhand 65.31%, and Madhya Pradesh 70.98%.

Maharashtra recorded 59.64%, Odisha 73.97%, Uttar Pradesh 58.05%, and West Bengal 78.44%.

Seats contested: Andhra Pradesh (25), Telangana (17), Uttar Pradesh (13), Maharashtra (11), Madhya Pradesh (8), West Bengal (8), Bihar (5), Jharkhand (4), Odisha (4), and one seat from Jammu and Kashmir.

Total candidates in the fray: 1,717.

The Election Commission reported peaceful polling.

Polling has been completed for State Legislative Assemblies of Arunachal Pradesh, Sikkim, Andhra Pradesh, and 28 assembly seats of Odisha.

Sports Current Affairs



Indian Football Legend Sunil Chhetri announced his retirement

Sunil Chhetri, Indian football legend and current national team captain, announced his retirement. His final match will be against Kuwait on June 6, at the Salt Lake Stadium in Kolkata.

Chhetri debuted on June 12, 2005, against Pakistan.

He is India's all-time top scorer with 94 goals in 150 international matches.

Chhetri is the third-highest active international goal-scorer, behind Cristiano Ronaldo and Lionel Messi.

His retirement marks the end of a significant era in Indian football, characterized by his passion, leadership, and remarkable achievements.



Manika Batra became first Indian Women to break into top 25 of the world Women's singles table tennis rankings.

Manika Batra became the first Indian woman to break into the top 25 of the world Women's singles table tennis rankings.

She achieved a career-best ranking of 24. This ranking followed her success in the Saudi Smash, where she reached the quarterfinals. She equalled G. Sathyan's record for the highest rank achieved by an Indian in singles table tennis.

Manika is a 2018 Commonwealth Games gold medallist in both individual and team categories.

She jumped 15 spots in the rankings following her performance in Jeddah.



Magnus Carlsen win World Rapid and Blitz Poland Chess Tournament

Magnus Carlsen claimed victory in the World Rapid and Blitz Poland event after defeating all nine other players in a row on May 12, 2024. Magnus Carlsen claimed victory after defeating all nine other players in a row.

R Pragganandhaa, an Indian chess player, defeated Magnus Carlsen, the world number one, on May 11, 2024.

Wei Yi, China Chess player secured second position.

The event featured three Indian prodigies: D Gukesh, Pragganandhaa, and Arjun Erigaisi, along with other top grandmasters like Anish Giri, Nodirbek Abdusattorov, and Vincent Keymer.

Pragganandhaa finished in fourth place with 19 points, while Erigaisi secured the fifth position with 18 points.

D Gukesh, the World Chess Championship challenger, ended in the last spot with 12.5 points.



Aman Sehrawat qualify for 2024 Paris Olympics in the men's 57kg freestyle category

Indian wrestler Aman Sehrawat has become the first Indian male wrestler to qualify for the 2024 Paris Olympics. He secured a Paris quota in the men's 57kg freestyle category at the World Wrestling Olympic Qualifiers in Istanbul, Turkiye.

Sehrawat beat Chongsong Han of Korea 12-2 in the semi-final to secure quota for Paris Olympic. This is India's secure sixth quota in wrestling for the 2024 Olympics. All of the previous five quotas were obtained by the Indian women wrestlers.

Weekly Current Affairs MCQ: 12 May to 18 May 2024

Q: Which monsoon normally set in over Kerala towards the end of May / first week of June every year?

- A) North-east monsoon
- B) South-west monsoon
- C) Winter monsoon
- D) Summer monsoon

Answer: B) South-west monsoon

[Detail News](#)

Q: Which director's film 'Manthan' is set to be screened at the Cannes Film Festival on 18 May 2024?

- A) Satyajit Ray
- B) Shyam Benegal
- C) Rajkumar Hirani
- D) Mira Nair

Answer: B) Shyam Benegal

[Detail News](#)

Q: What is the theme of the film 'Manthan'?

- A) Indian independence movement
- B) Milk cooperative movement
- C) Industrial revolution
- D) Space exploration

Answer: B) Milk cooperative movement

[Detail News](#)

Q: When did Sunil Chhetri announce his retirement from international football?

- A) After the 2023 AFC Asian Cup
- B) After the match against Kuwait on June 6, 2024
- C) After the 2024 FIFA World Cup
- D) After the match against Pakistan on June 12, 2023

Ans : B) After the match against Kuwait on June 6, 2024

[Detail News](#)

Q: What significant milestone does Sunil Chhetri hold in Indian football?

- A) Most matches played
- B) Youngest debutant
- C) Highest goal-scorer
- D) Most assists

Ans : C) Highest goal-scorer

[Detail News](#)

Q: When do we celebrate World Telecommunication and Information Society Day (WTISD)?

- A) April 17
- B) May 17
- C) June 17
- D) July 17

Answer: B) May 17

[Detail News](#)

Q: What is the next step for the winners of the India Skills 2024 event?

- a) They will receive monetary awards and certificates.
- b) They will get the opportunity to study abroad.
- c) They will train with top industry trainers to prepare for the WorldSkills Competition in Lyon, France.
- d) They will be offered immediate employment in top companies.

Ans : c) They will train with top industry trainers to prepare for the WorldSkills Competition in Lyon, France.

[Detail News](#)

Q: Who was sworn in as Singapore's fourth Prime Minister on 15 May 2024?

- A) Lee Hsien Loong
- B) Lawrence Wong
- C) Lee Kuan Yew
- D) Halimah Yacob

Ans : B) Lawrence Wong

[Detail News](#)

Q: Who became the first Indian woman to break into the top 25 of the world Women's singles table tennis rankings?

- A) Suthirtha Mukherjee
- B) Mouma Das
- C) Manika Batra
- D) Ankita Das

Ans : C) Manika Batra

[Detail News](#)

Q: Where does the Cannes Film Festival take place annually?

- a) Paris
- b) Cannes
- c) London
- d) New York

Ans : b) Cannes

[Detail News](#)

Q: Which day is proclaimed as World Football Day by the United Nations General Assembly?

- a) 24th May
- b) 25th May
- c) 26th May
- d) 27th May

Ans : b) 25th May

[Detail News](#)

Q: In which city were the 1924 Summer Olympic Games held, where the first international football tournament with representation from all regions took place?

- a) Berlin
- b) Tokyo
- c) Paris
- d) London

Ans : c) Paris

[Detail News](#)

Q: Which organization included the Ramcharitmanas, Panchatantra, and Sahṛdayāloka-Locana in its Memory of the World Asia-Pacific Regional Register?

- a) UNICEF
- b) UNESCO
- c) WHO
- d) World Bank

Ans : b) UNESCO

[Detail News](#)

Q: Who authored the Ramcharitmanas?

- a) Acharya Anandvardhan
- b) Goswami Tulsidas
- c) Pandit Vishnu Sharma
- d) Ramesh Chandra Gaur

Ans : b) Goswami Tulsidas

[Detail News](#)

Q: In the 7th edition of the Joint Military Exercise "Shakti" from May 13 to May 26 at Umroi, Meghalaya, which country's contingent participates alongside the Indian Army?

- a) Russia
- b) France
- c) United States
- d) United Kingdom

Ans : b) France

[Detail News](#)

Q: Which of the following states had completed polling for its State Legislative Assembly along with the Lok Sabha election by phase 4?

- a) Gujarat
- b) Karnataka
- c) Andhra Pradesh
- d) Tamil Nadu

Ans : c) Andhra Pradesh

[Detail News](#)

Q: India and Iran signed a long-term contract for operating which port?

- a) Chittagong Port
- b) Shahid Beheshti Port in Chabahar
- c) Port of Colombo
- d) Port of Karachi

Ans : b) Shahid Beheshti Port in Chabahar

[Detail News](#)

Q: What new trade route will be opened up by the agreement between India and Iran regarding the Chabahar port?

- a) Between India and China
- b) Between South Asia and Central Asia via Iran
- c) Between India and Japan
- d) Between South Asia and Europe via Iran

Ans : b) Between South Asia and Central Asia via Iran

[Detail News](#)

Q: Who is the first Indian male wrestler to qualify for the 2024 Paris Olympics?

- a) KD Jadhav
- b) Aman Sehrawat
- c) Sushil Kumar
- d) Yogeshwar Dutt

Ans : b) Aman Sehrawat

[Detail News](#)

Q: In which category did Aman Sehrawat secure a Paris quota for the Olympics?

- a) Men's 65kg freestyle
- b) Men's 57kg freestyle
- c) Men's 74kg freestyle
- d) Men's 86kg freestyle

Ans: b) Men's 57kg freestyle

[Detail News](#)

Q: What caused the powerful solar storm that hit Earth on May 10, 2024?

- a) Solar flares
- b) Coronal mass ejections (CMEs)
- c) Lunar eclipse
- d) Solar eclipse

Ans : b) Coronal mass ejections (CMEs)

[Detail News](#)

Q: What is the approximate frequency of the solar activity cycle mentioned in the passage?

- a) 7 years
- b) 11 years
- c) 50 years
- d) 100 years

Ans : b) 11 years

[Detail News](#)

Q: Who won the World Rapid and Blitz Poland chess tournament in May 2024?

- a) Wei Yi
- b) Arjun Erigaisi
- c) R Praggnanandhaa
- d) Magnus Carlsen

Correct Answer: d) Magnus Carlsen

[Detail News](#)

Q: Which Indian Chess Player defeated world number one Magnus Carlsen in the Superbet rapid and blitz chess tournament in May 2024?

- a) Vishwanath Anand
- b) R Praggnanandhaa
- c) Arjun Erigaisi
- d) D. Gukesh.

Ans : b) R Praggnanandhaa

[Detail News](#)



Q: Mother's Day is celebrated?

- A) First Sunday in May
- B) Second Sunday in May
- C) Third Sunday in May
- D) Fourth Sunday in May

Answer: B) Second Sunday in May

[Detail News](#)