

Weekly Current Affairs: 27 April - 3 May 2026 Important Current Affairs

Weekly Current Affairs: This report covers all essential national and international events, appointments, awards, and sports news from 27 April to 3 May 2026. Keep yourself updated with these insights, which are crucial for your success in competitive exams.

National News

01 Inauguration of Ganga Expressway

On 29 April 2026, Prime Minister Narendra Modi inaugurated the **594 km long Ganga Expressway** in Hardoi, Uttar Pradesh. Built at a cost of ₹36,230 crore, this massive project connects Meerut in the west to Prayagraj in the east.

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- The Ganga Expressway is one of the longest in India.
- It is set to play a pivotal role in the industrial and infrastructure development of Uttar Pradesh.

02 New Districts in Ladakh

Ladakh Lt. Governor Vinay Kumar Saxena has given the green light to create 5 new districts. With this expansion, the total number of districts in Ladakh has risen from 2 to 7.

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- Ladakh became a Union Territory in 2019.
- Previously, it only comprised the districts of Leh and Kargil.

03 IMF Recognition for UPI

The International Monetary Fund (IMF) has officially recognized India's UPI as the world's largest real-time payment system. Notably, nearly half of the world's digital transactions are now processed through India's UPI infrastructure.

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- NPCI manages the UPI framework in India.
- It was first launched in 2016.

04 Other National Updates

The government has extended the **Small Hydro Project Development Scheme** for another 5 years. The Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment has launched the **Ismail Begari Survey** mobile app. Meanwhile, 6 villages in Jammu & Kashmir have been included under the **Vibrant Village Program**. Additionally, Skyroot Aerospace has successfully developed India's first private orbital rocket, **Vikram-1**.

International News

05 UAE Withdraws from OPEC

As of 1 May 2026, the United Arab Emirates (UAE) has officially exited the oil exporters' group **OPEC** and **OPEC+**. The organization now retains 11 member countries.

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- The headquarters of OPEC is located in Vienna.
- It was formed during the Baghdad Conference in 1960.

06 World's First Permanent Nuclear Waste Repository

Finland has developed the world's first 'Permanent Nuclear Waste Repository' (Onkalo). The facility is buried 400-450 meters deep underground.

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- Helsinki is the capital of Finland.
- Safe management of nuclear waste remains a critical global priority.

07 17th Petersberg Climate Dialogue

The 17th Petersberg Climate Dialogue took place in Bonn, Germany, in April 2026, focusing on discussions surrounding the upcoming COP 31.

Indices and Reports

08 SIPRI Report 2025

India ranks 5th in global military spending, with the United States occupying the top spot.

09 Knight Frank PIRI 100

Based on luxury residential property price growth, three Indian cities—Bengaluru, Mumbai, and Delhi—have secured spots in the world's top 20 cities.

Appointments, Awards & Sports

- **Appointments:** Srikant Velamakani (NASSCOM), Ashok Kumar Lahiri (NITI Aayog), Justice Anupinder Singh Grewal (NCLT), and CV Anand (Telangana DGP) have taken charge of their new roles.
- **Awards:** Dr. Atanu Nath has been awarded the Breakthrough Prize 2026. Furthermore, Barkha Subba and Parveen Sheikh received the Whitley Award 2026.
- **Sports:** Sourav Kothari won the World Billiards Championship. India is leading the medal tally at the ISSF Junior World Cup. Additionally, Sebastian Sawe set a new world record at the London Marathon.

Important Days

1 May marked the foundation day of Maharashtra and Gujarat, alongside International Labour Day. World Intellectual Property Day was observed on 26 April. The Ippapuvu Panduga festival was celebrated in the Adilabad district.

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