

## Highlists of 1 May 2026 current affairs

- **Justice Anupinder Singh Grewal** (Retired) has been appointed as the new President of the National Company Law Tribunal (NCLT). He will serve for a term of five years or until the age of 67, whichever comes earlier. This is the first time that a former Justice has been appointed as the President of the NCLT, as ordinarily a former Chief Justice of a High Court was considered for this post.
- **1 May** is celebrated every year as **World Labour Day**, recognizing the contribution of the working class across the globe. In 2026, the theme for World Labour Day is *"Ensuring a Healthy Psychosocial Working Environment."* World Labour Day is also known as *Working Class Day*.
- On **1 May 2026, Buddha Purnima** was also celebrated. It marks the birth anniversary of Gautam Buddha and falls on the full moon day of the Vaisakh month every year according to the Hindu calendar. This year marks the **2569th Buddha Purnima**.
- **Indian Railways** launched a new **Vande Bharat train** connecting Jammu directly to Srinagar. The inauguration was done by Union Railway Minister Ashwini Vaishnaw, in the presence of Jammu & Kashmir Chief Minister Omar Abdullah, Union Minister Dr. Jitendra Singh, and MP Ghulam Ali Khatana.
- The **United States of America** returned **657 Indian antiquities** collectively valued at **\$14 million**, which had been smuggled into the USA.
- **KC Venugopal** of the Congress Party was appointed as the Chairman of the **Parliamentary Public Accounts Committee (PAC)** for 2026–2027. In addition, **Baijayant Panda** of the BJP was named Chairman of the **Committee on Public Undertakings**. **Fagan Singh Kulaste** was appointed head of the **Committee on Welfare of SCs and STs**, while **Sanjay Jaiswal** of the BJP was chosen to chair the **Committee on Estimates** of the Lok Sabha.
- The **Government of India** announced the **Mansarovar Yatra 2026** in coordination with China, scheduled from June to August. A total of 20 batches of 50 pilgrims each will participate. Ten batches will travel through the **Lipulekh Pass in Uttarakhand**, and ten batches through the **Nathu La Pass in Sikkim**.
- From **1 September 2026**, the Government of India mandated that all **e-truck parts** must be manufactured locally under amendments to the **Phased Manufacturing Programme (PMP)** for N2 to N3 categories, as part of the **PM E-DRIVE Scheme**. The notification specifies three key electronic components:
  - **Battery Management System (BMS)**: The brain of the battery, monitoring and controlling charging, discharging, and temperature.
  - **DC-DC Converter**: Converts high-voltage battery power to lower voltage for lights, AC, and onboard computers.

- **Vehicle Control Unit (VCU):** It manages overall vehicle operations in e-trucks. All these components must be locally produced from September 2026.
- The **Pakistan Navy** commissioned its first **Hangor-Class submarine** in Sanya, China. Pakistan's President **Asif Ali Zardari** attended the ceremony as the Chief Guest.
- India celebrated **10 years of UPI**, launched on **11 April 2016** by the **National Payments Corporation of India (NPCI)**. According to the Ministry of Finance, a total of **24,162 crore transactions** were recorded in FY 2025–26, compared to only **2 crore transactions** in FY 2016–17 — an increase of nearly **1,200 times**. The transaction value rose to **₹314 crore** in FY 2025–26, compared to **₹0.07 crore** in FY 2016–17 — a **4,000-fold increase**. The number of operational banks also grew from **44 in FY 2016–17** to **703 in FY 2025–26**. The **International Monetary Fund (IMF)** has recognized UPI as the *world's largest real-time payment system by transaction volume*.
- India ranked **157<sup>th</sup> out of 180 countries** in the **World Press Freedom Index 2026**, published by **Reporters Without Borders (RSF)**. Last year, India was ranked **151<sup>st</sup>**. In 2026, India is behind **Pakistan (153<sup>rd</sup>)** and **Bangladesh (152<sup>nd</sup>)**. **Norway** has topped the ranking for 10 consecutive years, while **Eritrea** remains last.