

Highlights of 18 May 2026 Current Affairs

- The Central Board of Secondary Education (CBSE) has reintroduced the On-Screen Marking (OSM) system, which uses technology in the evaluation process of students' papers. This system was first introduced in 2014 but was paused due to technological limitations. With OSM, the answer sheets of students are scanned and digitized for online evaluation, making the process more transparent.
- The Anand Marriage Act has now come into force in Sikkim. This Act enables Sikhs to register their traditional marriages under their own legal framework.
- Kurukshetra University now has a Maharana Pratap Research Chair, along with a study centre at the Government Women's College in Shafzabadpur, which will be renamed after Maharani Padmavati.
- The Union Territory of Ladakh has increased the wages of workers to ₹575 per day for part-time and need-based workers. Skilled workers will receive ₹575 per day, while unskilled workers will get ₹450 per day. Their wages will be directly credited to Aadhaar-linked bank accounts through Direct Benefit Transfer (DBT).
- The World Health Organization's Director-General has declared Ebola, which is caused by the Bundibugyo virus, an epidemic in the Democratic Republic of the Congo and Uganda.
- The Labour Ministry has issued a notification on the working hours of miners. Those who work in the mines may not exceed 5 hours, and it is necessary to give them a half-hour break. A shift must be limited to 8 hours only, under the Occupational Safety, Health and Working Conditions Code, 2020.
- Elina Svitolina, a tennis player from Ukraine, won the Italian Open in Rome by defeating Coco Gauff from the United States. This is her second Italian Open title; she previously won it in 2017.
- Satwiksairaj Rankireddy and Chirag Shetty concluded their Thailand Open Super 500 campaign as runners-up, after losing the final to the Indonesian pair.
- Xabi Alonso has taken charge as the new manager of Chelsea Football Club on a four-year deal.
- Alex Smalley became the champion of the PGA Championship after defeating Scottie Scheffler.
- India finished in 11th place at the Asian Senior Weightlifting Championships with one silver and ten bronze medals, making a total of eleven medals overall. China topped the standings with 21 gold, 12 silver, and 8 bronze medals, for a total of 41 medals.
- Diamond Harbour FC won the Indian Football League title and earned promotion to the top-tier Indian Super League.
- Dr. Inderjit Singh, a science educator and emeritus professor of anatomical sciences at New York University, who also spoke at the Barack Obama-led 9/11 condolence meet, has passed away at the age of 89.
- The Government has amended the Central Motor Vehicles Rules, 1989, to permit certain vehicles carrying white goods and photovoltaic solar panels or modules to have an overall height of up to 4.5 metres.
- India and the Netherlands have signed 17 pacts to boost cooperation in defence, critical minerals, and other key sectors during the visit of the Indian Prime Minister.

- Nepalese climber Kami Rita Sherpa broke his own record by climbing the world's highest mountain, Mount Everest, for the 32nd time. He is also known as the "Everest Man." Alongside him, Lhakpa Sherpa, also known as the "Mountain Queen," scaled Mount Everest for the 11th time, breaking her own record as well. The height of Mount Everest is 8,848.86 metres (29,032 feet).