

Highlights of 17 June 2026 Current Affairs

- The Indian Army has placed an order for about 1,000 MEPRO X6 telescopic sights, developed by Meprilight. These sights are primarily dedicated daytime optics for the NEGEV 7.62×51 mm Light Machine Guns (LMGs), aimed at enhancing target acquisition, accuracy, and the operational effectiveness of infantry units.
- Prime Minister Narendra Modi is on a state visit to Slovakia and has received the country's highest national honour, the Order of the White Double Cross (1st Class). This is the highest civilian and military state decoration, granted by the President of Slovakia to foreign citizens.
- The Indian government has launched a new Wholesale Price Index (WPI) series with the base year changed to 2022–23, replacing the earlier base year of 2011–12. Along with this change, the government has also introduced new Producer Price Indices (PPIs), which include the Output Producer Price Index (OPPI), Input Producer Price Index (IPPI), and Service Producer Price Indices (Service PPIs).
- The Department of Telecommunications (DoT), under the Ministry of Communications, has introduced the Prime Minister's Wi-Fi Access Network Interface (PM-WANI), updated with key reforms such as QR-based authentication for laptops and secondary devices, short-duration Wi-Fi data sachet plans of 15, 30, and 60 minutes, and the standardisation of PM-WANI hotspot names (SSIDs) for easier discovery and greater reliability. Along with these reforms, the Department of Telecommunications has also allowed Public Data Offices (PDOs) and PDO Aggregators (PDOAs) to offer these flexible data packs.
- The Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology (MeitY) has imposed a temporary ban on the Telegram messaging platform in India until June 22, 2026. This decision was taken ahead of the upcoming NEET (UG) 2026 re-examination, scheduled for June 21, 2026, based on the recommendation of the National Testing Agency (NTA).
- India has launched its much-awaited independent artificial intelligence infrastructure, *BharatGen*, a sovereign multilingual AI ecosystem developed by IIT Bombay under the Government of India's IndiaAI Mission. The launch took place during the Bharat Innovates 2026 Summit in Nice, France.
- India has achieved another milestone by successfully flight-testing the indigenously developed Long Range Land Attack Cruise Missile (LRLACM) from Dr. APJ Abdul Kalam Island, off the coast of Odisha. The test was conducted by the Aeronautical Development Establishment (ADE), Bengaluru, in collaboration with the Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO).
- The Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) has issued a public warning about a newly discovered cybercrime platform called *Kali365*, which operates as a sophisticated "Phishing-as-a-Service" (PhaaS). This toolkit has been specifically designed to target Microsoft 365 users and bypass multi-factor authentication (MFA).
- The 19th edition of the International Film Festival is being celebrated in Mumbai, dedicated to non-feature cinema. It is one of Asia's most respected film festivals, organized by the National Film Development Corporation (NFDC) under the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting. The festival provides a global platform for documentary filmmakers, animators, short fiction creators, and emerging storytellers.