

## Current Affairs 19th June,2026

1.Unified Payments Interface was launched by which institution?

- [A] Reserve Bank of India
- [B] Ministry of Finance
- [C] National Payments Corporation of India
- [D] None of the Above

**Correct Answer:** C [National Payments Corporation of India]

### Notes:

The Unified Payments Interface completed 10 years (2016–2026), becoming the world's largest real-time payments platform. It was launched by the National Payments Corporation of India under the supervision of the Reserve Bank of India. Transaction volume surged from 2 crore (2016–17) to over 24,162 crore (2025–26). UPI accounts for nearly 49% of global real-time payment transactions. The International Monetary Fund recognised UPI as the world's largest real-time payment system.

2.The Chitra Pournami Festival is primarily celebrated in which state?

- [A] Maharashtra
- [B] Odisha
- [C] Karnataka
- [D] Tamil Nadu

**Correct Answer:** D [Tamil Nadu]

### Notes:

The Chitra Pournami is primarily celebrated in Tamil Nadu with notable observances at the Mangaladevi Temple. The festival occurs on the full moon day in the Tamil month of

Chithirai (April–May). In 2026, it was celebrated on 1 May.

It is dedicated to Chitrugupta and also associated with Goddess Mangaladevi (Kannagi). Large-scale celebrations take place in Thiruvannamalai, where devotees perform Girivalam around the sacred hill. The festival reflects spiritual purification, devotion, and the belief in karmic accountability.

3. World Press Freedom Day is observed annually on which day?

- [A] May 1
- [B] May 2
- [C] May 3
- [D] May 4

**Correct Answer: C [May 3]**

**Notes:**

World Press Freedom Day is observed annually on May 3 to promote and protect press freedom. It encourages initiatives that support freedom of expression and independent journalism worldwide. The theme for 2026 is “Shaping a Future of Peace.” The day highlights the role of journalism, technology, including artificial intelligence, and human rights in strengthening information systems. It was proclaimed by the United Nations General Assembly in 1993 following a recommendation by UNESCO in 1991. The day honours journalists who have lost their lives while performing their duties.

4. Rashtriya Bal Swasthya Karyakram (RBSK) was launched under which mission?

- [A] Mission Indradhanush
- [B] National Rural Health Mission
- [C] Ayushman Bharat Mission
- [D] Integrated Child Development Services

**Correct Answer: B [National Rural Health Mission]**

**Notes:**

The Ministry of Health and Family Welfare has released guidelines for Rashtriya Bal Swasthya Karyakram (RBSK) 2.0. Rashtriya Bal Swasthya Karyakram (RBSK) was launched in 2013 under the National Rural Health Mission (NRHM) to improve child health and provide comprehensive care. It targets children from birth to 18 years for screening of four Ds: Defects at birth, Diseases, Deficiencies, and Developmental delays. The programme covers 32 health conditions for early detection and provides free treatment, including surgeries at tertiary care level.

5. Lipulekh Pass, that was recently seen in news, is located in which state?

- [A] Himachal Pradesh
- [B] Sikkim
- [C] Uttarakhand
- [D] Arunachal Pradesh

**Correct Answer: C [Uttarakhand]**

**Notes:**

Nepal has objected to India resuming the Kailash Mansarovar Yatra through Lipulekh Pass, citing the 1816 Sugauli Treaty. India has rejected the claim, stating that Lipulekh has been a traditional route for the yatra. Lipulekh Pass is a high-altitude mountain pass located in the Kumaon region of Uttarakhand. It lies near the trijunction of India, Nepal, and China, making it strategically significant. The pass connects Uttarakhand in India with the Tibet region of China. It is situated at an altitude of about 5,334 metres (approximately 17,500 feet).

6. Which city has become India's First Pearl Farming Cluster?

- [A] Hazaribag
- [B] Hyderabad
- [C] Bhopal
- [D] Varanasi

**Correct Answer:** A [Hazaribag]

**Notes:**

Hazaribag has been developed as India's first and only pearl (moti) cluster to promote pearl farming and allied activities. The initiative is led by the fisheries department with support from the Government of India to create a model hub. Women self-help groups are being encouraged to participate, and an all-women Farmer Producer Organisation (FPO) is proposed to strengthen rural livelihoods. The project includes training, modern technology adoption, and direct market linkages for farmers. Integration of pearl farming with cage culture at Tilaiya reservoir aims to enhance income through diversification.

7. When is Fire Safety Week 2026 observed in India?

- [A] 1–7 May 2026
- [B] 4–10 May 2026
- [C] 5–11 May 2026
- [D] 10–16 May 2026

**Correct Answer:** B [4–10 May 2026]

**Notes:**

The Ministry of Health and Family Welfare is observing Fire Safety Week from May 4 to May 10, 2026, across healthcare facilities. The theme is "Safe School, Safe Hospital and Fire Safety Aware Society – Together for Fire Prevention." The initiative focuses on mandatory fire audits, mock drills, and implementation of the National Guidelines on Fire and Life Safety in Healthcare Facilities (2026). The campaign aims to

enhance safety standards, especially in hospitals, to protect patients and healthcare personnel.

8. Which organization released the Global Methane Tracker 2026 report?

- [A] World Bank
- [B] International Energy Agency
- [C] United Nations Environment Programme
- [D] United Nations Development Programme

Hide Answer

**Correct Answer:** B [International Energy Agency]

**Notes:**

The Global Methane Tracker 2026 report released by the International Energy Agency highlighted that India is among the largest methane emitters from coal mines globally. India emitted about 2.2 million tonnes of methane from coal mines in 2025, showing an increasing trend. Methane emissions from coal mining are significantly higher than India's reported figures to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change. Methane is a potent greenhouse gas responsible for 20–30% of global warming since the Industrial Revolution. The report notes that up to 70% of fossil fuel methane emissions can be reduced using existing technologies.

9. What is Naegleria fowleri, that was recently seen in news?

- [A] Brain-Eating Amoeba
- [B] Invasive weed
- [C] Malaria parasite
- [D] Sleeping sickness parasite

Hide Answer

**Correct Answer:** A [Brain-Eating Amoeba]

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**Notes:**

Scientists have warned that rising temperatures due to climate change may increase the spread of the Brain-Eating Amoeba, scientifically known as *Naegleria fowleri*. The amoeba is commonly found in warm freshwater bodies such as lakes, rivers, ponds, hot springs, and moist soil. It enters the human body through the nose and attacks brain tissues. Infection by *Naegleria fowleri* causes Primary Amebic Meningoencephalitis (PAM), a rare but highly fatal disease of the central nervous system. Higher temperatures create favourable conditions for the amoeba's growth and survival. The warning highlights the possible health impacts of climate change on infectious diseases.

10. The Swasth Bharat Portal was launched during which summit?

- [A] Digital India Summit
- [B] National Health Mission Conference
- [C] 10th National Summit on Innovation and Inclusivity
- [D] Global Health Forum

**Correct Answer:** C [10th National Summit on Innovation and Inclusivity]

**Notes:**

Union Health Minister Jagat Prakash Nadda recently launched the Swasth Bharat Portal during the 10th National Summit on Innovation and Inclusivity. The portal aims to create an integrated, efficient, and scalable digital public health architecture in India. The Swasth Bharat Portal functions as an aggregator platform using an Application Programming Interface (API)-based federated architecture to ensure interoperability among different national health programmes. It provides a single interface for healthcare workers such as Accredited Social Health Activists (ASHAs), Auxiliary Nurse

Midwives (ANMs), Community Health Officers (CHOs),  
and Medical Officers (MOs).