

The week from 05 May 2025 to 11 May 2025

In response to the Pahalgam terrorist attack, India conducted 'Operation Sindoor', a precise military offensive targeting nine terrorist camps across Pakistan and Pakistan-occupied Kashmir (PoK). The objective was to neutralise cross-border terror infrastructure and to reinforce India's shift towards pre-emptive counter-terrorism doctrine.

India has launched its first genome-edited rice varieties, DRR Dhan 100 and Pusa DST Rice 1, developed using CRISPR-Cas9 technology. These rice varieties give 19% more yield and mature about 20 days earlier. Genome-editing was used to change the CKX2 gene, which helps produce more grains per plant and also releases less methane into the environment.

Prime Minister Narendra Modi virtually inaugurated the 7th edition of the Khelo India Youth Games (KIYG) in Patna, marking Bihar's first-ever multi-discipline national sporting event. Launched in 2018, the Khelo India Youth Games is an annual national-level multi-sport event, aimed at nurturing and promoting grassroots sporting talent among India's youth.

India has climbed three positions to rank 130 out of 193 countries in the 2023 Human Development Index (HDI), according to the 2025 Human Development Report by the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP). The HDI is a composite statistical measure that assesses a country's average achievements in three key dimensions: Health, Education and Standard of Living.

An international team of scientists has successfully mapped the genome of the Saola, the world's rarest large land mammal, offering new hope for its conservation through genetic rescue and captive breeding. It is a critically endangered bovine species, often called the "Asian unicorn" due to its extreme rarity and is endemic to the Annamite Mountains, on the Laos-Vietnam border.

Cardinal Robert Prevost was elected Pope, becoming the first ever US-born pontiff. He will be known as Pope Leo XIV. The 69-year-old from Chicago stepped into his role as the 267th pope, by appearing in public on the balcony of St. Peter's Basilica calling for peace and paying tribute to the late Pope Francis.

The Quad countries—India, Australia, Japan, and the US—conducted a Tabletop Exercise in Hawaii to simulate the launch of the Indo-Pacific Logistics Network (IPLN). IPLN is a multilateral initiative to develop a shared logistics framework that enables civilian disaster response coordination across the Indo-Pacific region.

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