



## EVERYDAY CURRENT AFFAIRS – MAY 01, 2026

### NATIONAL

- **UPI's 10-Year Journey: From The Modest Start to Global Benchmark.**
- ✓ India's Unified Payments Interface, launched in 2016 by National Payments Corporation of India under the Reserve Bank of India, has completed a decade, becoming the world's largest real-time payment system.
- ✓ UPI transactions surged from 2 crore in 2016-17 to over 24,000 crore in 2025-26, with total value rising to ₹314 lakh crore – showcasing massive adoption across urban and rural India.
- ✓ Its success is driven by instant 24/7 transfers, interoperability across banks, low cost, and ease of use, making it the backbone of India's digital economy and handling about 85% of digital payments.
- ✓ UPI has also expanded globally to countries like Singapore, UAE, and France, accounting for nearly 49% of global real-time transactions and positioning India as a leader in digital public infrastructure.

### INTERNATIONAL

- **First BRICS Women's Working Group Preparatory Meeting Convened**
- ✓ The Ministry of Women and Child Development convened the first Preparatory Meeting of the BRICS Women's Working Group virtually under India's BRICS Presidency on 30th April 2026.
  - Women in governance and leadership.

- Financial and digital inclusion.
  - Women's entrepreneurship and skill development.
  - Women's role in climate action, food security, and nutrition.
- ✓ **Key Participants:** The session was attended by **BRICS** member nations, Indian government departments, **UN Women**, and the **Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce and Industry (FICCI)**.

## STATE

- **Karnataka's Move to Safeguard Gig Workers Sets New Benchmark.**
- ✓ Karnataka has launched India's first digital grievance system for gig workers, marking a major step in protecting platform-based employees. Developed by the Karnataka Platform-based Gig Workers Board with the e-Governance Department, it offers a formal mechanism for complaints.
- ✓ Through the Integrated Public Grievance Redressal System, workers can report issues like wages, incentives, and working conditions, with real-time tracking and time-bound resolution.
- ✓ This initiative bridges the gap between workers and platforms, improves transparency and accountability, and strengthens recognition and rights of gig workers in India's rapidly growing digital economy.

## IMPORTANT DAYS

- **International Labour Day**
- ✓ The global community observed International Labour Day, commonly known as May Day, on May 1, 2026, to highlight workers' rights, recognize workforce contributions, and address modern occupational issues.
- ✓ Theme 2026: The International Labour Organization (ILO) designated the current year's theme as 'Ensuring a Healthy Psychosocial Working Environment'.
- ✓ Commemorates the May 1, 1886 strike resolution passed by the Marxist International Socialist Congress.
- ✓ Observed as a national public holiday on May 1 to focus on labour laws, fair wages, and safe working conditions across the country.

## AWARDS

### ➤ Whitley Award (2026)

- ✓ Indian Scientist Parveen Shaikh has won the Whitley Award 2026 from the Whitley Fund for Nature for protecting the endangered Indian Skimmer.
- ✓ The award, presented at the Royal Geographical Society by Princess Anne, highlights global recognition of grassroots conservation.
- ✓ The Indian Skimmer, with over 90% of its population in India, faces threats from habitat loss and river disturbances. Shaikh's "guardian model" trains local villagers to protect nests, improving survival rates and boosting population recovery.

