

INTERNATIONAL LABOUR DAY 2026



Every year, International Labour Day, also known as May Day, is celebrated on May 1 across the world.

- International Labour Day, also known as **May Day**, is observed annually on **May 1** to honor the **dedication and contributions of workers** across the globe.
- It is a memorial to the labor movement's struggles and victories.
- **History:**
 - The **origins** of ILD trace back to the **late 19th century** when **400,000 workers** across the **USA** organised a **peaceful strike in Chicago** on **1st May 1886**.
 - They were protesting to **demand an eight-hour workday**.
 - Unfortunately, the **strike turned violent**, and several unarmed workers were killed by the police.
 - It came to be known as the **Haymarket Affair** and was a **turning point in the struggle for workers' rights**.
 - This turning point **stimulated trade unions** and socialist federations **across Europe** to declare **May 1 an international day of workers' solidarity**, formally approved in 1889 at the Paris meeting of the Second International.
- **In India**, the **first Labour Day** celebration was held in **Chennai** (then Madras) in **1923** by the **Labour Kisan Party of Hindustan**.
 - **Malayapuram Singaravelu Chettiar**, the leader, raised the red flag for the first time in India and demanded that the government declare **May 1 a national holiday** to recognise workers' rights.
- The day usually involves parades, union gatherings, and celebrations that emphasize employee rights.

CROSS & CLIMB ROHTAK

School of Research Based Learning & Competition

Current Affairs - 01 May 2026

- May Day 2026 Theme: This year, the International Labour Organisation (ILO) selected the theme for May Day 2026 as: “Ensuring a Healthy Psychosocial Working Environment.”

NATIONAL COMPANY LAW TRIBUNAL



- It is a **quasi-judicial authority** incorporated for dealing with corporate disputes that are of civil nature arising under the Companies Act, 2013.
- It was constituted on 1 June 2016 **under the Companies Act, 2013**.
- It was established based on the recommendation of the **Balakrishna Eradi committee** on law relating to the insolvency and the winding up of companies.
- **Composition:** It shall **consist of a President** and such number of Judicial and **Technical Members** as may be required.
- **Appeal:** Decisions of the tribunal may be **appealed to the National Company Law Appellate Tribunal**, the decisions of which may further be appealed to the **Supreme Court of India** on a point of law.

Powers of National Company Law Tribunal

- It is **guided** by the **principles of natural justice**, subject to the other provisions of this Act and of any rules that are made by the Central Government.
- It can enforce any order that it gives in the same manner as a court would enforce it.
- It has the power to **scrutinize its own orders**.
- It has the power to **regulate their own procedure**.
- It is the **adjudicating authority** for the **insolvency resolution** process of companies and **limited liability partnerships** under the **Insolvency and Bankruptcy Code, 2016**.

BRAIN DEATH CERTIFICATION UNDER SCRUTINY: WHY THE SUPREME COURT IS REVIEWING THE PROCESS

- Brain Death, also called brain stem death, is an **irreversible condition** in which all brain activity—including vital functions like breathing controlled by the brain stem—completely stops.
- Although the patient may appear alive due to machines like ventilators keeping the heart beating and blood circulating, there is no possibility of recovery, and the person is medically considered dead.
- **Causes and Clinical Context**
 - Brain death typically occurs after severe brain injuries, such as those from road accidents or falls, where the brain is deprived of oxygen.
 - These injuries permanently damage brain function, making revival impossible.
- **Importance in Organ Donation**
 - Patients who are brain dead are crucial for organ donation, as life support systems keep organs viable.
 - They can donate vital organs such as the heart and lungs, which living donors cannot.
 - While organ donation is also possible after circulatory death (when heartbeat and breathing stop), brain-dead donors remain the most common source.

Need for Brain Death Declaration in Organ Donation

- Declaring Brain Death is crucial for deceased organ donation, allowing vital organs like the kidney, liver, heart, and eyes to be transplanted to unrelated recipients.
- It provides an alternative to living donor transplants, which, although safer today, still involve health risks for donors.
- India performs a large number of transplants globally, but most rely on living relatives due to limited deceased donations.

- **Huge Gap Between Potential and Actual Donations**

- Despite around 1.5 lakh deaths from traumatic brain injuries and 50,000 from strokes annually—many of whom could qualify as brain-dead donors—only about 1,100 people donate organs.
- India's deceased donation rate is just **0.77 per million** population, far below countries like Thailand (6.21), China (4.5), Sri Lanka (3.38), and Japan (1.18).

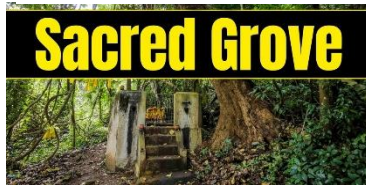
Protocol for Declaring Brain Death in India

- The National Organ and Tissue Transplant Organisation mandates that brain death be certified by a **four-member medical board**, including the hospital in-charge, a neurologist or neurosurgeon, and the treating physician.
- Before declaring Brain Death, doctors must **rule out reversible factors** such as drug or alcohol influence, hypothermia, and metabolic disturbances, ensuring that the condition is truly irreversible.
- **No Mandatory Advanced Tests**
 - Current guidelines do not mandate advanced tests such as EEG or angiograms.
 - According to experts at AIIMS, hospitals sometimes follow even stricter protocols, repeating tests more than twice to ensure accuracy.

Challenges in Brain Death Certification

- **Lack of Awareness and Training** - A major issue is limited knowledge among doctors, leading to many potential brain-dead patients not being formally declared or considered for organ donation. Studies show over half of physicians lack formal training in certification.
- **Inadequate Postgraduate Training** - Training for resident doctors is inconsistent. Even in teaching hospitals, only a small proportion of doctors regularly train residents in brain death certification.
- **Absence of Standardised Curriculum** - Many institutions do not have a fixed curriculum, resulting in uneven understanding and application of certification protocols across hospitals.

WHAT ARE SACRED GROVES?



The Kerala State Biodiversity Board (KSBB) recently initiated a pilot restoration programme for sacred groves in collaboration with the local Biodiversity Management Committees.

- A sacred grove comprises **patches of natural vegetation** – from a few trees to several acres – that are **dedicated to local deities or tree spirits**.
- These spaces are **protected by local communities** because of **their religious beliefs** and **traditional rituals** that run through several generations.
- These are some of the most **valuable, primitive practices of nature conservation**.
- They act as **repositories of biodiversity**, sheltering rare plant and animal species.
- **Hunting and deforestation** are usually **prohibited**, while **sustainable activities** such as honey collection or gathering deadwood are **permitted**.
- The **total number of sacred groves in India** is **more than 1,00,000**. These groves are found **all over the country** with local names and associated deities.
- They are particularly found in regions like:
 - The Western Ghats
 - The Himalayas
 - The northeastern hill tracts
 - Central India
- **Regional Names** for Sacred Groves:
 - **Dev Van** in Himachal Pradesh
 - **Bugyal** or Dev Van in Uttarakhand
 - **Than** and **Madaico** in Assam
 - **Matagudi**, **Devgudi**, or **Sarana** in Chhattisgarh

CROSS & CLIMB ROHTAK

School of Research Based Learning & Competition

Current Affairs - 01 May 2026

- Jaherthan or Sarana in Jharkhand
- Devarakadu in Karnataka
- Kavu or Sarpa Kavu in Kerala
- Kovilkaadu in Tamil Nadu
- Devrai or Devgudi in Maharashtra
- Law Kyntang or Asong Khosi in Meghalaya
- Orans in Rajasthan.
- Jahera or Thakuramma in Odisha

PAST RISK AND RETURN VERIFICATION AGENCY (PaRRVA)



(PaRRVA).

Recently, the Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI) has operationalised the Past Risk and Return Verification Agency (PaRRVA).

- It is a **regulatory initiative** designed to bring transparency and standardization to performance claims made by financial intermediaries.
- It has been operationalised by the **Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI)**
- **Designated Entities:** **CARE Ratings Limited** has been granted recognition as the PaRRVA and the **National Stock Exchange of India Limited (NSE)** will function as the **PaRRVA Data Centre (PDC)**.
- **The following entities can Use PaRRVA:**
 - Investment Advisers (IA)
 - Research Analysts (RA)
 - Trading Members (TM)
 - Investors seeking verified performance data
- **Features:**
 - It will **enable regulated entities** such as investment advisers, research analysts, and algorithmic trading service providers to showcase their verified performance.

- It will enable **investors to access reliable and standardised data** for informed decision-making.
- Additionally, regulated entities will be permitted to **use PaRRVA-verified performance in their advertisements**, in line with SEBI's regulatory provisions.
- It ensures that all **risk-return metrics** presented to investors are independently verified and compliant with SEBI guidelines.

RU-SOAM BRIDGES



UNESCO has partnered with the Sikkim government to document the indigenous engineering known as Ru-Soam.

- It is a **cane bridge built by the Lepcha community in Sikkim, especially in the Khangchendzonga Biosphere Reserve.**
 - In the Lepcha language, 'Ru' means cane or rattan, while 'Soam' refers to a bridge.
- **Materials Used:** It is crafted from locally available **materials such as bamboo, cane, and wood.**
- **Structural Features:**
 - It consists of two **parallel canes called soamgyang.** The soamgyang are tied to trees on the two ends, ensuring that the bridge remains suspended.
 - A ru-soam contains **swinging cane loops called ahoal.**
 - Bamboos, or **soamgur,** are used to make the **deck of the bridge.**
 - The bridges **can be 100 metres long,** and two or three people can cross them at a time.
- This engineering practice reflects a sophisticated understanding of **ecological balance and structural resilience.**
- The Ru-Soam cane bridges are not relics of the past; they are living expressions of engineering ingenuity.

PEACOCK TARANTULA



A scientific survey to assess the Peacock Tarantula has begun in Nagarjunasagar Srisailem Tiger Reserve in Andhra Pradesh.

- It is one of the **rarest and most visually striking spiders** in the world, famous for its **metallic blue coloration**.
- It is also known as the **Gooty Sapphire Ornamental Tarantula**, named after the region where it was first discovered.
- **Appearance:** The spider has a distinctive **bright blue body** with yellow and white markings, forming geometric patterns on its legs and abdomen.
- **Habitat:** In its natural habitat, it is an **arboreal species**, meaning it lives on trees, occupying tree holes, bark crevices, and elevated surfaces.
- **Distribution:** It is **endemic to India**, primarily found in **parts of Andhra Pradesh**.
- **Characteristics:**
 - It is a **nocturnal hunter**, remaining hidden during the day and becoming active at night.
 - It is an **active predator** that does not rely on webs but instead uses speed and venom to capture prey such as insects and small animals.
- **Conservation Status**
 - **IUCN:** Critically Endangered

Threats: The main threats it faces come from **habitat loss** due to logging, firewood collection, and forest degradation.

Ecological Role: It plays an important ecological role by controlling insect populations and supporting biodiversity.

KOTGARH WILDLIFE SANCTUARY



- It is located in the Kandhamal district of Odisha.
 - It's classified as a **moist deciduous forest** in the Eastern Highlands.
- The sanctuary is home to some tribal settlements, including **Kutia Kondh** and **Desia Kondh**.

Vegetation: The sanctuary's principal vegetation is **dense, damp deciduous forests with meadows**.

Flora: **Sal, Piasal, Sisoo, Kendu, Gamhar, Asan, Kusum, Harida, Bahada, Amala, Mango, Tamarind, Mahua, Jackfruit, Randhan, Kangada, Jamun, Salapo, Bheru, Arjun, Char, Dhaura, and Kochila** are among the **prevalent flora**.

Many **rare and endangered medicinal plants** exist, including **Abutilon Indicum, Cissus quadrangularis, Crateva Magna, Cycas sphaerica**, etc.

Fauna:

- **Tigers, elephants, Gaur, Sambar deer, Spotted deer, Peafowl, Red jungle fowl, Blackbuck, Leopard, Sloth bear, Chital**, and various bird and reptile species, including **rare species like Forsten's cat snake (Boiga forsteni)**, can all be found in this sanctuary.
- The sanctuary's major attraction is the **Chousingha, or four-horned antelope**.