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Daily Current Affairs | 16 November 2026

Important Days & Their Themes

Q1. Which United Nations General Assembly resolution designated 16 November as the International Day of the Mediterranean Diet?

संयुक्त राष्ट्र महासभा के किस प्रस्ताव ने 16 नवंबर को अंतरराष्ट्रीय भूमध्यसागरीय आहार दिवस घोषित किया?

(a) A/RES/77/161
(b) A/RES/80/174
(c) A/RES/78/130
(d) A/RES/79/210
(e) None of these

Answer: (b) A/RES/80/174

1. The General Assembly adopted resolution **A/RES/80/174** on **18 December 2025**. It designated 16 November for the annual observance.
2. **The Mediterranean** diet commonly includes **olive oil**, legumes, vegetables and whole grains. The observance also draws attention to regional food traditions and sustainable production.
3. The United Nations invited the **Food and Agriculture Organization** (FAO) to facilitate the observance. UNESCO first inscribed the Mediterranean diet on its intangible heritage list in **2010**.

Q2. Which organisation adopted the Declaration of Principles on Tolerance on 16 November 1995?

16 नवंबर 1995 को सहिष्णुता के सिद्धांतों पर घोषणा किस संगठन ने अपनाई थी?

(a) UNICEF
(b) International Labour Organization
(c) UNESCO
(d) UNDP
(e) None of these

Answer: (c) UNESCO

1. The United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (**UNESCO**) adopted the declaration at its **28th General Conference** in **Paris**.
2. The United Nations General Assembly followed in 1996 with **Resolution 51/95**. It called for annual observance of the International Day for Tolerance on **16 November**.
3. The declaration links tolerance with respect for diversity and human rights. UNESCO also awards the **Madanjeet Singh Prize** for work promoting tolerance and non-violence.

Q3. National Press Day marks the date on which the Press Council of India began functioning in which year?

राष्ट्रीय प्रेस दिवस भारतीय प्रेस परिषद के कामकाज की शुरुआत की याद में मनाया जाता है। परिषद ने किस वर्ष काम शुरू किया था?

(a) 1966
(b) 1965
(c) 1978
(d) 1979
(e) None of these

Answer: (a) 1966

1. The Press Council of India (PCI) began functioning on 16 November **1966** under the **Press Council Act, 1965**.
2. The present council was reconstituted under the **Press Council Act, 1978**. It is a statutory body with a chairperson and **28 other members**.
3. Its mandate covers **press freedom** and journalistic standards. The constitutional basis for freedom of expression is **Article 19(1)(a)**, subject to the grounds for reasonable restrictions in Article 19(2).

RBI, SEBI & Banking News

Q4. What incentive per eligible soundbox did NPCI specify under its UPI Vyapaar Saksham Scheme?

NPCI की UPI व्यापार सक्षम योजना में प्रत्येक पात्र साउंडबॉक्स के लिए कितनी प्रोत्साहन राशि निर्धारित की गई?

(a) ₹250
(b) ₹300
(c) ₹500
(d) ₹750
(e) None of these

Answer: (d) ₹750

1. The National Payments Corporation of India (NPCI) issued the scheme circular on **11 November 2026**. Eligible acquiring banks can receive up to **₹750** per soundbox and **₹300** per physical Quick Response (QR) code under the scheme conditions.
2. The scheme promotes Unified Payments Interface (UPI) acceptance in Tier-III to Tier-VI centres and specified areas in the Northeast, Jammu and Kashmir, and Ladakh. The prior-year turnover ceiling for qualifying merchants is **₹40 lakh**.

3. The fund allocation is **30%** for onboarding, 50% for transaction growth and 20% for incremental growth. The operating period is linked to the applicable **Merchant Discount Rate** (MDR).

Q5. What is the RBI's per-transaction cash pay-out limit under the Domestic Money Transfer Directions, 2026?

घरेलू धन अंतरण निदेश, 2026 के तहत RBI ने नकद भुगतान की प्रति लेनदेन सीमा कितनी रखी है?

(a) ₹5,000
(b) ₹10,000
(c) ₹25,000
(d) ₹50,000
(e) None of these

Answer: (b) ₹10,000

1. The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) caps cash pay-out at **₹10,000** per transaction and ₹25,000 per month for each beneficiary.
2. For cash pay-in through a Business Correspondent or Automated Teller Machine, the limit is **₹5,000** per transaction and **₹25,000** per month for each remitter. A walk-in branch customer may remit up to **₹50,000** through National Electronic Funds Transfer (NEFT).
3. The directions took effect on **11 November 2026**. They consolidate earlier instructions and require safeguards including verified mobile numbers and **additional authentication** for cash pay-in.

Q6. What risk was the RBI's reported proposal to restrict common private-equity control of multiple NBFCs intended to address?

कई NBFC पर एक ही प्राइवेट इक्विटी फर्म के नियंत्रण को सीमित करने के RBI के कथित प्रस्ताव का उद्देश्य किस जोखिम को कम करना था?

(a) Contagion across lenders under common control
(b) Currency conversion risk for exporters
(c) ATM cash shortages
(d) Volatility in government bond auctions
(e) None of these

Answer: (a) Contagion across lenders under common control

1. Reports indicated that the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) was examining whether a **private equity** investor should control more than one **Non-Banking Financial Company** (NBFC).
2. The reported concern was **contagion under common ownership**. Governance rights, such as **board appointment rights**, can affect who exercises control.
3. The reports distinguished smaller **passive holdings** from controlling investments. The idea remained a **reported proposal** as of 16 November 2026.

Economy & Finance

Q7. At the seventh India–Egypt Joint Trade Committee session, what step did the two countries agree to take on a potential trade pact?

भारत–मिस्र संयुक्त व्यापार समिति के सातवें सत्र में संभावित व्यापार समझौते की दिशा में दोनों देशों ने किस कदम पर सहमति जताई?

(a) Begin tariff-free trade immediately
(b) Adopt a common currency
(c) Form a working group to discuss the terms of reference
(d) Begin operating a cross-border UPI link
(e) None of these

Answer: (c) Form a working group to discuss the terms of reference

1. India and Egypt agreed to **form a working group to discuss the terms of reference** for a possible **Preferential Trade Agreement** (PTA), Free Trade Agreement (FTA) or Comprehensive Economic Partnership Agreement (CEPA).
2. **The Joint Trade Committee** met on **15 November 2026**. **Piyush Goyal** and Mohamed Farid Saleh co-chaired the session.
3. Merchandise trade reached **USD 5.04 billion** in April–September 2026. The meeting took the proposed pact to the exploratory stage.

International News

Q8. At which gathering did India join the signatories of the San Francisco Declaration on secure technology supply chains?

सुरक्षित प्रौद्योगिकी आपूर्ति श्रृंखलाओं पर सैन फ्रांसिस्को घोषणा के हस्ताक्षरकर्ताओं में भारत किस बैठक में शामिल हुआ?

(a) Global AI Safety Summit
(b) QUAD Leaders' Summit
(c) G20 Digital Economy Ministers' Meeting
(d) Pax Silica Founders Retreat
(e) None of these

Answer: (d) Pax Silica Founders Retreat

1. The **San Francisco Declaration** was signed on 15 November 2026 during the **Pax Silica Founders Retreat**. India was among ten initial signatories.

2. The declaration addresses supply-chain resilience for artificial intelligence (**AI**), semiconductors and **critical minerals**. It also covers related energy and manufacturing infrastructure.
3. **Pax Silica** is led by the United States. India joined the broader initiative in **February 2026**.

Q9. Which country's trademark office registered Pakistan's geographical indication for Basmati rice as registration 1810?

किस देश के ट्रेडमार्क कार्यालय ने पाकिस्तान के बासमती चावल के भौगोलिक संकेत को पंजीकरण संख्या 1810 के तहत दर्ज किया?

(a) Türkiye
(b) Australia
(c) United Kingdom
(d) United Arab Emirates
(e) None of these

Answer: (a) Türkiye

1. The **Turkish Patent and Trademark Office** registered Pakistan's Basmati geographical indication (GI) on **2 January 2026** under registration 1810.
2. The **Trade Development Authority of Pakistan** filed the application in **February 2024**. India and Pakistan have pursued recognition for Basmati in several markets.
3. A geographical indication identifies a product associated with a place. The legal effect of this registration is **territorial** to **Türkiye**.

Appointments

Q10. Who was reappointed unopposed as International Cricket Council Chairman for a second consecutive term in November 2026?

नवंबर 2026 में अंतरराष्ट्रीय क्रिकेट परिषद के अध्यक्ष के रूप में लगातार दूसरे कार्यकाल के लिए किसे निर्विरोध नियुक्त किया गया?

(a) Greg Barclay
(b) Geoff Allardice
(c) Jay Shah
(d) Sourav Ganguly
(e) None of these

Answer: (c) Jay Shah

1. **The International Cricket Council** (ICC) announced **Jay Shah**'s unopposed reappointment on **16 November 2026** after Board meetings in Bali, Indonesia.
2. Jay Shah began his first term on **1 December 2024**, succeeding **Greg Barclay**. He had previously served as secretary of the Board of Control for Cricket in India (BCCI).
3. Priorities for his second term include the development of women's cricket and support for **Associate Members**.

Defence

Q11. Where did the 12th edition of the India–Sri Lanka military exercise Mitra Shakti begin in November 2026?

भारत–श्रीलंका सैन्य अभ्यास मित्र शक्ति का 12वाँ संस्करण नवंबर 2026 में कहाँ शुरू हुआ?

(a) Pune, India
(b) Maduru Oya, Sri Lanka
(c) Jaffna, Sri Lanka
(d) Belagavi, India
(e) None of these

Answer: (b) Maduru Oya, Sri Lanka

1. The exercise began on **13 November 2026** at the Army Training School in **Maduru Oya**. It was scheduled to run through 26 November.
2. India sent a **170-member contingent** drawn primarily from the **Rajputana Rifles**, with personnel from other arms and services and the Indian Air Force.
3. The training covers joint **counter-terrorism** operations and tactical coordination in semi-urban terrain. Activities include **convoy protection**, patrolling and ambush drills.

Sports & Games

Q12. What is the name of the official mascot of the eighth Khelo India Youth Games in Telangana?

तेलंगाना में होने वाले आठवें खेलो इंडिया यूथ गेम्स के आधिकारिक शुभंकर का नाम क्या है?

(a) Ujjwala
(b) Aarohan
(c) Gajasimha
(d) Neelamani
(e) None of these

Answer: (d) Neelamani

1. The bird-inspired mascot is **Neelamani**. Mansukh Mandaviya and Telangana Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy unveiled it on **15 November 2026**.

2. **The Games** are scheduled for **11–22 December** across six Telangana cities, including Hyderabad, Khammam and Nizamabad.
3. The organisers listed **27 competitive sports** and two demonstrations. **Softball** is on the competitive programme, while sailing and Karra Samu are demonstration events.

Q13. Whom did Lakshya Sen defeat in the men's singles final at the 2026 Kumamoto Masters Japan?

2026 कुमामोटो मास्टर्स जापान के पुरुष एकल फाइनल में लक्ष्य सेन ने किसे हराया?

(a) Koki Watanabe
(b) Kenta Nishimoto
(c) Kodai Naraoka
(d) Shi Yu Qi
(e) None of these

Answer: (a) Koki Watanabe

1. Lakshya Sen beat Japan's **Koki Watanabe** in the final on **15 November**. He recovered from a game down to win 13–21, 21–18, 21–14.
2. **Kumamoto Masters Japan** is a Badminton World Federation (BWF) **World Tour Super 500** event. The tournament began in **2023**.
3. It was Sen's second straight Super 500 title after the **HYLO Open** in Germany earlier in the month.

Q14. Which country is scheduled to co-host the 2031 ICC Men's ODI Cricket World Cup with India?

2031 ICC पुरुष एकदिवसीय क्रिकेट विश्व कप की मेजबानी भारत के साथ किस देश को करनी है?

(a) Sri Lanka
(b) United Arab Emirates
(c) Bangladesh
(d) Pakistan
(e) None of these

Answer: (c) Bangladesh

1. **The International Cricket Council** (ICC) confirmed India and **Bangladesh** as co-hosts of the 2031 men's One Day International (ODI) World Cup in its latest calendar update.
2. The tournament window runs from 9 October to 23 November **2031**. India also has the **2029 Champions Trophy**, scheduled for 9–28 October 2029.
3. **The ICC Board** met in Bali, Indonesia. The revised windows cover major men's tournaments through **2035**.

Q15. Who hit the winning boundary for India on the final ball of the 2026 ACC Men's U19 Asia Cup final?

2026 ACC पुरुष अंडर-19 एशिया कप फाइनल की आखिरी गेंद पर भारत के लिए विजयी चौका किसने लगाया?

(a) Lakshya Raichandani
(b) Aaryavir Sehwag
(c) Kavya Patel
(d) Mohit Ulva
(e) None of these

Answer: (d) Mohit Ulva

1. **Mohit Ulva** made an unbeaten **49 off 26 deliveries** in the final and hit the winning boundary. India won by one wicket against Pakistan at Al Amerat in Oman.
2. Pakistan posted 337 for nine. India reached **339 for nine** on the final ball to claim its ninth **Asian Cricket Council** (ACC) Men's Under-19 Asia Cup title.
3. Ulva earned Player of the Match. **Aaryavir Sehwag** scored **361 runs** in the competition and received the Player of the Tournament award.

Awards & Honours

Q16. Which French decoration was presented to American Second World War veteran William F. Lyford in November 2026?

नवंबर 2026 में द्वितीय विश्व युद्ध के अमेरिकी पूर्व सैनिक विलियम एफ. लाइफोर्ड को कौन-सा फ्रांसीसी सम्मान दिया गया?

(a) Order of the Liberation
(b) Legion of Honour
(c) National Order of Merit
(d) Military Medal
(e) None of these

Answer: (b) Legion of Honour

1. France presented the **Legion of Honour** to William F. Lyford in Woodstock, Illinois, on **13 November 2026**. Consul General **Charlotte Montel** presented the award.
2. Lyford served with the **157th Infantry Regiment** of the U.S. Army's 45th Infantry Division. His wartime service included the liberation of the **Dachau concentration camp**.
3. Napoleon Bonaparte instituted the Legion of Honour in **1802**. The order has five ranks and distinctions.