

Current Affairs

11 March 2025

No Smoking Day 2026

- The No Smoking Day 2026 is observed on March 11. And this encouraging people worldwide to take a step toward a healthier life by quitting tobacco.
- The main objective of the No Smoking Day 2026 is to motivate smokers to quit tobacco and adopt healthier habits. This campaign emphasizes the serious health risks associated with smoking and encourages people to take their first step toward a smoke free life.
- No Smoking Day was originated in the United Kingdom in 1984 as a public health initiative aimed at reducing tobacco use. This campaign gradually gained international recognition as governments and health organizations began promoting similar anti-smoking awareness efforts.
- This year's theme - '**A smoke-free life starts with a smoke-free day**'



New Delhi Hosts World Para Athletics Grand Prix 2026

- The 2nd edition of the World Para Athletics Grand Prix 2026 in New Delhi. And it will take place from March 11 to March 13. In which the bringing together athletes from across the world.

- The World Para Athletics Grand Prix 2026 will see participation from athletes representing India, Russia, Nepal, Bhutan, Hong Kong, Serbia, Bosnia and Egypt.
- The 1st New Delhi World Para Athletics Grand Prix, held in 2025. In which India deliver an outstanding performance. The host nation finished first in the medal tally and demonstrating the strength of its para-athletics program.
- Indian athletes won 134 medals, including 45 gold, 40 silver and 49 bronze medals. With around 150 Indian athletes participating this event highlighted the depth and potential of India's para sports ecosystem.



ICC Women's ODI Rankings

- Indian opener Smriti Mandhana has retained the No.1 position in the latest ICC Women's ODI batting rankings, reaffirming her status as one of the most consistent performers in international women's cricket. The rankings were released by the International Cricket Council.
- Mandhana continues to dominate the ODI format with her elegant stroke play and ability to anchor innings at the top of the order. Her consistent performances have kept her ahead of other top batters in women's international cricket.
- Indian middle-order batter Jemimah Rodrigues dropped to 12th position in the updated rankings. The fall comes after India suffered a 0–3 defeat in the ODI series against the Australia women's national cricket team.

- Players from the New Zealand women's national cricket team made notable progress in the latest rankings update following strong performances in their ODI series against the Zimbabwe women's national cricket team.
- New Zealand captain Amelia Kerr delivered an outstanding performance in the series.
- Took four wickets in the first ODI.
- Followed it with a seven-wicket haul in Dunedin in the second match.
- Became only the seventh player in women's ODI history to take seven or more wickets in a single match.
- Two other New Zealand players also gained positions in the ODI batting rankings.
- Brooke Halliday jumped eight places to 11th after smashing a brilliant 157 off 117 balls* in the first ODI against Zimbabwe.
- Maddy Green moved up four spots to joint 22nd, scoring 67 runs in the first ODI and an unbeaten 27 in the second match*.
- Their performances helped New Zealand take a 2–0 lead in the three-match ODI series.
- There were also changes in the Women's T20I rankings after the series between the Sri Lanka women's national cricket team and the West Indies women's national cricket team.
- **Women's ODI Rankings**
- Smriti Mandhana – India
- Harmanpreet Kaur – India
- Jemimah Rodrigues – India
- Amelia Kerr – New Zealand
- Brooke Halliday – New Zealand
- Maddy Green – New Zealand
- Hasini Perera – Sri Lanka
- Imesha Dulani – Sri Lanka

- Kavisha Dilhari – Sri Lanka
- Afy Fletcher – West Indies



Supreme Court Allows Withdrawal of Life Support in Harish Rana

- The Honorable Supreme Court of India has allowed the withdrawal of life support in the Harish Rana passive euthanasia case. Which is marking the significant moment in the legal and ethical debate which was surrounding end of life decisions in the country.
- The court has directed AIIMS Delhi to admit Harish Rana and provide all necessary facilities to carry out the process of withdrawing artificial life support.
- Harish Rana sustained severe head injuries in 2013 after falling from the fourth floor of his paying guest accommodation while studying at Panjab University.
- Passive euthanasia refers to the withdrawal or withholding of medical treatment that artificially prolongs the life of a patient with no chance of recovery. Instead of actively causing death the medical support that keeps the patient alive is gradually removed.



Prasar Bharti SHABD Platform Gets Free Access

- The Prasar Bharati Shared Audio Visuals for Broadcast and Dissemination (PB-SHABD) platform will continue to provide free access to media organizations until March 2027. This announcement was made by Prasar Bharati which is the India's public broadcaster.
- That is to encourage wider use of authentic and verified news content across media platforms.
- The PB-SHABD platform was designed as a centralized news sharing system. In which that distributes verified news content from across India. It enables the media organizations to access ready to use stories covering a wide range of sectors.
- Around More than 1500 reporters, correspondents contribute to the PB-SHABD platform. While 60 dedicated edit desks operate round-the-clock to process and distribute news stories.
- Another major feature of the PB-SHABD platform is its Live Feed service. In which prasar bharti provides coverage of important national events. Media outlets can access real time feeds and integrate them into their broadcasts.
- Prasar Bharati is India's public service broadcaster. It is established under the Prasar Bharati Act, 1990 and it became operational in 1997. It manages the country's two major broadcasting networks Doordarshan (television) and All India Radio (AIR).



REVIEW QUESTIONS

1. No Smoking Day is observed every year on which date in 2026?

- A. March 8
- B. March 10
- C. March 11
- D. March 15

Answer: C. March 11

Explanation: No Smoking Day 2026 is observed on March 11 to raise awareness about the harmful effects of tobacco and encourage people to quit smoking.

2. The campaign of No Smoking Day originally began in which country?

- A. United States
- B. United Kingdom
- C. Canada
- D. Australia

Answer: B. United Kingdom

Explanation: No Smoking Day was first launched in the United Kingdom in 1984 as a public health campaign to reduce tobacco consumption.

3. The theme of No Smoking Day 2026 is:

- A. Tobacco Free Future
- B. Healthy Life for All
- C. Quit Today for Tomorrow
- D. A Smoke-Free Life Starts with a Smoke-Free Day

Answer: D. A Smoke-Free Life Starts with a Smoke-Free Day

Explanation: The theme emphasizes that quitting smoking even for one day can be the beginning of a healthier lifestyle.

4. The 2nd edition of the World Para Athletics Grand Prix 2026 is being held in which city?

- A. Mumbai
- B. Chennai
- C. New Delhi
- D. Bengaluru

Answer: C. New Delhi

Explanation: The event is being hosted in New Delhi from March 11 to March 13, 2026, with participation from several countries.

5. In the first New Delhi edition of the World Para Athletics Grand Prix held in 2025, India won how many medals?

- A. 110
- B. 120
- C. 134
- D. 150

Answer: C. 134

Explanation: India topped the medal tally with 134 medals (45 gold, 40 silver, and 49 bronze).

6. Who holds the No.1 position in the latest Women's ODI batting rankings released by the International Cricket Council?

- A. Amelia Kerr
- B. Alyssa Healy
- C. Smriti Mandhana
- D. Meg Lanning

Answer: C. Smriti Mandhana

Explanation: Indian opener Smriti Mandhana retained the No.1 position in the ICC Women's ODI batting rankings.

7. Which New Zealand cricketer took a seven-wicket haul in an ODI match against Zimbabwe?

- A. Sophie Devine
- B. Amelia Kerr
- C. Maddy Green
- D. Brooke Halliday

Answer: B. Amelia Kerr

Explanation: Amelia Kerr delivered an outstanding performance, taking seven wickets in the second ODI in Dunedin.

8. The Supreme Court of India allowed withdrawal of life support in which case?

- A. Aruna Shanbaug Case
- B. Rajiv Mehra Case
- C. Harish Rana Case
- D. Manoj Kumar Case

Answer: C. Harish Rana Case

Explanation: The Supreme Court permitted passive euthanasia in the case involving Harish Rana, who suffered severe brain injuries in 2013.

9. Which medical institution was directed to admit Harish Rana and carry out the withdrawal of life support?

- A. PGIMER Chandigarh
- B. Safdarjung Hospital

- C. AIIMS New Delhi
- D. Ram Manohar Lohia Hospital

Answer: C. AIIMS New Delhi

Explanation: The Supreme Court directed AIIMS New Delhi to provide the required facilities for the procedure.

10. The PB-SHABD platform is operated by which organization?

- A. Press Trust of India
- B. Ministry of Information & Broadcasting
- C. Prasar Bharati
- D. Doordarshan News

Answer: C. Prasar Bharati

Explanation: The PB-SHABD (Prasar Bharati Shared Audio Visuals for Broadcast and Dissemination) platform is managed by Prasar Bharati, India's public broadcaster.

