

Daily Defence Current Affairs

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World Kidney Day 2026

- World Kidney Day 2026 observed on March 12. This day is drawing global attention to the rising burden of Chronic Kidney Disease (CKD)
- The World Kidney Day theme 2026 **“Kidney Health for All: Caring for People, Protecting the Planet”**.
- Chronic Kidney Disease (CKD) has emerged as the major global health challenge which is affecting approximately one in ten people worldwide. The condition develops gradually when the kidneys lose their ability to filter waste and excess fluids from the body efficiently.
- **Common causes and risk factors include,**
- Diabetes and uncontrolled blood sugar levels
- High blood pressure (Hypertension)
- Family history of kidney disease
- Obesity and unhealthy lifestyle habits
- Frequent infections affecting kidney function
- Excessive use of painkillers or medications
- Poor hydration and metabolic disorders



Iran Pulls Out of FIFA World Cup 2026

- Iran has officially withdrawn from the FIFA World Cup 2026. As it is creating major discussion in the global football community. This announcement was made by Iran's Sports Minister Ahmad Donyamali.
- The Iran FIFA World Cup withdrawal is simply connected to the ongoing conflict involving Iran, United States and Israel. This conflict has caused heavy casualties and created a tense geopolitical situation in the region.
- Iran's Sports Minister Ahmad Donyamali strongly criticized the United States.
- As Earlier Iran officially confirmed its withdrawal FIFA President Gianni Infantino had mentioned that the Iranian football team would be welcome in the United States for the tournament.
- He had even discussed the situation with US President Donald Trump while reviewing preparations for the FIFA World Cup 2026.



IEA to Release Record 400 Million Barrels

- The International Energy Agency (IEA) has announced their largest emergency oil release in its history. Which is making 400 million barrels of oil available from the strategic reserves.
- The IEA emergency of oil reserves release is a co ordinated effort by member countries to protect global energy supply chains during geopolitical crises.
- This 400 million barrels of oil will be made available from strategic petroleum reserves held by participating nations.
- According to official data IEA member nations collectively hold more than 1.2 billion barrels of public emergency oil stocks.
- In addition around 600 million barrels are maintained by private industries under government obligations.
- The International Energy Agency (IEA) is an intergovernmental organization. Its headquarter located in the Paris in France.
- It was established in 1974 after the global oil crisis.
- Its main objective is to promote energy security, economic development and sustainable energy policies among member countries.



India Overtakes China as Top Exporter of Cotton Products

- India has overtaken the China to become the largest exporter of cotton products to the United States in 2025. This details are according to the latest global market analysis by the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA).
- The Cotton products include apparel, garments and home textiles. They form the significant part of global textile trade. In the year 2025 US imports of cotton products from India reached around 0.6 million tonnes and then it is surpassing China's exports of approximately 0.5 million tonnes.
- The US imported about 3.3 million tonnes of cotton products in 2025 overall.
- In which it is remained nearly the same as the 15 year average import level.
- Despite stable overall imports but India managed to increase its share becoming the leading supplier to the US market.



India Women's Hockey Qualified For Hockey World Cup 2026

- India's women's hockey team qualified for the Hockey World Cup 2026. This qualification came even before the semifinals of the Hockey World Cup Qualifiers in Hyderabad. This qualification was confirmed after India secured a dominant 4-1 victory against Wales in a Pool B match.
- The match saw Navneet Kaur score a hat-trick, while Sakshi Rana opened the scoring early at the GMC Balayogi Hockey Stadium in Hyderabad.
- **Pool A**
 - England, South Korea
 - Italy, Austria
- **Pool B**
 - India, Scotland, Uruguay
 - Wales



World Para Athletics Grand Prix 2026

- Indian para athlete Shailesh Kumar won a gold medal at the World Para Athletics Grand Prix in New Delhi. He was competing in the men's high jump T63 category. Which is the reigning world champion secured the top position with a jump of 1.84 metres.
- Shailesh revealed that he had been dealing with pain in his left knee following his victory at the World Para Athletics Championships last year. Because of this injury the training plan was designed to carefully restart his competitive season.

- The World Para Athletics Grand Prix in New Delhi has attracted more than 200 Indian athletes. And it making it one of the largest para athletics events held in the country this year.
- This competition is also important for athletes seeking official classification in para sports categories.
- International participation has also been notable with 26 athletes from Russia competing in this event.



Amol Palekar to Receive META Lifetime Achievement Award 2026

- Veteran actor and filmmaker Amol Palekar will be honored with the META Lifetime Achievement Award 2026 at the Mahindra Excellence in Theatre Awards (META).
- This honor will be presented during the 21st edition of the Mahindra Excellence in Theatre Awards. this Awards will be held in New Delhi from March 19 to March 25, 2026.
- Apart from theatre legend Amol Palekar is widely known for his contributions to Hindi cinema during the 1970s. He became popular for portraying realistic and relatable middle class characters. He played this role during that time when larger than life heroes dominated the film industry.



REVIEW QUESTIONS

1. World Kidney Day 2026 was observed on which date?

- A. March 10
- B. March 11
- C. March 12
- D. March 15

Answer: C. March 12

Explanation: World Kidney Day 2026 was observed on 12 March 2026 to raise awareness about kidney health and the prevention of kidney diseases worldwide.

2. What was the theme of World Kidney Day 2026?

- A. Kidney Care for Future
- B. Kidney Health for All: Caring for People, Protecting the Planet
- C. Save Kidneys Save Life
- D. Healthy Kidney Healthy World

Answer: B. Kidney Health for All: Caring for People, Protecting the Planet

Explanation: The 2026 theme emphasized universal access to kidney care and environmental responsibility in healthcare systems.

3. Chronic Kidney Disease (CKD) affects approximately what proportion of the global population?

- A. 1 in 5 people
- B. 1 in 8 people
- C. 1 in 10 people
- D. 1 in 20 people

Answer: C. 1 in 10 people

Explanation: CKD is a major global health challenge affecting around 10% of the world's population.

4. Which country announced its withdrawal from the FIFA World Cup 2026?

- A. Russia
- B. Iran
- C. Qatar
- D. Turkey

Answer: B. Iran

Explanation: Iran officially announced its withdrawal due to geopolitical tensions involving the United States and Israel.

5. Who is the President of FIFA who commented on Iran's participation in the World Cup?

- A. Aleksander Čeferin
- B. Gianni Infantino
- C. Thomas Bach
- D. Sheikh Salman

Answer: B. Gianni Infantino

Explanation: Gianni Infantino is the President of FIFA and had earlier expressed hope that Iran would participate in the tournament.

6. The International Energy Agency (IEA) announced the release of how many barrels of oil from strategic reserves?

- A. 100 million barrels
- B. 250 million barrels
- C. 400 million barrels
- D. 600 million barrels

Answer: C. 400 million barrels

Explanation: The IEA announced the largest emergency oil release in its history, totaling 400 million barrels.

7. The headquarters of the International Energy Agency (IEA) is located in which city?

- A. London
- B. Washington D.C.
- C. Vienna
- D. Paris

Answer: D. Paris

Explanation: The IEA headquarters is located in Paris, France.

8. According to the USDA, which country became the largest exporter of cotton products to the United States in 2025?

- A. China
- B. India
- C. Bangladesh
- D. Vietnam

Answer: B. India

Explanation: India overtook China to become the largest exporter of cotton products to the US market.

9. Which Indian para-athlete won the gold medal in the men's high jump T63 category at the World Para Athletics Grand Prix 2026?

- A. Devendra Jhajharia
- B. Mariyappan Thangavelu

- C. Shailesh Kumar
- D. Praveen Kumar

Answer: C. Shailesh Kumar

Explanation: Shailesh Kumar won the gold medal with a jump of 1.84 metres at the event held in New Delhi.

10. Veteran actor Amol Palekar will receive the META Lifetime Achievement Award at which event?

- A. National Film Awards
- B. International Film Festival of India
- C. Mahindra Excellence in Theatre Awards
- D. Filmfare Awards

Answer: C. Mahindra Excellence in Theatre Awards

Explanation: Amol Palekar will be honored at the Mahindra Excellence in Theatre Awards (META) 2026 for his lifetime contribution to th

