

Daily Current Affairs

18 May 2026

International Museum Day 2026

- International Museum Day 2026 is celebrated around the world on 18th of May, 2026. This day bring attention to the growing importance of the museum in a rapidly changing and dived world.
- For the year the theme of the day is '**Museums Uniting a Divided World**' and will highlight the role of the museums as spaces for the cultural dialogue, inclusion, education and peacebuilding.
- International Museum Day (IMD) is the global observance which is dedicated to recognizing the importance of museums in society.
- This day is organized every year by the International Council of Museums (ICOM). The day annually observes on 18th May every year.
- International Museum Day was first launched in the year 1977 by ICOM. The initiative was created to strengthen the connection between museums and society.



World AIDS Vaccine Day 2026

- On May 18th World AIDS Vaccine Day 2026 is being observed around the world. This day highlights the urgent need for an effective vaccine against HIV which causes AIDS.
- This day recognizes the efforts of scientists, healthcare workers, researchers, volunteers and community organizations who are working tirelessly to fight the HIV epidemic.
- The origin of this observance of this day can trace back to the May 18, 1997. On this day the former U.S. President Bill Clinton has delivered an important speech at Morgan State University.
- This speech became the foundation for a global awareness movement and with this the first official World AIDS Vaccine Day was observed on May 18, 1998.



PM Modi Receives Sweden's Top Civil Honour

- Honorable Prime Minister of India Narendra Modi has been awarded with the Sweden's prestigious **Royal Order of the Polar Star, Commander Grand Cross**. This is the highest honor that the Scandinavian country can confer upon any Head of Government.

- The award was presented during the PM Modi's visit official visit to Sweden where he is holding the bilateral talks with the Swedish Prime Minister Ulf Kristersson.
- The Royal Order of the Polar Star is one of the Sweden's most historic and prestigious honors.
- It was established in the year 1748 by King Frederick I of Sweden.
- The Commander Grand Cross is among the highest grades of the Royal Order.
- It is the top distinction which is generally awarded to senior foreign dignitaries and Heads of Government.



Tata Electronics Signs ASML Partnership for Dholera Semiconductor Fab

- In the august presence of Honorable Prime Minister of India Narendra Modi and Prime Minister of the Netherlands H.E. Mr. Rob Jetten has witnessed the agreement signing by the Tata Electronics with the semiconductor equipment leader ASML.
- This partnership will supports the setup of Tata Electronics upcoming semiconductor fabrication unit in Dholera, Gujarat.
- This agreement will put focus on to support the India's first commercial 300 mm semiconductor fabrication facility which is currently under construction in Dholera, Gujarat.

- Semiconductors are now the backbone of modern technology. From mobile phones and laptops to electric vehicles and AI servers nearly every digital devices are depends on this chips.
- Lithography machines of ASML's are among the most advanced and expensive manufacturing tools in the semiconductor industry.



Chola Copper Plates Return to India

- PM Narendra Modi's visit to India as also achieved the cultural milestone. As Netherlands has formally returned the historic **11th century Chola Copper Plates** which is one of the most important surviving records of the **Chola dynasty of South India**.
- In a landmark cultural restitution, India has successfully secured the return of the Anaimangalam Copper Plates which is known internationally as the Leiden Plates.
- The Chola period's returned artefacts includes the,
 - 21 large copper plates
 - 3 smaller copper plates
- These inscriptions are date back to the reign of Emperor Rajaraja Chola I (From 985-1014 CE) and his son **Rajendra Chola I**.
- The plates contains the inscriptions in both Tamil and Sanskrit, and it offers the rich details about governance, religious grants, land revenue rights and royal decisions.
- The copper plates are historically significant because they documents the,

- Royal administrative decisions
- Land revenue arrangements
- Religious institution rights
- Tamil linguistic heritage
- Chola governance systems
- Medieval diplomatic and cultural history



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REVIEW QUESTIONS **EXAMS**

1. International Museum Day is observed every year on which date?
A) 15 May
B) 18 May
C) 20 May
D) 25 May

Answer: B) 18 May

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2. What is the theme of International Museum Day 2026?
A) Museums for Future
B) Heritage and Humanity
C) Museums Uniting a Divided World
D) Protecting Ancient Cultures

Answer: C) Museums Uniting a Divided World

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3. International Museum Day is organized annually by which organization?
- A) UNESCO
 - B) UNICEF
 - C) International Council of Museums (ICOM)
 - D) WHO

Answer: C) International Council of Museums (ICOM)

4. World AIDS Vaccine Day is observed every year on:
- A) 1 December
 - B) 10 May
 - C) 18 May
 - D) 21 June

Answer: C) 18 May

5. The origin of World AIDS Vaccine Day is linked to a speech delivered by which former U.S. President?
- A) Barack Obama
 - B) George Bush
 - C) Bill Clinton
 - D) Donald Trump

Answer: C) Bill Clinton

6. Prime Minister Narendra Modi received which prestigious Swedish honour in 2026?
- A) Order of Liberty
 - B) Royal Order of the Polar Star
 - C) Nobel Peace Medal
 - D) Scandinavian Crown Award

Answer: B) Royal Order of the Polar Star

7. The Royal Order of the Polar Star was established in which year?
- A) 1600

- B) 1707
- C) 1748
- D) 1815

Answer: C) 1748

8. Tata Electronics signed a semiconductor partnership agreement with which company?
- A) Intel
 - B) Samsung
 - C) ASML
 - D) Sony

Answer: C) ASML

9. Tata Electronics' semiconductor fabrication facility is being developed in which place?
- A) Pune
 - B) Hyderabad
 - C) Dholera, Gujarat
 - D) Chennai

Answer: C) Dholera, Gujarat

10. The returned Anaimangalam Copper Plates are related to which South Indian dynasty?
- A) Maurya Dynasty
 - B) Gupta Dynasty
 - C) Chola Dynasty
 - D) Vijayanagara Empire

Answer: C) Chola Dynasty