

Daily Current Affairs

20 July 2026

Spain Clinches FIFA World Cup 2026 Title

- Spain emerged as the **champions of the FIFA World Cup 2026**, securing their **second FIFA World Cup title** after defeating **Argentina** in a thrilling final. The victory marked a historic achievement for Spanish football, ending a long wait since the country's maiden World Cup triumph in **2010**.
- The final witnessed an intense contest between two football powerhouses. Spain displayed excellent teamwork, tactical discipline, and attacking football to overcome the defending champions. Their consistent performances throughout the tournament highlighted the depth of their squad and the success of their youth development system.
- Spain's journey to the title was marked by impressive victories over several strong opponents. The team's balanced combination of experienced players and emerging young stars played a crucial role in their success. Their disciplined defence and effective midfield control proved decisive throughout the tournament.
- The FIFA World Cup 2026 was jointly hosted by **the United States, Canada, and Mexico**, making it the first tournament to be organized by three nations. It also featured **48 teams** for the first time in World Cup history, expanding the competition and increasing global participation.
- Spain's triumph further strengthens its position among the world's most successful football nations and adds another prestigious chapter to the country's sporting history.
- **Key Highlights**

Particular	Details
Tournament	FIFA World Cup 2026
Champion	Spain
Runner-up	Argentina
Host Nations	United States, Canada & Mexico
Edition	23rd FIFA World Cup

Particular	Details
Special Feature	First World Cup with 48 participating teams
Spain's World Cup Titles 2 (2010 & 2026)	



PV Sindhu Wins Japan Open 2026 Women's Singles Title

- Indian badminton star **PV Sindhu** captured the **Japan Open 2026 Women's Singles title**, adding another prestigious achievement to her remarkable international career. The victory reaffirmed her position as one of India's greatest badminton players and marked an important milestone in the 2026 BWF World Tour season.
- Sindhu delivered outstanding performances throughout the tournament, defeating several higher-ranked opponents with her powerful smashes, excellent court coverage, and tactical brilliance. Her consistency and determination enabled her to secure the championship after an impressive final performance.
- The Japan Open is one of the most prestigious tournaments on the **Badminton World Federation (BWF) World Tour**, attracting top-ranked players from across the world. Winning the title enhances Sindhu's international ranking and boosts India's reputation in world badminton.
- PV Sindhu has consistently brought laurels to India with her achievements, including **Olympic medals, World Championship titles, Commonwealth Games medals**, and numerous BWF titles. Her latest success further inspires young badminton players across the country.
- **Key Highlights**

Particular	Details
Tournament	Japan Open 2026
Sport	Badminton
Category	Women's Singles
Champion	PV Sindhu (India)
Organized By	Badminton World Federation (BWF)
Significance	Major BWF World Tour Title



First Investment Friendliness Index for States

- **NITI Aayog** has introduced **India's first Investment Friendliness Index**, a landmark initiative aimed at evaluating the investment climate across states and Union Territories. The index seeks to encourage healthy competition among states by assessing policies, governance standards, infrastructure, and ease of doing business.
- The Investment Friendliness Index has been designed to provide investors with a transparent assessment of the business environment in different regions of the country. It will also help state governments identify areas requiring policy reforms and institutional improvements to attract greater domestic and foreign investments.
- The index evaluates several important parameters, including:
 - Ease of doing business
 - Infrastructure availability
 - Industrial ecosystem
 - Governance and regulatory framework
 - Land and labour reforms

- Availability of skilled workforce
- Investor facilitation mechanisms
- By publishing comparative rankings, NITI Aayog aims to motivate states to improve their investment policies, simplify regulations, and create a more business-friendly environment.
- The initiative supports the Government of India's broader objectives under **Ease of Doing Business, Make in India, Startup India**, and **Aatmanirbhar Bharat**, while promoting balanced regional economic development and employment generation.



Shabdalog India's First Immersive Language Museum

- India has taken a significant step towards preserving and celebrating its rich linguistic heritage with the inauguration of **Shabdalog**, the country's **first immersive language museum**. Designed as an interactive cultural space, the museum showcases the evolution, diversity, and significance of Indian languages through modern digital technologies and engaging exhibits.
- Unlike traditional museums, Shabdalog offers visitors immersive experience using **audio-visual installations, interactive displays, virtual reality (VR), augmented reality (AR), and multimedia presentations**. These technologies enable visitors to explore the origins, scripts, literature, and cultural importance of various Indian languages in an engaging manner.
- The museum highlights India's linguistic diversity by presenting information on classical, regional, and tribal languages. It also aims to create awareness about endangered languages and encourage younger generations to appreciate the country's multilingual heritage.

- Shabdlok is expected to become an important centre for education, research, and cultural exchange. It aligns with the objectives of the **National Education Policy (NEP) 2020**, which emphasizes the promotion of Indian languages and preservation of cultural heritage.



Odisha's Debadatta Wins Gold at International Chemistry Olympiad

- **Debadatta Priyadarshi** from **Odisha** brought pride to India by winning a **Gold Medal** at the **International Chemistry Olympiad (ICHO) 2026**, one of the world's most prestigious competitions for school students in chemistry.
- The International Chemistry Olympiad brings together outstanding young students from countries across the globe to compete in rigorous theoretical and practical examinations. Winning a gold medal reflects exceptional scientific knowledge, analytical thinking, and laboratory skills.
- Debadatta's achievement highlights India's growing excellence in science education and reinforces the country's strong performance in international academic competitions. His success is expected to inspire students across the nation to pursue careers in science, research, and innovation.
- The achievement also reflects the efforts of educational institutions and national training programmes that prepare Indian students for global Olympiads.



Madhya Pradesh Approves Uniform Civil Code Bill

- The **Madhya Pradesh Cabinet** has approved the **Uniform Civil Code (UCC) Bill**, becoming one of the states to take a significant step toward implementing a common legal framework for personal civil matters.
- The proposed legislation seeks to establish **uniform laws governing marriage, divorce, inheritance, succession, maintenance, and adoption**, irrespective of religion or community. The objective is to promote equality before the law while ensuring greater legal uniformity across different sections of society.
- Following cabinet approval, the Bill will undergo the necessary legislative process before becoming law. The initiative has generated widespread public and legal discussion regarding its constitutional, social, and administrative implications.
- The concept of a **Uniform Civil Code** is mentioned in **Article 44** of the **Directive Principles of State Policy (DPSPs)** in the Constitution of India. It encourages the State to work towards securing a common civil code for all citizens.



India Approves QDENG A Dengue Vaccine

- India has approved **QDENG A**, the country's **first dengue vaccine**, marking a major milestone in the fight against one of the nation's most widespread mosquito-borne diseases. The approval is expected to strengthen public health efforts aimed at reducing dengue-related illness and deaths.
- QDENG A has been developed to provide protection against all **four dengue virus serotypes (DENV-1, DENV-2, DENV-3, and DENV-4)**. The vaccine is intended to reduce the severity of infection, lower hospitalization rates, and help control outbreaks, particularly in dengue-endemic regions.
- Dengue is transmitted through the bite of infected **Aedes mosquitoes**, mainly **Aedes aegypti**, and remains a major public health concern in tropical and subtropical countries, including India.
- The approval of QDENG A represents a significant advancement in India's disease prevention strategy. Along with vector control measures, public awareness campaigns, and early diagnosis, vaccination is expected to play an important role in reducing the burden of dengue.



REVIEW QUESTIONS

1. Which country won the FIFA World Cup 2026 title?

- A) Argentina
- B) France
- C) Spain
- D) Brazil

Answer: C) Spain

2. The FIFA World Cup 2026 was jointly hosted by which three countries?

- A) USA, Canada and Mexico
- B) USA, Brazil and Mexico
- C) England, Canada and USA
- D) Spain, Portugal and Morocco

Answer: A) USA, Canada and Mexico

3. Which Indian badminton player won the Japan Open 2026 Women's Singles title?

- A) Saina Nehwal
- B) PV Sindhu
- C) Malvika Bansod
- D) Ashmita Chaliha

Answer: B) PV Sindhu

4. NITI Aayog's first Investment Friendliness Index has been launched primarily to:

- A) Measure inflation across states
- B) Assess the investment climate of States and Union Territories
- C) Rank educational institutions
- D) Evaluate agricultural production

Answer: B) Assess the investment climate of States and Union Territories

5. Shabdalok, recently inaugurated in India, is the country's first:

- A) Digital Science Museum
- B) Tribal Heritage Museum
- C) Immersive Language Museum
- D) Maritime Museum

Answer: C) Immersive Language Museum

6. Debadatta Priyadarshi, who won a Gold Medal at the International Chemistry Olympiad 2026, belongs to which Indian state?

- A) West Bengal
- B) Odisha
- C) Assam
- D) Bihar

Answer: B) Odisha

7. The Uniform Civil Code (UCC) is mentioned under which Article of the Indian Constitution?

- A) Article 32
- B) Article 44
- C) Article 21
- D) Article 370

Answer: B) Article 44

8. Which state recently approved the Uniform Civil Code (UCC) Bill?

- A) Gujarat
- B) Uttar Pradesh
- C) Madhya Pradesh
- D) Rajasthan

Answer: C) Madhya Pradesh

9. QDENG, recently approved in India, is a vaccine developed to prevent:

- A) Malaria
- B) Chikungunya
- C) Dengue
- D) Japanese Encephalitis

 **Answer: C) Dengue**

10. QDENGGA provides protection against:

- A) Two dengue virus serotypes
- B) Three dengue virus serotypes
- C) Four dengue virus serotypes
- D) Only severe dengue infections

Answer: C) Four dengue virus serotypes