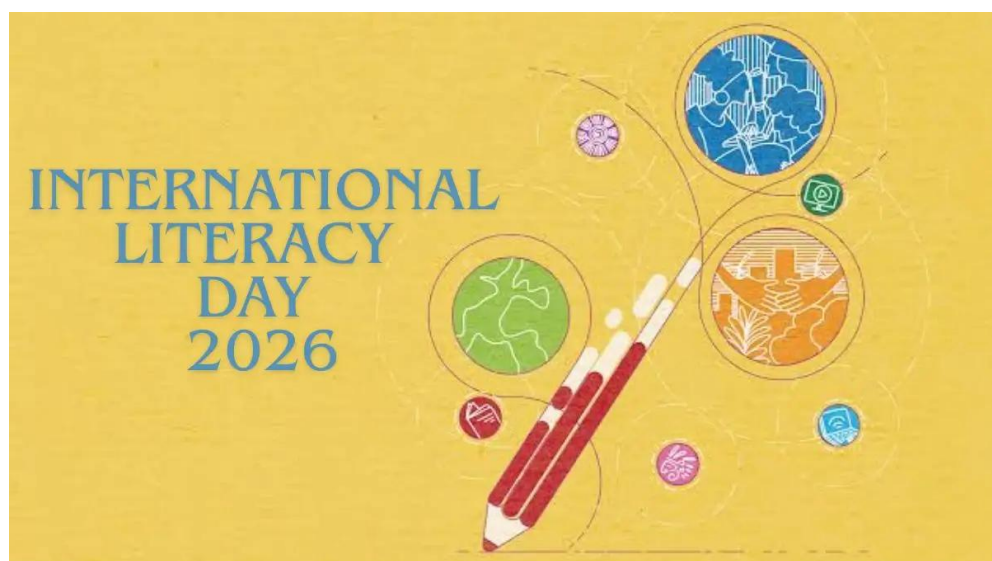


Daily Current Affairs

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International Literacy Day 2026

- International Literacy Day is celebrated annually on September 8 with the intention of bringing to the fore literacy as a basic human right and a necessary prerequisite for learning, employment, engagement and sustainable development.
- This 2026, the day celebrates its 60th anniversary, a period within which the world will have been able to evaluate its achievement in literacy against the obstacles that hinder many from learning how to read and write.
- This year's theme for International Literacy Day 2026 is **“Literacy for people, the planet and prosperity.”**
- People: Literacy fosters inclusion, participation and equality of opportunity.
- Planet: Literacy enables an understanding of environmental issues.
- Prosperity: Literacy helps people get better access to education, jobs and skills.



National Film Awards 2026 to Be Held in Gujarat

- The ceremony of 72nd National Film Awards will take place in Ekta Nagar in Narmada district of Gujarat state on September 22, 2026, thus marking a huge change from the history of this event which is closely associated with New Delhi.
- This award ceremony will take place close to the Statue of Unity, where the President of India Droupadi Murmu will be presenting the awards. The change has drawn the attention of people since the National Film Awards always used to take place in the capital city of the country.
- The 17th National Film Awards took place at the University Centenary Auditorium in Madras, which is now known as Chennai, on November 21, 1970. The 2026 ceremony is thus an anomaly in the long history of the award taking place in New Delhi.
- Winners of the 72nd National Film Awards have been selected on the basis of films released during the year 2024. The Union Ministry of Information and Broadcasting had announced the winners of the awards in July.
- Some of the major winners includes
 - Best Feature Film: Article 370
 - Best Actress: Yami Gautam for Article 370
 - Best Actor: Mammooty for Bramayugam and Kartik Aaryan for Chandu Champion
 - Best Non-Feature Film: Bhangaar
 - Best Documentary: Ram-Nami
 - Best New Director: Randeep Hooda for Swatantrya Veer Savarkar
- Other films like Kalki 2898 AD, Amaran, Pushpa: The Rule Part-02 and Stree 2 have also won in different categories.



Swachh Vayu Sarvekshan 2026

- Lucknow tops among the million-plus cities in the Swachh Vayu Sarvekshan 2026 with respect to steps taken to curb air pollution. Indore and Jabalpur have been awarded the second and third positions, respectively.
- The annual survey rates cities and towns for the measures taken to mitigate major sources of air pollution, namely road dust, construction debris, vehicular and industrial pollution.
- The findings also bring out a crucial point. A city may rank high on the criteria of measures taken to control air pollution, without having achieved the stipulated ambient air quality standards.
- Measures taken by Lucknow includes,
 - Enhancing the usage of electric vehicles in waste collection.
 - Use of mechanized road sweepers to curb dust.
 - Managing legacy-waste.
 - Steps to reduce major sources of particulate pollution.
- Indore, which holds the top position among Indian cities in Swachh Sarvekshan rankings for cleanliness, came second with a score of 197. Jabalpur bagged third position with a score of 195.
- **Category-I: Population Above 10 Lakh**

Rank	City	Score
1	Lucknow	198
2	Indore	197
3	Jabalpur	195
4	Bhopal	192
4	Agra	192
5	Surat	191
6	Raipur	189
7	Thane	187
7	Chandigarh	187
7	Rajkot	187
8	Ahmedabad	186
8	Vijayawada	186
9	Ghaziabad	184
9	Navi Mumbai	184
10	Nagpur	183.8

Category-II: Population 3 -10 Lakh

Rank	City	Score
1	Rourkela	198.5
2	Firozabad	195
2	Guntur	195

3	Amravati	194
4	Bhubaneswar	193.5
5	Jhansi	192.5
6	Alwar	192
7	Latur	188.5
8	Moradabad	187.5
8	Noida	187.5
8	Udaipur	187.5
9	Nellore	187
10	Korba	186.5

Category-III: Population Below 3 Lakh

Rank	City	Score
1	Kalinga Nagar	198.5
2	Angul	196.5
3	Talcher	193.5
4	Eluru	193
5	Haldia	190.6
6	Vizianagaram	189.5
7	Dewas	188

8	Sangareddy	186.8
9	Damtal	186
10	Nalgonda	185.8



Sovereign AI Fund

- A Sovereign AI Fund is a state-backed financing tool used to build domestic artificial intelligence capacity, reduce dependence on foreign technology providers and support strategic computing infrastructure.
- Such funds typically combine public capital with access to compute, datasets and research support to strengthen national digital autonomy.
- **Core purpose:** Sovereign AI frameworks are designed to develop national foundational models, local datasets and independent access to advanced semiconductor and compute resources.
- **Capacity gap:** They help bridge the computational shortage faced by domestic research institutions, universities and early-stage AI enterprises.
- **Strategic intent:** These initiatives are also used to reduce dependence on foreign technology monopolies and create resilient indigenous digital ecosystems.
- **Security angle:** Governments view sovereign AI as a way to manage national security risks and protect sensitive data infrastructure.
- **Regulatory role:** Such funds support the creation of localized standards and policy control over AI development and deployment.

- **Forms of support:** Public capital, supercomputing hours and access to localized datasets are the most common instruments.
- **Related UK Public Support Measures**
- **Strategic Assets Grants Programme:** The government's £282 million programme supported high-value datasets and automated laboratory infrastructure.
- **Grant size:** It offered grants of 1.3 million to 12 million for strategic assets.
- **Procurement scheme:** A £100 million sovereign AI R&D procurement scheme was launched to fund targeted public-interest AI challenges.
- **India's Sovereign AI Ecosystem**
- **Mission approval:** India's sovereign AI strategy is driven by the IndiaAI Mission, approved by the Cabinet on March 7, 2024.
- **Budget:** The mission has an allocation of ₹10,371.92 crore (approximately \$1.24 billion).
- **Foundation models:** By August 2026, the mission had selected 20 indigenous foundation model proposals, including BharatGen's Param2-17B.



President's Colour Presented to Goa Police

- The President's Colour was presented to the Goa Police on 7 September 2026 at the Dr. Shyama Prasad Mukherjee Indoor Stadium in Taleigao, Goa. Union Home Minister Amit Shah presented the honour, and Goa became the fifth state police force in India to receive the **President's Police Colour**.
- The President's Colour is a ceremonial military or police honour awarded by the President of India to units with distinguished service. In India, the award is associated with exceptional discipline, operational record, and service to the nation.

- During the event, Amit Shah launched an AI-based multilingual voice assistant for the national cyber-crime helpline 1930. The system supports 12 languages and is intended for use by residents and tourists in cyber-crime reporting.
- The Goa Police also recorded a reduction in emergency response time through the 112 helpline from 18 minutes to 8 minutes. The Home Minister also set a target for Goa to eliminate the drug menace by 2029.



India Joins Global 6G Network Initiative

- India joined a multilateral initiative on 7 September 2026 to guide the development and deployment of next-generation 6G telecommunications networks.
- The initiative includes the United States and 24 other nations and covers security, competitiveness, and technology innovation in advanced wireless systems.
- 6G is the sixth generation of mobile communication technology and follows 5G in the international wireless standards sequence. It is associated with higher data speeds, lower latency, and wider machine-to-machine connectivity than earlier generations of mobile networks.
- The agreement was finalised after a bilateral meeting between US Commerce Secretary Howard Lutnick and Union Minister of State for Commerce and Industry Jitin Prasada. The discussions also covered cooperation in artificial intelligence, data centres, and possible US investment in India Semiconductor Mission 2.0.



REVIEW QUESTIONS

1. International Literacy Day is observed every year on which date?

- A. September 5
- B. September 8
- C. September 10
- D. September 12

Answer: B. September 8

2. What is the theme of International Literacy Day 2026?

- A. Literacy for a Sustainable Future
- B. Literacy for All and Equality
- C. Literacy for people, the planet and prosperity
- D. Education for Global Development

Answer: C. Literacy for people, the planet and prosperity

3. Where will the 72nd National Film Awards ceremony be held in 2026?

- A. New Delhi
- B. Mumbai
- C. Ekta Nagar, Gujarat
- D. Ahmedabad

Answer: C. Ekta Nagar, Gujarat

4. Which city topped the million-plus category in Swachh Vayu Sarvekshan 2026?

- A. Indore
- B. Jabalpur
- C. Lucknow
- D. Bhopal

Answer: C. Lucknow

5. What is the primary objective of a Sovereign AI Fund?

- A. Promote foreign AI companies
- B. Reduce domestic computing capacity
- C. Strengthen domestic AI capabilities and reduce dependence on foreign technology
- D. Regulate social media platforms

Answer: C. Strengthen domestic AI capabilities and reduce dependence on foreign technology

6. What is the total allocation of India's IndiaAI Mission?

- A. ₹5,371.92 crore
- B. ₹8,371.92 crore
- C. ₹10,371.92 crore
- D. ₹15,371.92 crore

Answer: C. ₹10,371.92 crore

7. Which state police force became the fifth state police force in India to receive the President's Police Colour?

- A. Gujarat Police
- B. Goa Police
- C. Maharashtra Police
- D. Kerala Police

Answer: B. Goa Police

8. The AI-based multilingual voice assistant launched for the national cyber-crime helpline supports how many languages?

- A. 8
- B. 10
- C. 12
- D. 15

Answer: C. 12

9. India joined a multilateral initiative related to the development of which technology on September 7, 2026?

- A. 5G
- B. 6G
- C. 7G
- D. Quantum Internet

Answer: B. 6G

10. The 6G initiative joined by India includes the United States and how many other nations?

- A. 20
- B. 22
- C. 24
- D. 26

Answer: C. 24