

Daily Current Affairs

18 September 2026

World Bamboo Day 2026

- World Bamboo Day celebrated annually on 18th September in 2026 recognize the increasing significance of bamboo as a renewable resource in an evolving world.
- Established in 2009 by the World Bamboo Organization (WBO), the annual international event is intended to create awareness on the significance of bamboo and how it contributes to mankind and the environment.
- Theme for World Bamboo Day 2026: **“Bamboo for a Regenerative Future: A Global Call to Grow, Build and Prosper with Nature”**
- More than just a conventional material, bamboo provides livelihoods for farmers, artisans, entrepreneurs, and industries, offering materials for construction, furniture, engineered products, textiles, paper, food, and energy in Asia, Africa, and Latin America.



International Equal Pay Day 2026

- Every year, the world observes the International Equal Pay Day on September 18 in order to bring awareness about the ongoing efforts made worldwide regarding equal pay for work of equal value.
- The occasion serves as a reminder of the gender inequality that persists to date; specifically, women continue to earn lesser wages compared to those earned by men, where the global pay gap between men and women is approximately 20%.
- According to the ILO Equal Remuneration Convention, 1951 (No. 100), the principle of equal remuneration for work of equal value for women and men has been established. The convention is considered as one of the ILO Fundamental Conventions.
- The Equal Pay International Coalition (EPIC) comprises governments, employers, employees and other organizations that seek to promote equal pay.
- The EPIC is led by the ILO, UN Women and the OECD. The goal of this coalition is to help ensure equal pay for women and men through coordinated action at the global, regional and national level.



Abhishek Sharma Hits Fastest T20I Century for India

- Abhishek Sharma created history during a match against Afghanistan on 17 September 2026, where he hit a century in 30 balls in the third T20I match held in New Delhi.

- The left-handed batsman bettered Rohit Sharma's record of the fastest century in T20I for India with a score of 100 runs in 35 balls that was made against Sri Lanka in 2017.
- Fastest T20I Centuries by Indian Men

Player	Balls	Match	Venue
Abhishek Sharma	30	India vs Afghanistan	New Delhi
Rohit Sharma	35	India vs Sri Lanka	Indore
Abhishek Sharma	37	India vs England	Wankhede
Sanju Samson	40	India vs Bangladesh	Hyderabad
Tilak Varma	41	India vs South Africa	Johannesburg
Ishan Kishan	42	India vs New Zealand	Thiruvananthapuram
Suryakumar Yadav	45	India vs Sri Lanka	Rajkot
KL Rahul	46	India vs West Indies	Lauderhill
Abhishek Sharma	46	India vs Zimbabwe	Harare
Sanju Samson	47	India vs South Africa	Durban
Suryakumar Yadav	48	India vs England	Nottingham

Fastest Hundreds in T20Is by Full Member Nation

Rank	Player	Balls	Match	Venue
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1	Abhishek Sharma	30	India vs Afghanistan	Delhi
2	Sikandar Raza	33	Zimbabwe vs Gambia	Nairobi (Ruaraka)
3	Finn Allen	33	New Zealand vs South Africa	Kolkata
4	David Miller	35	South Africa vs Bangladesh	Potchefstroom
5	Rohit Sharma	35	India vs Sri Lanka	Indore



Tavengwa Mukuhani Appointed ICC Deputy Chairperson

- The International Cricket Council (ICC) has selected the chairman of Zimbabwe Cricket, Tavengwa Mukuhani, as the new Deputy Chairperson until November 2027. Mukuhani, who represents Zimbabwe Cricket at the ICC Board, replaces Imran Khwaja who resigned from the ICC Board.

- The new appointment is made ahead of the ICC Men's Cricket World Cup 2027 as African cricket readies itself for the event which will be co-hosted by Zimbabwe, South Africa, and Namibia.
- The 2027 Cricket World Cup is going to see the Cricket World Cup come back to Africa after 24 years. Mukuhlandi's expertise in Zimbabwe cricket governance and knowledge about Africa in general will play an important role in discussions about the upcoming tournament as well as the development of cricket in the region.
- The ICC Chairman Jay Shah extended his congratulations to Mukuhlandi upon his appointment and praised his expertise in cricket administration and understanding of the global game.
- Shah also emphasized that the appointment was a historic achievement for Zimbabwe as Mukuhlandi is the first person from Zimbabwe appointed as ICC Deputy Chair. Strong leadership will be crucial during the expansion of the cricket into different countries and its return to the Olympics.



India's Asian Games Flag-Bearers

- India has identified shooters Manu Bhaker and shot putter Tajinderpal Singh Toor as their flag bearers for the opening ceremony of the 2026 Asian Games in Nagoya.
- Manu Bhaker established herself as one of India's best athletes when she won two Olympic medals in Paris Games. She has made history as the first Indian athlete to win two Olympic medals in one Olympic event since the nation gained independence.

- Bhaker will be joined by another athlete named Tajinderpal Singh Toor as the second flag-bearer for India. Later, the Athletics Federation of India declared this decision.



Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland Seek Freedom From Westminster

- Political leaders from Scotland, Wales, and Northern Ireland have signed a historic memorandum of understanding calling for self-determination and constitutional changes.
- The document was signed in Cardiff by Scottish First Minister John Swinney, Welsh First Minister Rhun ap Iorwerth, and Northern Ireland First Minister Michelle O'Neill.
- The document claims that the three nations are entitled to decide about their future democratically.
- The signatories urged the British government to prepare, plan, and implement constitutional changes in each of the jurisdictions, asserting that Westminster should not stop people from deciding about their political future.
- This development follows the Plaid Cymru election victory in the Senedd polls in Wales in May, which saw the end of Labour's continuous rule of the Welsh administration since its inception in 1999.
- Consequently, the biggest political parties in all the three devolved governments are now referred to as being pro-independence for the first time.



Marathi Thriller Gondhal Official Entry for Oscars 2027

- Gondhal, marathi thriller film directed by Santosh Davakhar, has been chosen as the official representative of India for the 99th Academy Awards which is set to take place on March 14, 2027, at the Dolby Theatre, Los Angeles.
- This decision was made by the Film Federation of India on September 18, 2026. Set amid the folklore performance of Gondhal from the state of Maharashtra, the film is the combination of relationships, betrayal, deception and a thriller.
- A total of 33 films were considered for this purpose. They included 14 Hindi films, four each in Marathi, Telugu and Gujarati languages, three Tamil films and one each in Malayalam and Nagamese languages. A silent film was also among the considered films.
- The 99th Academy Awards ceremony will be held on March 14, 2027, at the Dolby Theatre, Los Angeles. The official entry from India is considered for the Best International Feature Film award.



India Ranks 131 in Global Gender Gap Index

- The World Economic Forum released the Global Gender Gap Index 2026 on 16 September 2026. India ranked 131st among 145 countries in the index, and its position remained unchanged from the previous edition.
- The Global Gender Gap Index is an annual index published by the World Economic Forum. It measures gender parity across four dimensions: Economic Participation and Opportunity, Educational Attainment, Health and Survival, and Political Empowerment.
- India recorded an overall gender parity score of 64.5% in 2026. This score was below the global average of 69.2%, which represented 69.2% of the gender gap closed worldwide.
- India's rank of 131st was unchanged from the 2025 edition. The country's overall score improved slightly in 2026, but the rank did not change.
- Educational Attainment was India's strongest dimension in 2026, with a parity score of 96.6%. Political Empowerment was India's highest-ranked subindex, with 24.5% gender equality and a global rank of 67th.
- Economic Participation and Opportunity remained India's weakest dimension in 2026, with 41.2% parity. Health and Survival is one of the four standard pillars used in the index.



REVIEW QUESTIONS

1. World Bamboo Day is observed annually on which date?

- A. September 16
- B. September 17
- C. September 18
- D. September 19

Answer: C. September 18

2. What is the theme of World Bamboo Day 2026?

- A. Bamboo for Sustainable Development
- B. Bamboo for a Regenerative Future: A Global Call to Grow, Build and Prosper with Nature
- C. Bamboo and Climate Action
- D. Green Bamboo for a Green Planet

Answer: B. Bamboo for a Regenerative Future: A Global Call to Grow, Build and Prosper with Nature

3. Who established World Bamboo Day in 2009?

- A. UNESCO
- B. United Nations Environment Programme
- C. World Bamboo Organization
- D. Food and Agriculture Organization

Answer: C. World Bamboo Organization

4. International Equal Pay Day is observed on:

- A. September 15
- B. September 16
- C. September 18
- D. September 20

Answer: C. September 18

5. Who holds the record for India's fastest T20I century according to the PPT?

- A. Rohit Sharma
- B. Suryakumar Yadav
- C. Sanju Samson
- D. Abhishek Sharma

Answer: D. Abhishek Sharma

6. In how many balls did Abhishek Sharma score his record T20I century?

- A. 30 balls
- B. 33 balls
- C. 35 balls
- D. 37 balls

Answer: A. 30 balls

7. Who was appointed as the ICC Deputy Chairperson until November 2027?

- A. Imran Khwaja
- B. Tavengwa Mukuhani
- C. Jay Shah
- D. Sanjay Manjrekar

Answer: B. Tavengwa Mukuhani

8. Who were selected as India's flag-bearers for the opening ceremony of the 2026 Asian Games?

- A. Manu Bhaker and Neeraj Chopra
- B. Manu Bhaker and Tajinderpal Singh Toor
- C. PV Sindhu and Tajinderpal Singh Toor
- D. Manu Bhaker and Abhinav Bindra

Answer: B. Manu Bhaker and Tajinderpal Singh Toor

9. Which Marathi film was selected as India's official entry for the 99th Academy Awards?

- A. Gondhal
- B. Taiwan Travelogue
- C. The Silent Forest
- D. Island of Memories

Answer: A. Gondhal

10. What was India's rank in the Global Gender Gap Index 2026?

- A. 121st
- B. 126th
- C. 131st
- D. 136th

Answer: C. 131st