Daily Current Affairs
17 November 2026

International Students Day 2026

- International Students Day 2026 held on Tuesday 17th November 2026. This day celebrates the bravery and sacrifice of Czech students who were persecuted by the Nazis in 1939 and recognises the role students play in protecting education rights, freedom of speech, democracy and diversity.
- International Students Day started as an event to recognise the persecution of Czech students by the Nazi's during the German occupation in 1939. The events of 17th November became a symbol of student activism.
- A key historical event linked to 17th November. The Velvet Revolution was a peaceful protest across Czechoslovakia throughout November and December in 1989. It started with students protesting against the Communists in Prague on 17th November, which was met with violent police action.

Detail	**International Students Day**	**World Students' Day**
Date	17th November	15th October
History	Czech student activism against Nazi rule	Birthday of Dr APJ Abdul Kalam
Focus	Students' rights, freedom, democracy and international unity.	Education, youth growth and learning.

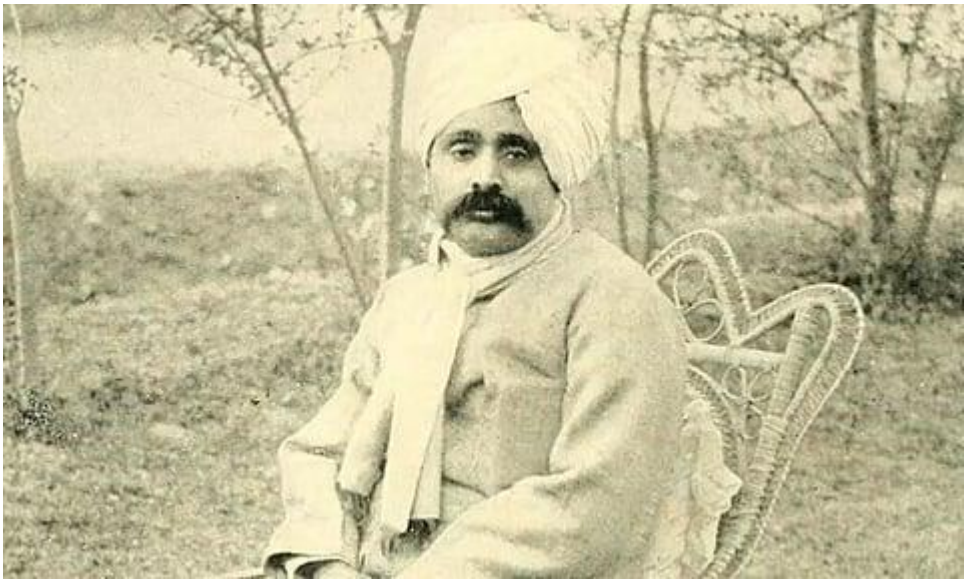
Declared	1941	Honoured in memory of Dr Kalam.



Lala Lajpat Rai Death Anniversary 2026

- Lala Lajpat Rai (Punjab Kesari) was a prominent freedom fighter, nationalist, writer and social reformer. He was born on 28 January 1865 in Dhudike in Punjab and passed away on 17 November 1928.
- He is well-known for his contribution to leading the protest against the Simon Commission on 30 October 1928 in Lahore. He was one of the prominent members of the famous triad, Lal-Bal-Pal.
- He was an important figure in the Indian national movement in the late 19th and early 20th century. He was associated with Arya Samaj and believed in strengthening national self-reliance, education and opposing British colonialism through active methods.
- He was popularly known as Punjab Kesari, meaning the Lion of Punjab. He was a prominent member of the national triad along with Bal Gangadhar Tilak and Bipin Chandra Pal, popularly known as Lal-Bal-Pal.
- Lala Lajpat Rai's death had a significant impact on the Indian nationalist movement. Particularly on members of the Hindustan Socialist Republican Association (HSRA).

- The revolutionaries decided to take revenge against the police actions by targeting James A. Scott, the police officer involved in the lathi charge. However, in December 1928 Bhagat Singh, Shivaram Rajguru and their associates mistakenly killed Assistant Superintendent of Police, J.P. Saunders.



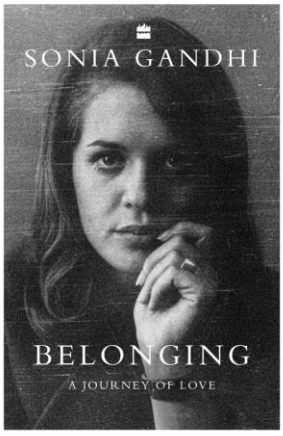
Usman Khawaja's Sabr Book 2026

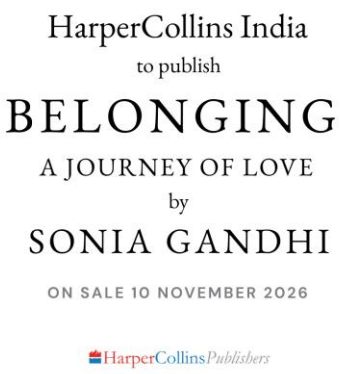
- **Sabr: Finding My Way in Cricket and Life** is the autobiography of Australian cricket player Usman Khawaja. It was published by Penguin Books Australia on 10th November 2026 and details Khawaja's childhood, playing career, the challenges with his identity and feeling like he belonged, plus his many struggles to find success in Australian cricket.
- 'Sabr' means patience in Arabic. Usman Khawaja uses this as a way to describe how he used his patience through career setbacks and personal challenges to ultimately make his way back into the Australian Test team.
- The book details his experiences with racism, his diagnosis with a health issue and his experience with the 2018 Australian ball tampering scandal.



Sonia Gandhi's Memoir Belonging

- Belonging: A Journey of Love, a memoir written by Congress leader Sonia Gandhi, will be released globally on 10th November 2026 by HarperCollins India.
- This book is a blend of Sonia Gandhi's personal experiences and details about Indian politics. It details her life from growing up in post-war Veneto, Italy to living in India and becoming involved in the Indian National Congress.
- It begins in Cambridge, England in 1965 where Sonia Maino aged 19 meets Rajiv Gandhi. They marry in 1968 and Sonia moves to India to become involved with the Nehru-Gandhi family.





Vadnagar Archaeological Experiential Museum Wins Red Dot

- The Anant Anadi Vadnagar Archaeological Experiential Museum, located in Vadnagar, Mehsana district, Gujarat, has won the prestigious Red Dot: Best of the Best Award 2026 in Germany.
- The award was conferred under the Exhibition Design category of the Red Dot Award: Brands & Communication Design 2026 competition. It recognizes the museum's innovative approach to presenting India's archaeological heritage through immersive storytelling, interactive exhibits and spatial design.
- The museum received recognition for its distinctive exhibition design and approach to presenting archaeological history.
- According to the official Red Dot winner profile, the museum uses seven layers of rammed earth to represent different historical periods.
- The Red Dot Design Award is an internationally recognized design competition associated with Germany.
- It honours outstanding achievements across major areas of design, including product design, brands, communication design and design concepts.



Devesh Chaturvedi Appointed National Sports Board Chairperson

- The National Sports Board (NSB) got a fresh set of leaders on 16th November 2026 when Devesh Chaturvedi (IAS (Retd.)) was appointed as the Chairperson and Commodore (Retd.) Pushpendra Kumar Garg was appointed as a Member.
- These appointments have been made by the Appointments Committee of the Cabinet (ACC).

- The NSB has been formed under the National Sports Governance Act, 2025 and has the responsibility of recognising National Sports Bodies and making sure they follow certain standards of governance, finance and ethics.



MS Dhoni Retires from IPL

- Former India & Chennai Super Kings captain Mahendra Singh Dhoni has retired from the Indian Premier League (IPL) but will continue to play a role as a mentor for Chennai Super Kings (CSK) from 2027 onwards.
- On 17th November 2026, it was announced that Dhoni will be stepping down from playing in the IPL after 18 seasons. During his time with CSK, Dhoni has left a legacy by leading them to 5 titles, 10 finals appearances and over 5,400 runs.



Manu Bhaker Elected to ISSF Athletes Committee

- Indian Shooter Manu Bhaker, who has won two Olympic medals, has been elected to the ISSF (International Shooting Sport Federation) Athletes Committee for 2026-2030. This was announced by the National Rifle Association of India (NRAI) on 17th November 2026.
- Bhaker was one of six athletes who were elected out of 22 candidates from 20 member federations. The committee consists of athletes who compete in three different shooting disciplines: rifle, pistol and shotgun.
- The ISSF held elections for the Athletes Committee where eligible athletes voted online. The athletes were competing in the following events,
- ISSF World Championship 300m Rifle – Cairo, Egypt.
- ISSF World Championship Rifle/Pistol/Shotgun – Doha, Qatar.
- There were 22 candidates who were running across the 20 member federations. 6 athletes were elected across rifle, pistol and shotgun. There were 2 representatives from each discipline.
- The ISSF Executive Committee will also nominate some more members.
- The ISSF Athletes Committee gives athletes a voice within the ISSF governing body. They can raise any issues they have as competitors and help with rules around competitions.



India re-elected to International Telecommunication Union Council

- India has been successfully re-elected to the Council of the International Telecommunication Union (ITU) for the 2027-2030 term during the ITU Plenipotentiary Conference in Doha, Qatar.

- The Council consists of 48 members who oversee the operation of the ITU between the biennial conferences. They also provide guidance and direction regarding policy, strategy and finances.
- ITU is a specialized agency of the United Nations focusing on information and communication technologies (ICT). They work with governments, companies and other stakeholders to improve global connectivity and coordinate telecommunications.
- The ITU was founded in 1865 making it the oldest specialized agency within the UN. They are based in Geneva, Switzerland and have 194 Member States with over 1000 members from the private sector, academia and other organizations.



REVIEW QUESTIONS

Q1. International Students Day is observed every year on which date?

A. 15 October
B. 17 November
C. 24 November
D. 10 December

Correct Answer: B. 17 November

Q2. Lala Lajpat Rai was popularly known by which title?

A. Lokmanya
B. Deshbandhu
C. Punjab Kesari
D. Frontier Gandhi

Correct Answer: C. Punjab Kesari

Q3. What is the title of Australian cricketer Usman Khawaja's autobiography?

A. Beyond the Boundary
B. Sabr: Finding My Way in Cricket and Life
C. The Longest Innings
D. Cricket and Courage

Correct Answer: B. Sabr: Finding My Way in Cricket and Life

Q4. Who is the author of the memoir 'Belonging: A Journey of Love'?

A. Priyanka Gandhi
B. Sonia Gandhi
C. Shashi Tharoor
D. Arundhati Roy

Correct Answer: B. Sonia Gandhi

Q5. The Anant Anadi Vadnagar Archaeological Experiential Museum received which international award in 2026?

A. UNESCO Heritage Award
B. Green World Award
C. Red Dot: Best of the Best Award
D. International Museum Award

Correct Answer: C. Red Dot: Best of the Best Award

Q6. Who was appointed Chairperson of the National Sports Board in November 2026?

A. Devesh Chaturvedi
B. Pushpendra Kumar Garg
C. Anurag Thakur
D. Abhinav Bindra

Correct Answer: A. Devesh Chaturvedi

Q7. How many IPL titles did MS Dhoni win as captain of Chennai Super Kings?

A. 3
B. 4
C. 5
D. 6

Correct Answer: C. 5

Q8. Indian shooter Manu Bhaker was elected to which international committee for the 2026–2030 term?

A. World Athletics Athletes Commission
B. ISSF Athletes Committee
C. International Olympic Committee
D. World Shooting Council

Correct Answer: B. ISSF Athletes Committee

Q9. India was re-elected to the Council of which organisation for the 2027–2030 term?

A. UNESCO
B. World Health Organization
C. International Telecommunication Union
D. International Civil Aviation Organization

Correct Answer: C. International Telecommunication Union

Q10. Where is the headquarters of the International Telecommunication Union (ITU) located?

A. Paris, France
B. Geneva, Switzerland
C. New York, USA
D. Vienna, Austria

Correct Answer: B. Geneva, Switzerland