

RADIUS EDUCATION

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TODAY NEWS HIGHLIGHT

- **Elena Rybakina became the 2026 US Open women's singles champion and also achieved the world number 1 crown.**
- **UNESCO International Literacy Prize 2026: Global emphasis on inclusive and multilingual education**
- **Gujarat's Ease of Doing Business Bill 2026: Regulatory reforms to boost businesses and the MSME sector**
- **HPV vaccination campaign in India achieves major milestone: 8 million doses administered, focus on cervical cancer prevention**
- **18th BRICS Summit: Cultural background of Ramanathaswamy Temple gives India's 'soft power' a global platform**
- **India-US Undersea Cable Cooperation: A Step Towards Digital Sovereignty, AI Infrastructure, and Secure Global Connectivity**
- **100% electrification of Southern Railway: 5,068 km broad gauge network electrified**
- **International Day of Democracy 2026: Emphasis on democratic institutions, public participation and protection of human rights**

1. Elena Rybakina Becomes 2026 US Open Women's Singles Champion; Also Claims World No. 1 Spot

Kazakhstan's Elena Rybakina won the 2026 US Open women's singles title by defeating Aryna Sabalenka 6-4, 5-7, 6-2 in the final. With this victory, Rybakina became the world number one in the WTA women's singles rankings, ending Sabalenka's 99-week reign. This marks Rybakina's third Grand Slam title; she had previously won Wimbledon and the Australian Open. By winning both the US Open and the Australian Open, she has further solidified her dominance in hard-court tennis.



2. UNESCO International Literacy Prizes 2026: Global Emphasis on Inclusive and Multilingual Education

UNESCO honored six programs from Colombia, Lebanon, Mexico, the Netherlands, Nigeria, and Thailand with the 2026 International Literacy Prizes. The awards comprise the King Sejong Literacy Prize, which focuses on mother-language-based education, and the Confucius Literacy Prize, which centers on innovation and digital literacy. Each winner received US\$30,000, a medal, and a certificate/diploma. According to UNESCO, over 739 million youth and adults worldwide lack basic literacy skills, with women accounting for approximately 63% of this group.



3. Gujarat Ease of Doing Business Bill, 2026: Regulatory reforms to boost business and the MSME sector

The Gujarat Legislative Assembly passed the Ease of Doing Business Bill, 2026, amending 12 provisions across five state acts. The Bill provides for 24x7 operations for eligible shops, a self-declaration system for new businesses, and a risk-based fire safety framework. Expanding the MSME facilitation mechanism, the Bill incorporates additional laws related to electricity, industrial estates, cooperative societies, and irrigation. A system for automatic appeals in cases of delays in public services will promote time-bound service delivery, accountability, and good governance.



4. Major Milestone in India's HPV Vaccination Drive: 80 Lakh Doses Administered; Focus on Cervical Cancer Prevention

More than 80 lakh (8 million) doses have been administered within six months of the launch of India's national HPV vaccination campaign, which aims to prevent cervical cancer. Under the program, a single dose of the vaccine is provided free of cost and on a voluntary basis to 14-year-old girls at government health centers, subject to parental consent. Gujarat, Uttar Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh, and Mizoram have achieved 100% vaccination coverage within the target group. Experts emphasize that alongside HPV vaccination, regular cervical cancer screening and awareness are also essential.



5. 18th BRICS Summit: India's 'Soft Power' Gains a Global Platform Through the Cultural Backdrop of the Ramanathaswamy Temple

India hosted the 18th BRICS Summit in New Delhi on September 12–13, 2026, featuring discussions on global governance, multilateralism, trade, technology, energy, and security. The use of the Ramanathaswamy Temple (Rameswaram) as a backdrop to welcome BRICS leaders showcased India's cultural diplomacy and soft power. Dedicated to Lord Shiva, the Ramanathaswamy Temple is one of the 12 Jyotirlingas and is renowned for its Dravidian architecture. For India, BRICS serves as a vital platform to strengthen the voice of the Global South, a multipolar world order, and strategic autonomy.



6. India-US Undersea Cable Cooperation: Steps Towards Digital Sovereignty, AI Infrastructure, and Secure Global Connectivity

India and the US have advanced technical cooperation to enhance the security, resilience, and diversity of global undersea cable networks. Subsea fiber-optic cables constitute critical digital infrastructure for the internet, cloud computing, digital payments, e-commerce, and AI. India's geographical location and rapidly growing digital economy position it to become a future global hub for submarine digital infrastructure. This collaboration is linked to the TRUST initiative and strengthens the strategic partnership between India and the US in AI, semiconductors, quantum technology, and other critical technological sectors.



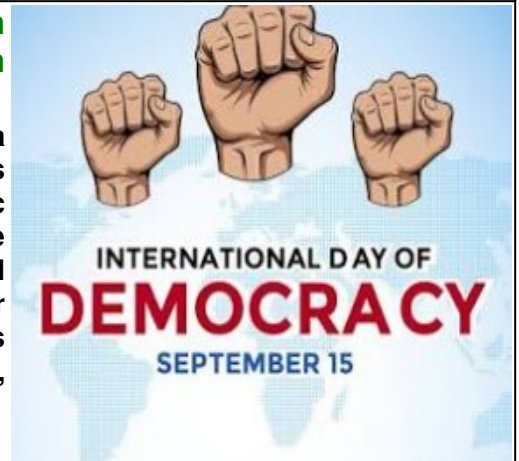
7. Southern Railway Achieves 100% Electrification: 5,068 km Broad Gauge Network Now Electric

Southern Railway has completed the electrification of its entire 5,068 km broad gauge network, making it 100% electrified. The electrification of the final 71 km Pattukottai–Karaikudi section was completed following a statutory inspection on September 9, 2026, utilizing 25 kV AC traction. Electrification will reduce the need to switch between diesel and electric engines and is expected to improve speed, operational efficiency, and energy utilization. This achievement marks a significant step towards reducing diesel dependency and emissions, promoting green transportation, and advancing India's Net-Zero 2070 goal.



8. International Day of Democracy 2026: Emphasis on Democratic Institutions, Public Participation, and the Protection of Human Rights

International Day of Democracy is observed annually on September 15, a date designated by the United Nations General Assembly in 2007. Its objective is to raise awareness about democratic values, public participation, equality, human rights, and accountable governance. The effective functioning of the legislature, executive, judiciary, electoral bodies, independent media, and civil society is essential for strengthening democracy. In India, democracy is founded on principles such as the Constitution, universal adult suffrage, fundamental rights, federalism, and free and fair elections.



1. Who won the 2026 US Open Women's Singles title?

A - Aryna Sabalenka

B - Elena Rybakina

C - Iga Świątek

D - Coco Gauff

Kazakhstan's Elena Rybakina won her third Grand Slam title by defeating Aryna Sabalenka 6-4, 5-7, 6-2 in the 2026 US Open Women's Singles final. With this victory, Rybakina became the WTA World No. 1, ending Sabalenka's 99-week reign; she further solidified her standing on hard courts.



2. How many programs were honored at the UNESCO International Literacy Prizes 2026?

A - Four

B - Five

C - Six

D - Eight

UNESCO honored six programs from six countries with the 2026 International Literacy Prizes; the King Sejong Prize focuses on mother-language-based education, while the Confucius Prize focuses on innovation and digital literacy. Each winner received US\$30,000, a medal, and a certificate/diploma; globally, over 739 million youth and adults lack basic literacy skills, with women accounting for approximately 63% of this group.



3. How many state acts were amended under the Gujarat Ease of Doing Business Bill, 2026?

A - 3

B - 5

C - 7

D - 9

The Gujarat Legislative Assembly passed the Ease of Doing Business Bill, 2026, amending 12 provisions across 5 state acts to promote 24x7 business operations, self-declaration, and risk-based fire safety. The Bill includes provisions for expanding the MSME facilitation mechanism and enabling automatic appeals regarding delays in public services, which is expected to reduce the regulatory burden and foster good governance.



4. How many doses were administered within six months under India's HPV vaccination campaign?

A - 50 lakh

B - 60 lakh

C - 80 lakh

D - 1 crore

More than 80 lakh doses have been administered within six months of India's national HPV vaccination campaign, which aims to prevent cervical cancer. Under the program, the vaccine is being provided free of cost to 14-year-old girls, with Gujarat, Uttar Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh, and Mizoram achieving 100% target coverage.



5. Which temple's backdrop was used to welcome the BRICS leaders?

- A - Somnath Temple B - Ramanathaswamy Temple
C - Kedarnath Temple D - Mahakaleshwar Temple

India hosted the 18th BRICS Summit in New Delhi on September 12–13, 2026, discussing global governance, multilateralism, trade, technology, energy, and security. The use of the Ramanathaswamy Temple as a backdrop for welcoming BRICS leaders reflects India's cultural diplomacy and soft power; furthermore, BRICS serves as a crucial platform for India regarding the Global South and a multipolar world order.



6. What is the India-US undersea cable cooperation primarily related to?

- A - Agricultural development B - Digital infrastructure
C - Tourism D - Defense production

India and the US have advanced technical cooperation to enhance the security, resilience, and diversity of global undersea cable networks, thereby strengthening digital connectivity and data security. India's geographical location positions it to become a global hub for submarine digital infrastructure; this cooperation also fosters strategic partnerships in AI, semiconductors, and quantum technology under the TRUST initiative.



7. Southern Railway completed the 100% electrification of a broad-gauge network spanning how many kilometers?

- A - 4,568 km B - 5,068 km
C - 5,680 km D - 6,068 km

Southern Railway has completed the 100% electrification of its entire 5,068 km broad-gauge network, including the final 71 km stretch of the Pattukottai–Karaikudi section. 25 kV AC traction will help reduce diesel dependency and emissions, enhance operational efficiency, and advance India's Net-Zero 2070 goal.



8. What is the primary objective of the International Day of Democracy?

- A - To boost economic growth B - To raise awareness about democratic values and human rights
C - To enhance military cooperation D - To strengthen trade relations

The International Day of Democracy is observed annually on September 15; it was proclaimed by the United Nations General Assembly in 2007. Its objective is to promote democratic values, public participation, and human rights. In India, democracy is based on principles such as the Constitution, universal adult suffrage, fundamental rights, federalism, and free and fair elections.



One Liner

1. How many programs were honored at the 2026 UNESCO International Literacy Prizes? - **Six**
2. On which date is the International Day of Democracy observed every year? - **September 15**
3. Who won the 2026 US Open women's singles title? - **Elena Rybakina**
4. Which country hosted the 18th BRICS Summit in 2026? - **India**
5. What is the primary objective of the India-US undersea cable cooperation? - **Security and strengthening of digital connectivity**
6. Girls of what age are provided free vaccines under India's HPV vaccination campaign? - **14 years**
7. How many state acts were amended under the Gujarat Ease of Doing Business Bill 2026? - **5 acts**
8. Which player did Elena Rybakina defeat in the 2026 US Open final? - **Aryna Sabalenka**
9. Southern Railway completed 100% electrification of a broad-gauge network spanning how many kilometers? - **5,068 km**
10. What type of literacy does the UNESCO King Sejong Literacy Prize primarily promote? - **Mother-tongue-based literacy**