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DISTANCE BETWEEN DREAM AND REALITY

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TODAY NEWS HIGHLIGHT

- Glenn Maxwell retires from international cricket: Won 3 ICC World Cup titles in 14-year career
- Dhinidhi Desinghu wins bronze medal at Dakar Youth Olympics 2026: Becomes first Indian swimmer to win a medal at Youth Olympics
- Prema Rawat sets world record in women's T20 cricket: hits fastest half-century in just 14 balls
- Gopal Vittal re-elected as GSMA Chairperson: Will lead global telecommunications and AI development during 2027-28 term
- UN SDG Action Award 2026 for 'Mothers of Courage', a documentary on the education of girls in Bihar: Global recognition for efforts to prevent child marriage and empower women
- EPFO launches PF services on WhatsApp: Inoperative accounts with balance up to ₹1,000 to be automatically settled
- The tenure of the Examination Reforms Task Force headed by Nandan Nilekani has been extended till January 2027: Initiatives to make national examinations, including NEET, paper leak-free
- World Tsunami Awareness Day 2026: To be observed on November 5, theme is 'Be Tsunami Ready: Resilience Starts With You'

1. Glenn Maxwell Retires from International Cricket: Won 3 ICC World Cup Titles in a 14-Year Career



Australian star all-rounder Glenn Maxwell announced his retirement from international cricket on November 2, 2026, concluding a 14-year career. Across 7 Tests, 149 ODIs, and 130 T20 Internationals, he scored a total of 7,226 runs and claimed 136 wickets. He was a member of the Australian squads that won the 2015 and 2023 ODI World Cups, as well as the 2021 T20 World Cup. Notable highlights of his career include an unbeaten 201 off 128 balls against Afghanistan and a century off 40 balls against the Netherlands—both during the 2023 ODI World Cup. He will, however, continue to play in franchise cricket.

2. Dhinidhi Desinghu Wins Bronze at Dakar Youth Olympics 2026: Becomes the First Indian Swimmer to Win a Medal at the Youth Olympics



Indian swimmer Dhinidhi Desinghu won a bronze medal in the women's 100m freestyle event at the Dakar 2026 Youth Olympic Games, clocking a time of 56.27 seconds. This marks India's first medal at the event, and Dhinidhi has become the first Indian swimmer to secure a medal at the Youth Olympics. With this performance, she also set a new national record. Previously, at the age of 14, she represented India at the Paris 2024 Olympic Games.

3. Prema Rawat Sets World Record in Women's T20 Cricket: Scores Fastest Half-Century in Just 14 Balls



On November 2, 2026, Uttarakhand cricketer Prema Rawat set a record for the fastest half-century in women's T20 cricket by scoring an unbeaten 50 runs off just 14 balls against Hyderabad in the Senior Women's T20 Trophy. She hit 3 fours and 6 sixes, recording a strike rate of 357.14. Thanks to her stellar performance, Uttarakhand defeated Hyderabad by 89 runs. Prema also took 2 wickets for 12 runs and was named Player of the Match.

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4. Gopal Vittal Re-elected as GSMA Chairperson: To Lead Global Telecommunications and AI Development for the 2027-28 Term



Gopal Vittal, Executive Vice-Chairman of Bharti Airtel, was re-elected as the Chairperson of the GSMA on November 2, 2026, for the 2027-28 term. Margherita Della Valle, CEO of Vodafone, and Ralph Mupita, CEO of the MTN Group, were appointed as Deputy Chairpersons. Headquartered in London (UK), the GSMA represents the global mobile communications industry. The organization's key priorities include 5G, artificial intelligence (AI), telecommunications security, and digital connectivity.

5. UN SDG Action Award 2026 to 'Mothers of Courage', a documentary based on the education of girls from Bihar: Global recognition for efforts to stop child marriage and women empowerment



'Mothers of Courage', a documentary film based on girls' education and prevention of child marriage in Bihar, was honored in the creativity category of the UN SDG Action Award 2026. The film is directed by Vandana R. Directed by Jayakumar and produced by Butterfly Effect Media. The film showcases the women-led Shikshagraha movement, which has seen over 51,078 Shiksha Chaupals organized and attended by over 11.9 lakh people since October 2024.

6. EPFO Launches PF Services on WhatsApp: Automatic Settlement of Inactive Accounts with Balances up to ₹1,000



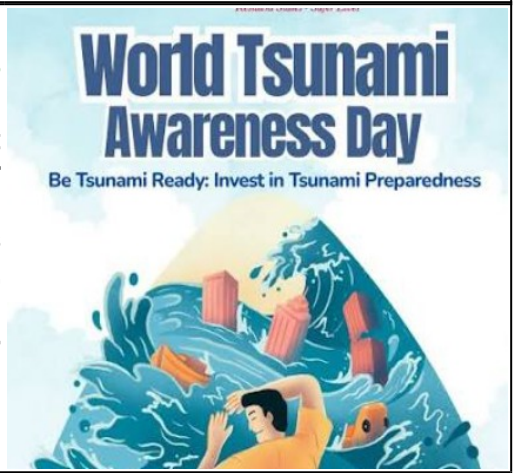
On November 1, 2026, marking its 74th Foundation Day, the Employees' Provident Fund Organization (EPFO) introduced WhatsApp-based services, launched by Union Minister Dr. Mansukh Mandaviya. Through this platform, members can access their PF balance, passbook, and details of their last five transactions, as well as receive assistance related to the PMVBRY (Pradhan Mantri Viksit Bharat Rozgar Yojana). The EPFO has also initiated a facility for the automatic settlement of eligible inactive accounts with balances of up to ₹1,000—a move expected to benefit approximately 1 lakh accounts.

7. Tenure of the Examination Reform Task Force, chaired by Nandan Nilekani, extended until January 2027: An initiative to make national examinations—including NEET—free from paper leaks.



The Central Government has extended the tenure of the six-member Examination Reform Task Force, chaired by Nandan Nilekani, until January 2027. Formed following incidents of paper leaks and irregularities in various examinations—including NEET—in July 2026, the committee has received over 50,000 suggestions. Its objective is to ensure transparency, fairness, the security of question papers, and accountability within the examination system.

8. World Tsunami Awareness Day 2026: To be observed on November 5; theme is 'Be Tsunami Ready: Resilience Starts With You'



World Tsunami Awareness Day is observed annually on November 5. It was established by the United Nations General Assembly in December 2015 and first commemorated in 2016. The theme for 2026 is 'Be Tsunami Ready: Resilience Starts With You.' The day aims to promote awareness about tsunamis, enhance disaster preparedness in coastal communities, and support the implementation of early warning systems. In India, the Indian Tsunami Early Warning Centre (ITEWC)—part of the Hyderabad-based INCOIS—monitors marine activity and issues tsunami warnings.

1. When did Glenn Maxwell announce his retirement from international cricket?

A - 1 November 2026 B - 2 November 2026

C - 3 November 2026 D - 4 November 2026



Australian all-rounder Glenn Maxwell announced his retirement from international cricket on 2 November 2026, following a 14-year career. He accumulated 7,226 runs and 136 wickets, and was a member of the winning squads for the 2015 and 2023 ODI World Cups, as well as the 2021 T20 World Cup; he will continue to play franchise cricket.

2. In which event did Dhinidhi Desinghu win a bronze medal at the Dakar 2026 Youth Olympics?

A - 50m freestyle B - 100m freestyle

C - 200m butterfly D - 100m backstroke



Indian swimmer Dhinidhi Desinghu won a bronze medal in the women's 100m freestyle event at the Dakar 2026 Youth Olympics, clocking a time of 56.27 seconds and securing India's first medal. She became the first Indian swimmer to win a medal at the Youth Olympics, and her performance also set a new national record.

3. Who holds the record for the fastest half-century in women's T20 cricket?

A - Smriti Mandhana B - Prema Rawat

C - Harmanpreet Kaur D - Shafali Verma



On November 2, 2026, Uttarakhand cricketer Prema Rawat scored the fastest half-century in women's T20 cricket, remaining unbeaten on 50 runs off just 14 balls against Hyderabad in the Senior Women's T20 Trophy. She hit 3 fours and 6 sixes, and also took 2 wickets, earning her the 'Player of the Match' award as Uttarakhand secured an 89-run victory.

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4. Who was re-elected as the Chairperson of the GSMA for the 2027-28 term?

A - Sunil Bharti Mittal B - Ralph Mupita

C - Mukesh Ambani D - Gopal Vittal



On November 2, 2026, Gopal Vittal, Executive Vice-Chairman of Bharti Airtel, was re-elected as the Chairperson of the GSMA for the 2027-28 term. Margherita Della Valle, CEO of Vodafone, and Ralph Mupita, CEO of MTN Group, were appointed as Deputy Chairpersons. The GSMA is headquartered in London.

5. Which award was conferred upon the documentary film 'Mothers of Courage'?



A - Ramon Magsaysay Award
B - Gandhi Peace Prize
C - UN SDG Action Award 2026
D - UNESCO Peace Prize

The documentary film 'Mothers of Courage'—which focuses on girls' education and the prevention of child marriage in Bihar—was honored in the 'Creativity' category of the UN SDG Action Award 2026. Directed by Vandana R. Jayakumar, the film highlights the 'Shikshagraha' (Education-pledge) movement, under which more than 51,078 'Shiksha Chaupals' (educational community gatherings) were organized starting in October 2024, with over 1.19 million (11.9 lakh) people participating.

6. On which of its foundation days did the EPFO launch WhatsApp-based services?



A - 72nd
B - 73rd
C - 74th
D - 75th

On November 1, 2026—its 74th foundation day—the Employees' Provident Fund Organisation (EPFO) launched WhatsApp-based services, introduced by Union Minister Dr. Mansukh Mandaviya. Through this, members can access information regarding their PF balance, passbook, and the last 5 transactions. Additionally, a facility for the automatic settlement of eligible inoperative accounts (with balances up to ₹1,000) has been introduced, which is expected to benefit approximately 100,000 (1 lakh) accounts.

7. Who has been appointed as the chairperson of the Examination Reform Task Force?



A - K. Radhakrishnan
B - Nandan Nilekani
C - S. Somanath
D - V. Kamakoti

The central government has extended the tenure of the six-member Examination Reform Task Force, chaired by Nandan Nilekani, until January 2027. The task force has received over 50,000 suggestions. The committee aims to ensure transparency, fairness, and the security of question papers within the examination system. Furthermore, it has been announced that a Computer-Based Test (CBT) format will be implemented starting with NEET 2027.

8. Which organization announced World Tsunami Awareness Day?



A - World Health Organization
B - United Nations General Assembly
C - UNESCO
D - World Meteorological Organization

World Tsunami Awareness Day is observed annually on November 5th. It was established by the United Nations General Assembly in December 2015 and was first observed in 2016. The theme for 2026 is "Be Tsunami Ready: Resilience Starts With You." In India, the ITEWC (Indian Tsunami Early Warning Centre), based at INCOIS in Hyderabad, is responsible for monitoring tsunamis and issuing warnings.

One Liner

1. In which year did Glenn Maxwell announce his retirement from international cricket? - November 2, 2026

2. What is the maximum balance limit for accounts included in the EPFO's auto-settlement facility for inoperative accounts? - Up to ₹1,000

3. Who became the first Indian swimmer to win a medal at the Youth Olympic Games? - Dhinidhi Desinghu

4. Who is the chairperson of the high-level task force constituted for examination reforms? - Nandan Nilekani

5. Who was re-elected as the Chairperson of the GSMA for 2027–2028? - Gopal Vittal

6. In which category was the documentary 'Mothers of Courage' honored at the UN SDG Action Awards 2026? - Creativity category

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7. On which date is World Tsunami Awareness Day observed annually? - November 5

8. Who set the record for scoring a half-century in 14 balls in women's T20 cricket? - Prema Rawat

9. On which foundation day did the EPFO launch its WhatsApp service? - On its 74th foundation day (November 1, 2026)

10. From the year 2027, in which format has it been announced that the NEET will be conducted? - Computer-Based Test (CBT)