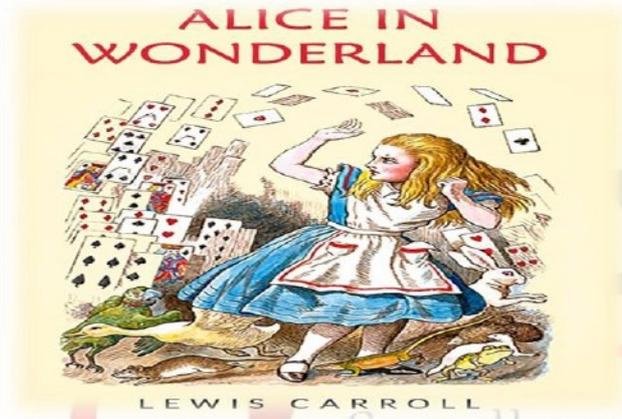


Today in History on 26 NOV

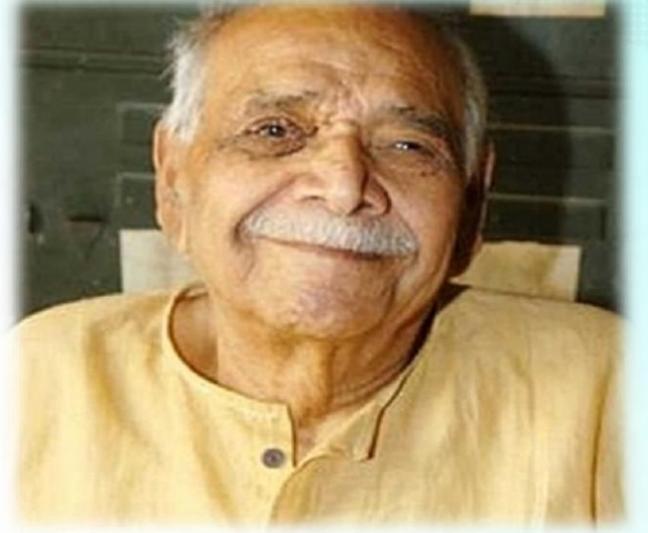
- 1865 - Lewis Carroll's book 'Alice in Wonderland' was published in America.

Alice's Adventures in Wonderland, a hugely popular British children's book by Lewis Carroll, was published in 1865. With its fantastical stories and riddles, it became one of the most popular works of English-language fiction. It was notably illustrated by British artist



- 1919 - Famous Indian historian and educationist Ram Sharan Sharma was born.

Ram Sharan Sharma (born 26 November 1919) is an Indian leftist historian. He has taught at the University of Delhi (1973–85) and the University of Toronto and has also been a Senior Fellow at the School of Oriental and African Studies, University of London, a National Fellow of the University Grants Commission (1958–81) and President of the Indian History Congress in 1975.



- 1984 - Iraq and the United States reestablish diplomatic relations.

The United States resumed diplomatic relations with Iraq and granted embassy status to the U.S. Interests Section in Baghdad on November 26, 1984, when President Ronald Reagan and Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Tariq Aziz signed an agreement to that effect. In 1984, when the United States inaugurated "Operation Stench" to prevent arms shipments to Iran by third countries, no similar sanctions were attempted against Iraq because Iraq expressed a willingness to negotiate an end to the war.



➤ 1992 - World Environment Day begins.

World Environment Day (WED) is celebrated every year on June 5 and encourages awareness and action to protect the environment. It is supported by many non-governmental organizations, businesses, government entities, and is the primary United Nations outreach day supporting the environment. First held in 1974, it has been a platform to raise awareness on environmental issues such as marine pollution, overpopulation, global warming, sustainable development, and wildlife crime.



➤ 2012 - Arvind Kejriwal formed a new political party called the Aam Aadmi Party.

Aam Aadmi Party (AAP), political party in India formed by Arvind Kejriwal in November 2012 in the wake of the 2011 anti-corruption movement in India. The Aam Aadmi Party (AAP; "Party of the Common Man") is headquartered in New Delhi. It has served as the ruling party in the National Capital Territory of Delhi (2013 and 2015-) as well as the Indian state of Punjab (2022-), and has won seats in the legislative assemblies in the states of Gujarat and Goa. The party symbol of the AAP is a broom.



Important NEWS on 26 NOV

➤ Govt Should Include Coking Coal in Critical Minerals List: NITI Aayog

The NITI Aayog has recommended adding coking coal to India's critical minerals list, emphasizing its importance in steel production and infrastructure development. This aligns with global trends, such as the European Union's declaration of coking coal as a critical raw material. India's heavy reliance on imports (85% of its coking coal) underscores the need to enhance domestic production.



➤ Gwalior Unveils India's First Self-Sufficient Gaushala with a State-of-the-Art CBG Plant

In a groundbreaking initiative, Prime Minister Narendra Modi inaugurated India's first modern, self-sufficient gaushala in Laltipara, Gwalior, Madhya Pradesh. The gaushala, named Adarsh Gaushala, houses a state-of-the-art Compressed Bio-Gas (CBG) plant, marking a major milestone in India's journey toward achieving sustainable development and promoting green energy solutions. This project reflects Modi's vision of turning "Waste to Wealth", highlighting how organic waste can be transformed into valuable resources.



➤ UK and India to Relaunch FTA Talks in Early 2025

UK Prime Minister Keir Starmer announced the resumption of Free Trade Agreement negotiations with India, set to restart in early 2025. This decision follows a meeting with Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi, where both leaders emphasized strengthening their strategic partnership, which covers key sectors such as security, defense, technology, climate, health, and education.



➤ Bali Celebrates Hindu Festival of Gratitude

Bali is home to a rich cultural heritage that blends Hindu philosophy, local animist traditions, and Buddhist influences. One of the most important cultural events in Bali is the Ngusaba Goreng, a two-week-long Thanksgiving festival celebrating a rich harvest. Central to the festival are sacred dances like Rejang Dewa and Rejang Pucuk, which are performed by girls who have not yet reached puberty.



➤ Sea Vigil 24 Culminates A Step Towards Coastal Resilience

The fourth edition of the Pan-India Coastal Defence Exercise, Sea Vigil 24, concluded successfully on November 2024, showcasing India's steadfast commitment to enhancing its maritime security and coastal defense. Conducted over a 36-hour tactical phase, the exercise covered India's 11,098 km

coastline and 2.4 million sq km Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ). It involved over 21 agencies across six ministries, strengthening the country's readiness to counter evolving maritime threats.



▶ Zomato to Replace JSW Steel on BSE Sensex from December 23

The Asia Index Private Ltd, a subsidiary of the Bombay Stock Exchange (BSE), announced the latest reconstitution of the benchmark BSE Sensex index. As part of this rejig, Zomato, the online food delivery giant, will replace JSW Steel in the 30-stock index. This reshuffling will take effect from December 23, 2024 and includes changes in other indices such as the BSE 100, BSE Sensex 50, and BSE Sensex Next 50.



▶ RBI Doubles UPI 123Pay Limit to ₹10,000 for Feature Phones

The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has raised the transaction limit for UPI 123Pay from ₹5,000 to ₹10,000, enhancing its utility for India's 400 million feature phone users. Launched in March 2022, UPI 123Pay enables digital transactions without internet access through IVR, missed calls, and sound-based payments. Alongside, the UPI Lite wallet limit has been increased from ₹2,000 to ₹5,000 to facilitate small-value transactions.



Current affairs MCQS on 26 NOV

Q.1. When is the Constitution Day of India celebrated?

- a. 23 November
- b. 24 November
- c. 25 November
- d. 26 November

Answer: d. 26 November

Constitution Day also known as 'Samvidhan Diwas' is celebrated in our country every year on 26th November to commemorate the adoption of the Constitution of India. On 26th November 1949, the Constituent Assembly of India adopted the Constitution of India which came into force from 26th January 1950. The Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment on 19th November 2015 notified the decision of the Government of India to celebrate 26th November every year as 'Samvidhan Diwas' to promote constitutional values among the citizens.

Q.2. Who has recently been appointed as the Festival Ambassador of Arunachal Theatre Festival?

- a. Ranveer Singh
- b. Akshay Kumar
- c. Pankaj Tripathi
- d. Ajay Devgan

Answer: c. Pankaj Tripathi

Actor Pankaj Tripathi, known for his impressive acting skills and deep connection with the art of acting, has been appointed as the Festival Ambassador for the Arunachal Rang Mahotsav 2024 (ARM '24). The prestigious international theatre festival, the largest of its kind in Northeast India, will run till 5 December 2024, celebrating the rich cultural heritage and creative talent of Arunachal Pradesh. Pankaj will attend the festival along with his wife Mridula.

Q.3. Recently Omcheri N N Pillai has passed away, who was he?

- a. Singer
- b. Writer
- c. Journalist
- d. Scientist

Answer: b. Writer

Playwright, poet and author Omcheri N N Pillai passed away in Delhi. He was 100. A constant presence in Delhi's Malayalam literary and cultural sphere for decades, his plays highlighted the suffering of the marginalised. One of his early plays, Ee Velicham Ningalkulathkunnu, was written at the request of communist leader A.K. Gopalan, who was then the leader of the opposition in the Lok Sabha, to raise funds for coir workers. The cast of the play included then Kerala MP P.T.Punnoose, E.K. Imbichi Bava and others.

Q.4. Recently which public broadcaster has launched the OTT platform 'Waves'?

- a. Prasar Bharati
- b. All India Radio
- c. Doordarshan
- d. None of these

Answer : a. Prasar Bharati

Prasar Bharati has launched a new OTT app called 'Waves' to cater to India's growing streaming demand. The app offers live TV, on-demand content (movies, shows, ebooks), live events (religious events, cricket), games for all age groups and e-commerce options through the ONDC network. It has around 65 live channels including private broadcasters. Waves aims to provide Indian viewers with a comprehensive digital experience for various entertainment and shopping needs.

Q.5. Who has recently won the 'Billie Jean King Cup' title for the fifth time?

- a. Spain
- b. Italy
- c. Slovakia
- d. France

Answer: b. Italy

Thanks to the brilliant performance of Jasmine Paulini, the Italian women's tennis team won the Billie Jean King Cup for the fifth time. This global women's tennis tournament was earlier known as the Fed Cup. But since September 2020, this tournament is being held in the name of legendary American player Billie Jean King. In the final of the tournament, Italy defeated Slovakia 2-0 in a one-sided manner. Italy has captured this trophy after a decade-long wait.

Q.6. Who has recently declared 'food borne diseases' as a national disaster?

- a. Germany
- b. Australia
- c. South Africa
- d. Canada

Answer: c. South Africa

South Africa has declared foodborne illnesses a national disaster following a recent surge in food poisoning cases that have left dozens of children dead and hundreds hospitalised. Justice and Constitutional Development Minister Thembi Simelane made the announcement at a press

conference held in the country's administrative capital, Pretoria, according to reports. The announcement came after nearly 900 cases of foodborne illnesses were reported across all provinces in the country since September, with Gauteng and KwaZulu-Natal provinces being the worst affected. At least 22 children have died, necessitating urgent measures.

Q. 7. Recently, RBI has increased the transaction limit for 'UPI 123 Pay' from Rs 5000 to how much?

- a. 8000
- b. 10000
- c. 12000
- d. 9000

Answer: b. 10000

The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has increased the transaction limit for UPI 123Pay from Rs 5,000 to Rs 10,000. Following this, the National Payments Corporation of India (NPCI) issued a circular directing banks and service providers to ensure compliance with the updated limit.

Q.8. Who has recently launched the 'Jobs at Your Doorstep' report?

- a. Narendra Modi
- b. Piyush Goyal
- c. Dharmendra Pradhan
- d. Amit Shah

Answer: c. Dharmendra Pradhan

Union Education Minister Dharmendra Pradhan and Sports Minister Dr. Mansukh Mandaviya released the World Bank's 'Jobs at Your Doorstep' report. Addressing the event, Union Minister Dharmendra Pradhan praised the World Bank team for the detailed report on six states. He also suggested the World Bank team to adopt a pan-India framework. He said that such in-depth investigation on skills and jobs will enable stakeholders to create new architecture and formulate progressive policies to empower our population. He highlighted the need to broaden the definition of jobs and employment. He said that the framework should be broadened and

should be seen from the perspective of economic opportunities and empowerment.

Q.9. Recently, where was India's modern self-reliant cowshed inaugurated along with the state-of-the-art 'compressed biogas plant'?

- a. Jaipur
- b. Gwalior
- c. Sonipat
- d. Indore

Answer: b. Gwalior

Prime Minister Narendra Modi inaugurated India's first modern and self-sustaining cowshed, Adarsh Gaushala, at Laltipara, Gwalior, Madhya Pradesh. The cowshed has a state-of-the-art Compressed Bio-Gas (CBG) plant, which is a significant milestone in India's journey towards sustainable development and green energy solutions. The project reflects Prime Minister Modi's vision of "Kachre se Kanchan" (Wealth from Waste), with the potential to convert organic waste into valuable resources.

Q.10. Recently, where did Prime Minister Modi receive the 'World Peace Award'?

- a. France
- b. Japan
- c. America
- d. China

Answer: c. America

Prime Minister Modi has been awarded the 'Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. World Peace Award' by Washington Adventist University and an organization America India Minority Association (AIAM). He has been given this award for his efforts to promote peace in society and protect the interests of minorities.

Q.11. Recently where '100 engineering colleges will be adopted by corporates' was announced?

- a. Kerala
- b. Karnataka
- c. Odisha
- d. Telangana

Answer: b. Karnataka

Karnataka Information Technology Minister Priyank Kharge said 100 engineering colleges will be "adopted" by an equal number of corporates by next year as the government seeks to involve industries to enhance employability prospects of students. Giving an example, he cited a leading automobile company which said it was ready to offer jobs but students were not employable due to lack of training.

Q.12. Recently 'Undulaye Maiga' has been appointed as the Prime Minister of which country?

- a. Mali
- b. Sudan
- c. Morocco
- d. Jordan

Answer: a. Mali

Another major change in the political landscape in Mali took place when the ruling military government (junta) sacked Prime Minister Choguel Maiga and appointed Abdoulaye Maiga in his place. The announcement was made on state television ORTM. The move comes at a time when the military government is facing criticism for not fulfilling its promise to restore democracy and increasing tensions in the country's political environment.

Q.13. Recently where was the national educational conference 'Gyan Kumbh' organized?

- a. Chandigarh
- b. Puducherry
- c. Bengaluru
- d. Chennai

Answer: b. Puducherry

Puducherry Lieutenant Governor Shri K. Kailashnathan called upon students to actively participate in the 'Create in India Challenge' launched by the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting as part of the upcoming World Audio Visual and Entertainment Summit (WAVES). Speaking at the inauguration of the 'Gyan Kumbh' national academic conference, the Lieutenant

Governor emphasized the importance of innovation and creativity in shaping the future of the country.

Q.14. Recently who has acquired the media rights for the ACC tournament?

- a. Zee
- b. Colors
- c. Sony India
- d. Star Sports

Answer: c. Sony India

BCCI and ACC chief and ICC President-elect Jay Shah announced a historic partnership between the Asian Cricket Council (ACC) and Sony Sports Networks that will run from 2024 to 2031. Under the agreement, all ACC tournaments will be broadcast exclusively on Sony Sports Networks. The deal is a significant step towards increasing the popularity and reach of cricket in the region.

Q.15. Recently India and which country have signed an agreement for cross border transactions in local currency?

- a. Nepal
- b. Maldives
- c. Sri Lanka
- d. Indonesia

Answer: b. Maldives

India and Maldives have signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) to settle their cross-border transactions in local currency. Normally these transactions were settled in US dollars, but now they will be settled in Indian Rupee and Maldivian Rufiyaa. A Memorandum of Understanding was signed between the central banks of the two countries - Reserve Bank of India and Maldives Monetary Authority in Mumbai to settle cross-border transactions in local currency. The MoU was signed by RBI Governor Shaktikanta Das and Maldives Monetary Authority Governor Ahmed Munavvar.