

Daily Current Affairs 09 March 2025



 **Solve** 

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Daily Current Affairs: 09 March 2026

Q1. India's first riverine lighthouse project, whose foundation stone was laid in March 2026, will be developed along which river?

- (a) Ganga
- (b) Brahmaputra
- (c) Godavari
- (d) Narmada

Ans.(b)

Sol. Answer: (b)

Solution

- On 5 March 2026, Sarbananda Sonowal laid the foundation stone for India's first riverine lighthouse project in Guwahati, Assam.
- The project will be developed along the Brahmaputra River on National Waterway-2 (NW-2).
- Four riverine lighthouses will be constructed at Bogibeel, Pandu, Silghat, and Biswanath Ghat.
- The total project cost is about ₹84 crore.

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- Each lighthouse will be 20 metres high with a geographical range of 14 nautical miles.
- Luminous range will be 8–10 nautical miles.
- The lighthouses will be solar-powered.

Additional Knowledge

- Implemented by Directorate General of Lighthouses and Lightships (DGLL) and Inland Waterways Authority of India (IWAI).
- Sites will include museums, amphitheatres, cafeterias, and public spaces to promote river tourism.

Q2. NITI Aayog signed a Statement of Intent (SoI) with which organisation in March 2026 to strengthen nutrition and health outcomes in Aspirational Districts and Blocks?

- (a) World Health Organization (WHO)
- (b) UNICEF
- (c) World Bank
- (d) UNDP

Ans.(b)

Sol. Answer: (b)

Solution

- In March 2026, NITI Aayog signed a Statement of Intent with UNICEF India.
- The agreement aims to improve maternal and child nutrition in Aspirational Districts and Blocks.
- It focuses on strengthening health and nutrition interventions in underserved areas.
- The partnership supports capacity building and multi-stakeholder collaboration.

Information Booster

- Focus areas include strengthening Anganwadi infrastructure and improving nutrition literacy.
- Promotes greater use of Integrated Child Development Services (ICDS).
- Enhances capacity-building of frontline health and nutrition workers.

Additional Knowledge

- UNICEF will support the initiative through the IMPAct4Nutrition (I4N) platform.
- Encourages Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) investment in nutrition programmes.

Q3. The upgraded Version 2.0 of the Indian Culture Portal (ICP), launched in March 2026, includes an AI-powered chatbot named:

- (a) Saraswati
- (b) Sanskriti
- (c) Bharat
- (d) Bharti

Ans.(d)

Sol. Answer: (d)

Solution

- In March 2026, the Ministry of Culture launched Version 2.0 of the Indian Culture Portal (ICP) in New Delhi.
- The upgraded portal includes an AI-powered chatbot named “Bharti.”
- The chatbot is integrated with the Bhashini platform to provide responses in 22 Indian languages.
- The portal provides digital access to India’s cultural heritage for scholars, researchers, and the public.

Information Booster

- The Indian Culture Portal was originally launched in December 2019.
- Version 2.0 uses a React-based frontend and Drupal backend for better performance.
- It functions as a Progressive Web App (PWA) for seamless access across devices.

Additional Knowledge

- Offers 3D walkthroughs and 360° virtual tours of heritage monuments.
- Includes 46 curated cultural categories such as Iconic Battles of India, Folktales of India, and Classical Dances of India.

Q4. Mobile World Congress (MWC) 2026, the world’s largest mobile and technology event, was held in which city?

- (a) Paris
- (b) Barcelona
- (c) Berlin
- (d) Madrid

Ans.(b)

Sol. Answer: (b)

Solution

- Mobile World Congress (MWC) 2026 was held from 2–5 March 2026 at Fira Barcelona Gran Via in Barcelona.
- MWC is the world’s largest global event for the mobile and telecommunications industry.
- The event was organised by the GSMA.
- The 2026 theme was “*The IQ Era*,” focusing on the integration of Artificial Intelligence (AI) with advanced connectivity.

Information Booster

- India's participation was led by Jyotiraditya Scindia.
- Indian telecom innovators participated under the coordination of Telecom Equipment and Services Export Promotion Council (TEPC).
- Supported by the Department of Telecommunications (DoT), Ministry of Communications.

Additional Knowledge

- Bengaluru-based Tejas Networks launched the TJ1600-D3 Hyper-scalable Data Center Interconnect platform at MWC 2026.
- MWC serves as a major platform for global telecom innovation and policy discussions.

Q5. According to the Hurun Global Rich List 2026, India ranked which position globally in terms of number of billionaires?

- (a) First
- (b) Second
- (c) Third
- (d) Fourth

Ans.(c)

Sol. Answer: (c)

Solution

- In March 2026, the Hurun Research Institute released the Hurun Global Rich List 2026.
- India ranked third globally with 308 billionaires, after the United States and China.
- Mukesh Ambani remained the richest person in India and Asia with a net worth of ₹9.8 lakh crore.
- The list ranked billionaires based on wealth calculated as of 15 January 2026.

Information Booster

- The list includes 4,020 billionaires from 73 countries and 2,914 companies.
- It is the first time the global billionaire count crossed 4,000.
- India added 57 new billionaires in the 2026 list.

Additional Knowledge

- Elon Musk remained the world's richest person with USD 792 billion.
- Followed by Jeff Bezos and Larry Page.
- Roshni Nadar Malhotra is the richest woman in India.
- Alice Walton is the richest woman globally.

Q6. According to the World Health Organization (WHO), which country became the first in the Americas to eliminate leprosy as a public health problem in March 2026?

- (a) Brazil
- (b) Chile
- (c) Argentina
- (d) Peru

Ans.(b)

Sol. Answer: (b)

Solution

- In March 2026, the World Health Organization verified that Chile has eliminated leprosy as a public health problem.
- This verification was done in collaboration with the Pan American Health Organization (PAHO).
- Chile became the first country in the Americas and the second country globally after Jordan to achieve this milestone.
- According to WHO, leprosy elimination is defined as a prevalence rate below 1 case per 10,000 population.

Information Booster

- Chile became the 61st country globally to eliminate at least one Neglected Tropical Disease (NTD).
- It is also the 6th country in the Americas to achieve elimination of an NTD.
- The achievement supports PAHO's Disease Elimination Initiative targeting over 30 communicable diseases by 2030.

Additional Knowledge

- WHO's Global Leprosy Strategy 2021–2030 aims to interrupt disease transmission.
- Transmission elimination requires zero locally acquired cases for 3 consecutive years and no cases among children for 5 years.

Q7. Who was appointed as the brand ambassador of SBI General Insurance for the campaign 'Chuniye Bharosa, Apno Sa' launched in March 2026?

- (a) Manoj Bajpayee
- (b) Ayushmann Khurrana
- (c) Nawazuddin Siddiqui
- (d) Pankaj Tripathi

Ans.(d)

Sol. Answer: (d)

Solution

- In March 2026, SBI General Insurance launched the campaign 'Chuniye Bharosa, Apno Sa'.
- The campaign positions the company as a trusted provider of health insurance and financial protection.
- Actor Pankaj Tripathi was appointed as the brand ambassador for this campaign.
- A promotional film featuring Pankaj Tripathi was released to strengthen brand recall and trust.

Information Booster

- The campaign will be promoted through print, television, OTT platforms, and social media.
- It highlights health insurance as a key pillar of family financial security.

Additional Knowledge

- SBI General Insurance was incorporated in 2009 and began operations in 2010.
- It is a joint venture between State Bank of India and Napean Opportunities LLP.
- The company operates under the regulation of Insurance Regulatory and Development Authority of India (IRDAI).
- Headquarters: Mumbai.

Q8. Bharat Electronics Limited (BEL) signed an MoU in March 2026 with which startup to develop satellite systems for Very Low Earth Orbit (VLEO)?

- (a) Skyroot Aerospace
- (b) Agnikul Cosmos
- (c) Bellatrix Aerospace
- (d) Dhruva Space

Ans.(c)

Sol. Answer: (c)

Solution

- In March 2026, Bharat Electronics Limited (BEL) signed a Memorandum of Understanding with Bellatrix Aerospace.
- The collaboration aims to design, develop, and manufacture satellite systems and payloads for Very Low Earth Orbit (VLEO) missions.
- The partnership combines BEL's defence electronics manufacturing capability with Bellatrix Aerospace's space propulsion and deep-tech expertise.

Information Booster

- The MoU was exchanged between BEL GM Rashmi Kathuria and Bellatrix Aerospace CEO Rohan M. Ganapathy.
- The project aims to support both strategic defence missions and civilian space applications.

Additional Knowledge

- VLEO (Very Low Earth Orbit) ranges between 150 km and 450 km altitude above Earth.
- Advantages include higher-resolution imaging and lower communication latency.
- Requires advanced propulsion systems to counter atmospheric drag.

Q9. Which Indian economist became the first to receive the University of Chicago's Alumni Award for Professional Achievement in March 2026?

- (a) Raghuram Rajan
- (b) Arvind Subramanian
- (c) K. V. Subramanian
- (d) Abhijit Banerjee

Ans.(c)

Sol. Answer: (c)

Solution

- In March 2026, Krishnamurthy Venkata Subramanian was honoured with the Alumni Award for Professional Achievement by the University of Chicago.
- He became the first Indian economist to receive this award since its establishment in 1941.
- The award recognises distinguished alumni for exceptional professional contributions.
- K. V. Subramanian previously served as Chief Economic Advisor (CEA) of India from 2018 to 2021.

Information Booster

- He later served as Executive Director at the International Monetary Fund (IMF) representing India.
- Currently serves as Professor of Finance at the Indian School of Business (ISB).

Additional Knowledge

- The award has previously been received by global scholars like Paul Samuelson, Gary Becker, Claudia Goldin, and Carl Sagan.
- K. V. Subramanian authored the book “India@100.”

Q10. The Cycling League of India (CLI), whose logo was unveiled in March 2026, is described as the world’s first franchise-based league in which sport?

- (a) Cycling
- (b) Athletics
- (c) Triathlon
- (d) Marathon running

Ans.(a)

Sol. Answer: (a)

Solution

- In March 2026, Mansukh Mandaviya, Union Minister of Youth Affairs and Sports, unveiled the logo of the Cycling League of India (CLI).
- CLI is the world’s first franchise-based road cycling league.
- The initiative aims to strengthen India’s professional cycling ecosystem and promote the sport nationwide.
- It also seeks to nurture talent and attract global participation in Indian cycling.

Information Booster

- The league will feature eight city or region-based franchises.
- Each franchise will include 10 cyclists.
- Teams will consist of international riders and junior cyclists to ensure skill development and competitiveness.

Additional Knowledge

- Competition will be conducted in three phases followed by a grand finale.
- Race formats include criterium races, team time trials, and mass start events.

