

# Daily Current Affairs 19 March 2025



 **Solve** 

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## Daily Current Affairs: 19 March 2026

**Q1.** During his visit to Assam and West Bengal on 13–14 March 2026, Prime Minister Narendra Modi launched and inaugurated development projects worth approximately how much in total?

- (a) ₹50,000 crore
- (b) ₹60,000 crore
- (c) ₹66,280 crore
- (d) ₹75,000 crore

**Ans.(c)**

**Sol.** Correct Answer: (c) ₹66,280 crore

**Solution:** During his visit on 13–14 March 2026, Prime Minister Narendra Modi inaugurated, launched, and laid foundation stones for multiple development projects across Assam and West Bengal.

- The total value of projects was approximately ₹66,280 crore.
- Out of this:
- ₹47,600 crore worth of projects were in Assam.
- ₹18,680 crore worth of projects were in West Bengal.

**Information Booster :**

- In Assam, projects covered sectors like infrastructure, energy, railways, waterways, welfare, and education across Kokrajhar, Guwahati, and Silchar.
- Bhoomi Poojan was performed for Assam Mala 3.0, worth ₹3,200 crore, which will construct 900+ km of roads and 37 bridges.
- In West Bengal, projects included road infrastructure, ports, and railways, mainly in Kolkata.
- National Highway projects worth ₹16,990 crore covering 420+ km were launched to improve connectivity and road safety.

**Q2.** In March 2026, Sagar Defence Engineering Private Limited laid the foundation of the world's first Autonomous Maritime Shipbuilding and Systems Centre in which state?

- (a) Andhra Pradesh
- (b) Gujarat
- (c) Tamil Nadu
- (d) Odisha

**Ans.(a)**

**Sol.** Correct Answer: (a) Andhra Pradesh

**Solution:** In March 2026, Sagar Defence Engineering Pvt. Ltd. laid the foundation stone for the world's first Autonomous Maritime Shipbuilding and Systems Centre at Juvvaladinne Fishing Harbour in Nellore district, located in Andhra Pradesh.

- The centre will function as an advanced shipyard integrating robotics and Artificial Intelligence (AI) into shipbuilding processes.
- It aims to enhance efficiency, productivity, and sustainability in maritime manufacturing.

**Information Booster :**

- The facility will include:
- Autonomous shipbuilding units
- Testing infrastructure
- Research & Development (R&D) centre

- Maintenance, Repair and Overhaul (MRO) facilities
- Specialised training hub
- Key technologies to be used:
  - Robotic fabrication systems (welding, cutting, painting, assembly)
  - Automated Guided Vehicles (AGVs)
  - Additive manufacturing (3D printing)
- The project represents a major step toward smart shipbuilding and defence manufacturing in India.

**Q3.** In March 2026, Union Minister Rajiv Ranjan Singh announced a ₹100 crore Integrated Aqua Park project in which district of Jammu and Kashmir?

- (a) Baramulla
- (b) Pulwama
- (c) Kupwara
- (d) Anantnag

**Ans.(d)**

**Sol.** Correct Answer: (d) Anantnag

**Solution:** In March 2026, Rajiv Ranjan Singh, Union Minister of the Ministry of Fisheries Animal Husbandry and Dairying, announced the sanction of a ₹100 crore Integrated Aqua Park project in Anantnag district of Jammu & Kashmir.

- The announcement was made during the National Conference on Cold Water Fisheries held at Sher-e-Kashmir International Conference Centre.
- The project aims to boost cold-water fisheries, aquaculture infrastructure, and livelihoods in the region.

**Information Booster:**

- The Minister also released the Model Guidelines for the Development of Cold-Water Fisheries.
- These guidelines cover:
  - Scientific Seed Stocking (SSS)
  - Cage and Pen-Based Aquaculture (CPBA)
  - Biodiversity conservation
  - Governance and monitoring systems
- Awards were given to:
  - Best Fisheries Cooperative Societies (BFCS)
  - Progressive Fish Farmers (PFF)
  - Kisan Credit Card (KCC) beneficiaries
  - Fisheries Start-ups (FSU)
- The initiative promotes sustainable fisheries development and economic growth in Himalayan regions.

**Q4.** Arpita Patra, who summited the world's highest volcano in March 2026, climbed which of the following peaks?

- (a) Mount Elbrus
- (b) Mount Kilimanjaro
- (c) Nevado Ojos del Salado
- (d) Pico de Orizaba

**Ans.(c)**

**Sol.** Correct Answer: (c) Nevado Ojos del Salado

Solution: In March 2026, Arpita Patra, a professor at the Indian Institute of Science, successfully summited Nevado Ojos del Salado.

- The peak stands at an elevation of 6,893 metres, making it the highest volcano in the world and the highest mountain in Chile, located on the Chile–Argentina border in the Atacama Desert.
- She reached the summit on 6 March 2026, achieving her highest-ever altitude climb.
- With this feat, she became the second Indian woman after Arunima Sinha (2019) to scale the peak.

Information Booster :

- Arpita Patra has achieved multiple mountaineering milestones:
- First Indian woman to summit Mount Giluwe (2025)
- Second Indian woman to scale Pico de Orizaba (2025)
- She has also climbed:
- Mount Kilimanjaro (5,895 m)
- Mount Elbrus (5,642 m)
- These climbs are part of the Seven Summits / Volcanic Seven Summits challenges, showcasing global mountaineering excellence.

**Q5.** According to the report “Global Economic Outlook March 2026” released by Fitch Ratings, what is the projected GDP growth rate of India for FY26?

- (a) 6.5%
- (b) 6.7%
- (c) 7.0%
- (d) 7.5%

**Ans.(d)**

**Sol.** Correct Answer: (d) 7.5%

Solution: In March 2026, Fitch Ratings released its Global Economic Outlook – March 2026, projecting India’s GDP growth at 7.5% for FY2025–26 (FY26).

- The growth projection is supported by strong domestic demand and stable economic indicators.
- This indicates continued robust economic performance of India among major global economies.

Information Booster :

- FY27 GDP growth forecast was revised upward to 6.7% (from 6.4% earlier).
- FY28 growth is expected to remain around 6.5%.
- Global GDP growth is projected at 2.6% in 2026, slightly lower than 2.7% in 2025.
- Fitch Ratings is one of the “Big Three” global credit rating agencies, along with Moody’s and S&P Global Ratings.

**Q6.** Which film won the Best Picture award at the 98th Academy Awards held in March 2026?

- (a) Sinners
- (b) Hamnet
- (c) One Battle After Another
- (d) The Last Horizon

**Ans.(c)**

**Sol.** Correct Answer: (c) One Battle After Another

Solution: At the 98th Academy Awards (Oscars 2026), held at the Dolby Theatre, the film One Battle After Another emerged as the biggest winner.

- It won six Oscars, including:
- Best Picture
- Best Director (Paul Thomas Anderson)
- Best Supporting Actor (Sean Penn)
- Best Adapted Screenplay
- Best Film Editing
- Best Casting

Information Booster :

- The Oscars 2026 were organised by the Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences.
- The film Sinners received the highest 16 nominations.
- Michael B. Jordan won Best Actor for *Sinners*.
- Jessie Buckley won Best Actress for *Hamnet*, becoming the first Irish actress to win this award.
- Priyanka Chopra presented an award along with Javier Bardem.

**Q7.** The newly discovered plant species *Osbeckia zubeengargiana*, reported in March 2026, belongs to which plant family?

- (a) Fabaceae
- (b) Asteraceae
- (c) Melastomataceae
- (d) Solanaceae

**Ans.(c)**

**Sol.** Correct Answer: (c) Melastomataceae

Solution: In March 2026, researchers from Gauhati University discovered a new plant species named *Osbeckia zubeengargiana* in the grasslands of Manas National Park.

- The species was named after Assamese music icon Zubeen Garg.
- It belongs to the Melastomataceae family.
- The discovery was published in the scientific journal *Phytotaxa*.

Information Booster :

- The plant is a perennial erect shrub growing up to 3.5 metres in height.
- It produces distinctive pink tetramerous flowers.
- It flowers and fruits between mid-September and January.
- The species shows similarities with *Osbeckia rostrata* but differs in leaf structure, flower arrangement, hypanthium shape, and seed size.
- The discovery enhances the botanical diversity of Assam and contributes to the study of the *Osbeckia* genus, widely found in Southeast Asia, Eastern Himalayas, and Western Ghats.

**Q8.** Which country topped the medal tally at the World Para Athletics Grand Prix 2026 held in New Delhi?

- (a) India
- (b) Russia
- (c) Bosnia & Herzegovina
- (d) China

**Ans.(a)**

**Sol.** Correct Answer: (a) India

Solution: At the World Para Athletics Grand Prix (WPAGP) 2026 – New Delhi leg, India secured the top position in the medal tally.

- India won a total of 208 medals, including:
- 75 Gold
- 69 Silver
- 64 Bronze
- The event was held at the Jawaharlal Nehru Stadium from 11–13 March 2026.
- Russia finished second with 35 medals, while Bosnia and Herzegovina secured third place.

Information Booster:

- The event was organised by World Para Athletics, under the International Paralympic Committee, with support from the Paralympic Committee of India.
- It featured 90+ track and field events, including:
- Track: 100m, 200m, 400m, 800m
- Field: Long jump, high jump, javelin throw, shot put, discus throw
- Wheelchair racing and adapted events
- The event serves as a qualification pathway for:
- 2026 World Para Athletics Championships
- 2028 Los Angeles Paralympics

**Q9.** In March 2026, Vairamuthu was selected for which prestigious literary award for the year 2025?

- (a) Sahitya Akademi Award
- (b) Padma Bhushan
- (c) Jnanpith Award
- (d) Saraswati Samman

**Ans.(c)**

**Sol.** Correct Answer: (c) Jnanpith Award

Solution: In March 2026, renowned Tamil poet and lyricist Vairamuthu (Ramasamy) was selected for the Jnanpith Award for the year 2025.

- With this, he became the third Tamil writer to receive the award after:
- Akilan (1975)
- Jayakanthan (2002)

Information Booster (Exam-Oriented Facts):

- The Jnanpith Award is presented annually by Bharatiya Jnanpith.
- It was instituted in 1961 and first awarded in 1965.
- It is given for outstanding contribution to Indian literature in any language listed in the Eighth Schedule of the Constitution of India.
- The award includes:
- ₹11 lakh cash prize
- Bronze statue of Vagdevi (Goddess Saraswati)
- Citation

This award is considered the highest recognition for literary excellence in India.

**Q10.** In March 2026, Mayank Chakraborty became India's 94th Grandmaster by achieving his final GM norm in which country?

- (a) Norway
- (b) Germany
- (c) Sweden
- (d) Russia

**Ans.(c)**

**Sol.** Correct Answer: (c) Sweden

**Solution:** In March 2026, Mayank Chakraborty, a 17-year-old International Master from Guwahati, became India's 94th Grandmaster (GM) and the first GM from Northeast India.

- He achieved this milestone at the First Hotels Young Talents Tournament held in Sweden.
- He secured his third and final GM norm at the 8th GM Tournament, finishing first with 7/9 points.
- His performance included 6 wins, 2 draws, and 1 loss.

**Information Booster :**

- To become a Grandmaster, a player must:
- Achieve three GM norms
- Cross a FIDE rating of 2500 under FIDE.
- Mayank finished ahead of Aksel Bu Kvaloy to clinch the title.
- This achievement marks a significant milestone for Indian chess, especially for representation from the Northeast region.

