

Daily Current Affairs

(24th March 2025)

International

Tunisian President appoints new Prime Minister.

Tunisian President Kais Saied dismissed Prime Minister Kamel Madouri and appointed Sarra Zaafrani Zenzri as the new head of the cabinet. Zaafrani is Tunisia's third Prime Minister in less than two years and the country's second woman premier.

Japan, China and South Korea discuss trilateral cooperation.

Foreign Ministers from Japan, China and South Korea held a meeting in Tokyo to seek common ground on areas like low birth rates, natural disasters and cultural exchanges at a time of growing tensions. The meeting also focused on plans for a trilateral summit later this year. The three-way meetings are an accomplishment for Japan, which has historical and territorial disputes with both China and South Korea.

Three cities honoured for public health achievements at 2025 Partnership for Healthy Cities Summit.

During the annual Partnership for healthy cities Summit in Paris, three cities Córdoba, Argentina; Fortaleza, Brazil; and Greater Manchester, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland were recognized for their achievements in preventing noncommunicable diseases and injuries. The Summit, co-hosted by Bloomberg Philanthropies, Health Organization (WHO), Vital Strategies, and the City of Paris, convened mayors and officials from 61 cities in the Partnership for Healthy Cities network to address pressing public health issues and share effective strategies for saving lives and building healthier communities at the local level.

The recipients of the 2025 Partnership for Healthy Cities Awards were chosen because they made demonstrable progress in preventing noncommunicable diseases and injuries, setting an example that can be replicated in other jurisdictions.

<u>India's Jaishankar, Bolivia's foreign minister</u> signs Quick Impact Projects agreement.

India's External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar and Bolivia's Foreign Minister Celinda Sosa Lunda held discussions and focussed on strengthening bilateral ties, with both nations signing agreements on Quick Impact Projects as part of efforts to enhance their partnership, following the recent inauguration of India's new embassy in La Paz.

National

S Jaishankar witnesses handover of Gandhi artefacts from South Africa to India.

External Affairs Minister Dr S Jaishankar witnessed the handing over of artefacts and documents related to Mahatma Gandhi by South Africa's Phoenix Settlement Trust-Gandhi Development Trust to the National Gandhi Museum in New Delhi.

The list of items that were donated includes clothing items hand-spun by Mahatma Gandhi. Gandhi arrived in South Africa in 1893 and stayed for a long duration in Durban and established the Phoenix Settlement in 1904.

Exercise 'Varuna: India and France deployed aircraft carriers INS Vikrant and Charles de Gaulle.

India and France deployed aircraft carriers INS Vikrant and Charles de Gaulle for the bilateral exercise named 'Varuna', allowing the Indian Navy getting to closely observe, and operate with the Rafale-M fighter jets, which it is set to contract soon. The manoeuvres also focused on Anti-Submarine Warfare (ASW) operations.

The exercise was held from March 19-22 off the coast of Goa.

Shaheed Diwas or Martyrs' Day 2025 observed on March 23.

Shaheed Diwas, or Martyrs' Day, is a tribute to the bravery and devotion of India's freedom fighters who laid down their lives for the nation's independence. On March 23, 1931 - three revolutionary freedom fighters, Bhagat Singh, Sukhdev and Rajguru, all in their early twenties, were hanged in the Lahore jail. The three were sentenced to death by the British colonial rulers.



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<u>Kerala becomes first Indian state to establish</u> senior citizens commission

Kerala has become the first state in India to pass a law creating a commission for senior citizens, Chief Minister Pinarayi Vijayan said.

This new commission would focus on protecting the rights, welfare, and rehabilitation of the elderly.

The commission will prioritise addressing the hardships faced by the elderly, including neglect, exploitation, and loneliness.

Business and Economy

Zomato is now Eternal, Corporate Affairs Ministry approves name change.

Food and grocery delivery major Zomato on said it has received the Corporate Affairs Ministry's approval regarding its name change to "Eternal Limited" with effect from March 20, 2025. The shareholders of Zomato had earlier this month approved a special resolution to rename the firm 'Eternal'.

PLI schemes attracted investment worth ₹1.61 lakh crore.

The Centre's production-linked incentive (PLI) schemes across 14 sectors to boost manufacturing have attracted investments to the tune of ₹1.61 lakh crore and generated sales worth ₹14 lakh crore, according to the Ministry of Commerce.

The government has disbursed incentives of about ₹14,020 crore under PLI schemes for 10 sectors, which include largescale electronics manufacturing (LSEM), IT hardware, bulk drugs, medical devices, pharmaceuticals, telecom and networking products.

<u>L&T elevates Sarma as deputy MD & President</u>

Engineering and construction major Larsen & Toubro Ltd. elevated Subramanian Sarma from the position of wholetime director and President,

Energy, to Deputy Managing Director and President of the company, effective April 2, 2025. The board has also decided to extend his term to February 3, 2028 subject to shareholders' approval in the upcoming AGM.

<u>Lulu Group launches agricultural</u> production in Coimbatore district.

Lulu Group has launched its global agricultural production initiative at Pollachi in Coimbatore district on 160 acres.

The seed planting activity was carried out on 50 acres at Ganapathipalayam, managed by Lulu Group, in the first phase. This initiative was carried out in partnership with Farmers Producers Associations and local farmers in the region.

Sports

India claims both Men's & Women's Kabaddi World Cup 2025.

India won both the Men's and Women's Kabaddi World Cup 2025 at Wolverhampton in England. The Men's team defeated the home side England in the final match 44-41. Earlier, the Indian Women's Team also defeated England with a dominating score of 57-34 in the final at the same venue.

At the inaugural edition, hosted by Malaysia in 2019, India won both the men's and women's crowns.

India qualifies for FIBA Men's Asia Cup 2025

The Indian basketball team has qualified for FIBA Men's Asia Cup 2025 after registering a thrilling win over hosts Bahrain 81-77 at Khalifa Sports City in Manama. Harsh Dagar was the star of India with 28 points with 6-3 pointers.

India will now travel to Jeddah, Saudi Arabia, for the Continental tournament to be held from August 5 to 17.