



## EVERYDAY CURRENT AFFAIRS – MARCH 24, 2026

### NATIONAL

- **Kalinjar Fort Hill a National Geo-Heritage Site**
- ✓ The Geological Survey of India has declared the hill region around Kalinjar Fort (Banda district of Uttar Pradesh) as a National Geo-Heritage Site, recognising its geological, historical, and cultural importance.
- ✓ The site features the rare Eparchaeon Unconformity, where ~2.5-billion-year-old Bundelkhand granite is overlain by ~1.2-billion-year-old Kaimur sandstone, offering key insights into Earth's geological evolution.
- ✓ Located in the Vindhya Range, the region is expected to boost geo-tourism and be part of a tourism circuit linking Kalinjar, Khajuraho, and Chitrakoot.

### STATE

- **'Sikhya Kranti 2.0'**
- ✓ The Punjab Government has launched 'Punjab Sikhya Kranti 2.0' in collaboration with the World Bank to strengthen and modernize the state's school education system.
- ✓ The programme aims to make Punjab's education system globally competitive by improving quality, infrastructure, and learning outcomes.
- ✓ The initiative involves a total investment of ₹3,500 crore over six years, including ₹2,500 crore from World Bank assistance and ₹1,000 crore from the state government.

## INTERNATIONAL

### ➤ WMO Warns Earth's Climate Is "Flashing Red"

- ✓ The World Meteorological Organization (WMO) has warned that Earth's climate system is "flashing red" in 2026 due to accelerating global warming, with a record-high energy imbalance indicating more heat is being trapped than released, driving extreme weather and environmental damage.
- ✓ This energy imbalance – caused by rising greenhouse gases – has reached a 65-year high, with over 90% of excess heat absorbed by oceans, leading to rapid warming, climate instability, and long-term impacts even if emissions are reduced.
- ✓ Greenhouse gases like carbon dioxide, methane, and nitrous oxide are at historic levels, intensifying global warming, while melting ice in Greenland and Antarctica is accelerating sea-level rise, increasing risks of flooding and coastal damage.

## DEFENCE

### ➤ 'Taragiri'

- ✓ The Indian Navy is set to commission its latest indigenous stealth frigate, Taragiri (F41), on 03 April 2026 at Visakhapatnam.
- ✓ Taragiri is the fourth platform of the sophisticated Project 17A class, weighing approximately 6,670 tonnes.
- ✓ Built by Mazagon Dock Shipbuilders Limited (MDL), Mumbai, the vessel features over 75% indigenous content, involving more than 200 MSMEs.
- ✓ It is powered by a Combined Diesel or Gas (CODOG) plant, designed for high-speed and high-endurance maritime missions.
- ✓ It was an Anti-Submarine Warfare, equipped with supersonic Surface-to-Surface Missiles and have Medium Range Surface-to-Air Missiles.
- ✓ The ship is designed for Humanitarian Assistance and Disaster Relief (HADR) and modern naval diplomacy.

## RANKINGS & INDEX

### ➤ World Happiness Report 2026

- ✓ Finland remains the world's happiest country for the 9th consecutive year, continuing the dominance of Nordic nations in global happiness rankings.
- ✓ The World Happiness Report 2026 highlights that excessive social media use is reducing happiness levels among young people, especially in Western and English-speaking countries.
- ✓ India ranks 116th out of 147 countries, showing a slight improvement from its 118th position in 2025.
- ✓ The report is published by the Wellbeing Research Centre in partnership with Gallup and the UN Sustainable Development Solutions Network.

### ➤ **Global Terrorism Index 2026**

- ✓ The Institute for Economics and Peace (IEP) has released the Global Terrorism Index 2026, which ranks 163 countries based on the impact of terrorism.
- ✓ For the first time, Pakistan has topped the list, reflecting a significant rise in violent incidents and fatalities within the country.
- ✓ Pakistan recorded 1,139 deaths from 1,045 incidents in 2025, marking the highest level of terrorism deaths in the country since 2013.
- ✓ India ranked 13th in the index.
- ✓ Globally, deaths from terrorism fell by 28% to 5,582, and total attacks decreased by nearly 22%.

## **IMPORTANT DAYS**

### ➤ **World TB Day - March 24**

- ✓ World TB Day is observed on March 24, 2026 with the theme "Yes! We Can End TB", highlighting the urgent global effort to eliminate tuberculosis.
- ✓ A disease that affected 10.7 million people and caused 1.23 million deaths in 2024 despite being preventable and treatable.
- ✓ The day commemorates Robert Koch's 1882 discovery of Mycobacterium tuberculosis, which laid the foundation for TB diagnosis and treatment.
- ✓ The 2026 theme emphasizes strong leadership, public participation, early detection, and innovation, aiming to eliminate TB by 2030 through better healthcare systems and global cooperation.

