



EVERYDAY CURRENT AFFAIRS – MARCH 25, 2026

NATIONAL

➤ PM Internship Scheme Revamped

- ✓ Government of India announced the revamped PM Internship Scheme aims to boost participation by making internships more inclusive, flexible, and industry-aligned.
- ✓ Eligibility criteria have been relaxed, with age limits widened (18–25 years) and postgraduate candidates now included.
- ✓ The monthly stipend has also increased from ₹5,000 to ₹9,000, addressing earlier concerns of low participation and high drop-out rates.
- ✓ The reforms aim to create 1 lakh internship opportunities and strengthen youth employability across India.

➤ Indian Railways Refund Policy 2026

- ✓ The Indian Railways has introduced major reforms in its ticket cancellation and refund policy, effective from April 1–15, 2026.
- ✓ Under the new rules, no refund will be provided if tickets are cancelled within 8 hours of departure, replacing the earlier 4-hour rule.
- ✓ Refunds will now follow stricter slabs: 50% deduction (24–8 hours), 25% deduction (72–24 hours), and full refund (minus charges) if cancelled more than 72 hours in advance.
- ✓ These reforms aim to prevent ticket misuse, reduce black marketing, and improve seat availability.

STATE

➤ **Gujarat Uniform Civil Code (UCC) Bill, 2026**

- ✓ Aiming to establish a common legal framework for marriage, divorce, succession, and live-in relationships across all religions.
- ✓ Gujarat will become the second state after Uttarakhand to implement a UCC law.
- ✓ Scheduled Tribes (STs) are exempted to protect their constitutional rights and traditional customs under the Constitution of India.
- ✓ The bill aligns with Article 44 of the Directive Principles, sparking discussions on equality, legal uniformity, and cultural diversity.

SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY

➤ **India to Build Third Spaceport**

- ✓ India is set to expand its space infrastructure with a proposed third spaceport in Gujarat's Gir Somnath district.
- ✓ Located between Diu and Kodinar along the Arabian Sea coast, has been identified with support from IN-SPACe, marking a major step in boosting launch capabilities.
- ✓ Currently, India operates the Satish Dhawan Space Centre and is developing another at Kulasekarapattinam Spaceport.
- ✓ Under the Indian Space Policy 2023, the project also strengthens Gujarat's ambition to become a space-tech hub.

➤ **Akasha 300 - 3D Printer**

- ✓ Kerala-based startup Spacetime 4D has delivered the Akasha300 3D printer to ISRO's Liquid Propulsion Systems Centre, boosting India's space manufacturing capabilities.
- ✓ The Akasha300 is a high-temperature, multi-material 3D printer designed for producing complex aerospace components using advanced materials.
- ✓ It enables rapid prototyping, reduces production time and cost, and supports development of rocket and satellite parts.
- ✓ This innovation strengthens India's Atmanirbhar Bharat mission by promoting indigenous, cost-efficient, and advanced space technology.

DEFENCE

➤ Exercise Kakadu 2026

- ✓ The Indian Navy frigate INS Nilgiri participated in the sea phase of Exercise Kakadu 2026 in Australia.
- ✓ The 17th edition of Exercise Kakadu 2026 witnessed participation from over 19 nations and 6,000 personnel, covering the area from Jervis Bay to Darwin, Australia.
- ✓ Exercise Kakadu is a multilateral maritime exercise hosted by Australia, bringing together navies from across the Indo-Pacific region.
- ✓ The deployment aimed at enhancing maritime cooperation in the Indo-Pacific region.

RANKINGS & INDEX

➤ High Seas Summit 2027

- ✓ The United Nations (UN) will host the first-ever High Seas Summit in January 2027 at its headquarters in New York.
- ✓ The summit is based on the High Seas Treaty (Biodiversity Beyond National Jurisdiction - BBNJ), aimed at protecting marine biodiversity in international waters beyond national jurisdictions.
- ✓ The High Seas Summit (Conference of Parties - COP) is proposed from January 11 to 22, 2027, focusing on implementation mechanisms and institutional setup.
- ✓ The treaty addresses major challenges such as climate change, marine pollution, and overfishing, which threaten ocean ecosystems.

