

## National News: NGT Reviews Quarry Plan Near Vallanadu Sanctuary



The National Green Tribunal (NGT) has directed authorities to reconsider a quarry proposal near the Vallanadu Blackbuck Sanctuary in Tamil Nadu. While ensuring protection for the endangered blackbuck population. The tribunal noted that blackbucks are timid and shy animals and any human disturbance can harm their natural habitat. Instead of completely rejecting the quarry project the NGT asked the State Environmental Impact Assessment Authority (SEIAA), Tamil Nadu to review the proposal again and determine whether strict safeguards and mitigation measures can protect wildlife.

### Key Points:-

- The NGT Vallanadu Blackbuck Sanctuary judgment acknowledged the ecological sensitivity of the area.
- However, the tribunal noted that the quarry proposal was rejected mainly due to concerns about possible blackbuck movement not proven harm.

## National News: Ashmolean Museum Returns 16th Century Saint Thirumankai Alvar Idol to India

The Ashmolean Museum at the University of Oxford has formally returned a 16th-century bronze idol of Saint Thirumankai Alvar to India. The sacred idol will now begin its journey back to its original home

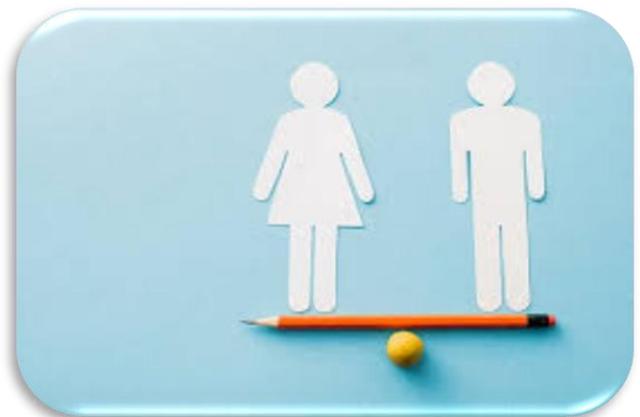
the Shri Soundararaja Perumal Temple in Tamil Nadu. The formal handover ceremony took place at India House. And which is marking an important milestone in India-UK cultural cooperation.



### Key Points:-

- UNESCO conventions on cultural property
- Bilateral diplomatic engagements
- Increased scrutiny of auction houses and collectors

## International News: Women have only 64% of the legal rights of men: UN Women warns



Ahead of International Women's Day which is on March 8, 2026. UN Women has revealed that women globally hold just 64% of the legal rights afforded to men. The findings accompany a new report by the United Nations Secretary-General titled Ensuring and Strengthening Access to Justice for All Women

and Girls. The report highlights that no country in the world has achieved full legal equality for women and girls. Which is exposing the systemic gaps in justice systems meant to protect rights and uphold the rule of law.

**Sports:** Indian Women's Cricket Team Nominated for 2026 Laureus World Team of the Year



A landmark achievement for Indian sport. In which the India women's national cricket team has been nominated for the prestigious Laureus World Team of the Year Award 2026. This nomination follows their historic triumph at the ICC Women's World Cup 2025 which was held in India where they secured their maiden World Cup title.

**Sports:** Finn Allen Creates History With Fastest T20 World Cup Century



New Zealand opener Finn Allen smashed the fastest T20 World Cup hundred. Ton came during the ongoing T20 World Cup semi final against South Africa in Kolkata. Allen reached his century in just 33 balls and breaks the previous men's record of 47 balls by Chris Gayle in 2016. The stunning knock also made Allen the first batter in history to score a century in a T20 World Cup knockout match.

**State News:** Kerala Health Department launches MeHEALTH mobile application



Kerala Health Department has launched the MeHEALTH mobile application, which will help people easily access information about nearby government health facilities. Through the app, users can find details of nearby hospitals within 10 kilometres, including available specialities, laboratory tests and their rates. Information on services such as blood banks, radiology units, pharmacies, and pay wards in hospitals is also available through the platform.

**State News:** IIT Madras likely to fetch ₹70 crore via stake sale in Indo-MIM IPO, to invest in innovation



The Indian Institute of Technology, Madras (IIT Madras) will monetise around half of its total holding worth ₹140 crore from the forthcoming Initial Public Offering (IPO) of Indo MIM Ltd, a company which provide end-to-end solutions for the manufacture of precision engineering components for automotive, aerospace, defence, and consumer product companies using metal injection moulding (MIM) technology.

### **📖 Detailed Analysis of Recent Current Affairs: Multiple Choice Format**

**Q.1. Who is the author of the recently released book "Mahatma: A Great Communicator"?**

- A. Ramachandra Guha
- B. Dhiraj Kakadia
- C. Rajmohan Gandhi
- D. Bibek Debroy

1. B

Union Minister for Labour and Employment and Youth Affairs and Sports, Mansukh Mandaviya, released the book "Mahatma: A Great Communicator" at Gandhi Darshan, Rajghat, New Delhi. The book, written by Dr. Dheeraj Kakadiya, Additional Director General, All India Radio, highlights the life of Mahatma Gandhi and focuses on how his powerful communication skills strengthened India's freedom struggle. Its purpose is to spread awareness and inspire people to embody his values in their everyday lives.

**Q.2. Which advanced portal did Nitin Gadkari recently launch to facilitate the issuance of NOCs along national highways?**

- A. Rajmarg Pravesh 2.0
- B. Highway Seva 2.0
- C. NHAI Connect
- D. Bharat Path Portal

2. A

Union Road Transport and Highways Minister Nitin Gadkari launched the upgraded "Rajasthan Pravesh" (Highway Entry) portal. It is a single-window digital platform that will facilitate easy access to No Objection Certificates (NOCs) and other permissions for petrol pumps, dhabas, food courts, and other utility services on national highways.

**Q.3. Where was Tamil Nadu's first dark sky park recently inaugurated?**

- A. Nilgiri Hills
- B. Kolli Hills
- C. Anaimalai Hills
- D. Palani Hills

3. B

Tamil Nadu's first dark sky park has opened in the Ariyur Shola Reserve Forest in the Kolli Hills of Namakkal district. Free from artificial light pollution, the park aims to promote astro-tourism and offer clear views of the stars and planets.

**Q.4. Who recently launched four women-centric schemes under the "Sashakt Nari, Samridhd Delhi" program?**

- A. Narendra Modi
- B. Amit Shah
- C. Draupadi Murmu
- D. Rekha Gupta

4. C

Indian President Draupadi Murmu launched four major schemes for women under the "Empowered Women, Prosperous Delhi" program. The event took place at the Indira Gandhi Indoor Stadium in Delhi, with Delhi Chief Minister Rekha Gupta also present.

**Q.5. Which company was recently fined ₹11.50 lakh by the RBI for regulatory violations?**

- A. Bajaj Finance
- B. Mahindra & Mahindra Financial Services Ltd
- C. Shriram Finance
- D. Tata Capital

5. B

The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has imposed a penalty of ₹11.50 lakh on Mahindra & Mahindra Financial Services Limited (MMFSL) for violating the Fair Practices Code and regulations relating to the Internal Ombudsman. The penalty was imposed following an examination of the company's financial position.

**Q.6. The National Statistical Office recently released a new GDP series with which base year?**

- A. 2015-16
- B. 2017-18
- C. 2020-21
- D. 2022-23

6. D

The National Statistical Office (NSO), Ministry of Statistics and Program Implementation (MoSPI), has released a new series of GDP with a base year of 2022-23. This revised series replaces the previous base year series of 2011-12 and incorporates modern data sources to better reflect structural changes in the economy.

**Q.7. Which platform was recently launched by the CBIC during International Customs Day 2026?**

- A. SWIFT 2.0
- B. Customs Connect

**C. DigiCustoms**

**D. TradeNet**

7. A

The Central Board of Indirect Taxes and Customs (CBIC) launched SWIFT 2.0 (System for Facilitating Trade), an upgraded single-window platform. It also launched the new Atithi 2.0 app and a digital traveler's guide for travelers.

**Q.8. GI-tagged Karbi Anglong ginger, which was recently in the news, is associated with which state?**

- A. Nagaland
- B. Mizoram
- C. Manipur
- D. Assam

8. D

Assam launched its first trial export of 1.2 metric tons of Geographical Indication-tagged Karbi Anglong ginger to London, marking a major agricultural milestone. This premium variety of ginger is grown in the Karbi Anglong district and is known for its strong aroma, intense pungency, and medicinal properties. It is grown mostly in the Singhasan Hills using traditional shifting cultivation and tilla cultivation methods.

**Q.9. What was the approximate FDI (Foreign Directive Principles) inflow into India in the third quarter of the recent fiscal year 2025-26?**

- A. \$10.88 billion
- B. \$11.25 billion
- C. \$12.69 billion
- D. \$14.02 billion

9. C

FDI equity inflows into India increased from \$12.7 billion to about \$12.69 billion in the third quarter of FY2025-26, showing a year-on-year increase of 16.6% to 16.9%.

**Q.10. RBI's NBFC-Miscellaneous Amendment Directions, 2026 were recently issued to support which organization?**

- A. NABARD**
- B. NUCFDC**
- C. SIDBI**
- D. NHB**

10. B

RBI's Non-Banking Financial Companies – Miscellaneous Amendment Directions, 2026, were issued to support the National Urban Co-operative Finance and Development Corporation Limited (NUCFDC).

**Q.11. With which organization did India recently agree to grant MFN status for five years under an FTA?**

- A. ASEAN**
- B. European Union**
- C. BRICS**
- D. SAARC**

11. B

Under the Free Trade Agreement (FTA) between India and the European Union (EU), both sides have agreed to grant each other Most Favored Nation (MFN) status. This provision will remain in effect for five years from the date of entry into force of the agreement. This arrangement is part of the "Trade in Services" chapter. Under this agreement, listed sectors, services, and service providers will be given equal or better treatment than any other country, subject to certain conditions and limitations.

**Q.12. Who was recently appointed as Iran's interim Supreme Leader following the death of Ali Khamenei?**

- A. Hassan Rouhani**
- B. Ebrahim Raisi**
- C. Alireza Araf**

**D. Mohammad Mokhber**

12. C

Senior cleric Ayatollah Alireza Araf has been appointed as Iran's interim Supreme Leader, replacing Ayatollah Ali Khamenei. He will serve as a member of an interim leadership council, which also includes the president and chief justice. He has been appointed until his successor is chosen under the constitution.

**Q.13. Recently, India signed a defense agreement worth ₹5,083 crore to purchase ALH Mk-III helicopters for which force?**

- A. Indian Navy**
- B. Indian Coast Guard**
- C. Indian Air Force**
- D. Border Security Force**

13. B

The Defence Ministry signed contracts worth a total of Rs 5,083 crore for the procurement of six Advanced Light Helicopters (ALH) Mk-III (maritime role) for the Indian Coast Guard and Surface to Air Vertical Launch Missiles for the Indian Navy.

**Q.14. Recently, the Central Facility for Recombinant Cells and Sensors was established at which institute?**

- A. IIT Delhi**
- B. IISc Bengaluru**
- C. Rajiv Gandhi Centre for Biotechnology**
- D. All India MS Delhi**

14. C

The Central Facility for Recombinant Cells and Sensors was inaugurated at the BRIC-Rajiv Gandhi Centre for Biotechnology (BRIC-RGCB) in Thiruvananthapuram, Kerala. The ₹60 crore facility was inaugurated by Union Minister Dr. Jitendra Singh. It is designed to promote drug discovery and medical/agricultural genomics.



**Q.15. The recently launched ASMITA League is part of which flagship sports program of the Government of India?**

- A. Target Olympic Podium Scheme**
- B. Fit India Movement**
- C. Rajiv Gandhi Khel Abhiyan**
- D. Khelo India Mission**

15. D

Nikhil Khadse, Union Minister of State for Youth Affairs and Sports, announced a special nationwide Achieving Sports Milestones by Inspiring Women Through Action League to celebrate International Women's Day on March 8. The league, launched in 2021, has held over 2,600 events across 34 sports in 550 districts and 700 cities, involving over 300,000 women athletes. It is part of the Khelo India Mission to promote gender equality and identify grassroots talent. It is supported by the Sports Authority of India, state and district sports associations, Khelo India Centres, My Bharat, and National Centres of Excellence.

## **Historical and Technical Events of 7<sup>th</sup> march 2026**

**1906 – Women in Finland were granted the right to vote.**



Prior to independence, in the Russian Grand Duchy of Finland, women received equal suffrage, including

both the right to vote and to stand as candidates, in 1906. National and international organizations were created to coordinate efforts for women to vote, notably the International Woman Suffrage Alliance (founded in 1904 in Berlin, Germany).

**1854 - Charles Miller receives a patent for a sewing machine.**



This was the first sewing machine patented for buttonhole sewing (patent number 10,609, issued March 7, 1854). In his patent specification, Miller describes three different stitches, "button-hole stitch, whip stitch, or herring-bone stitch," that could be sewn mechanically to complete a buttonhole.

**1875: Alexander Graham Bell invents the telegraph.**



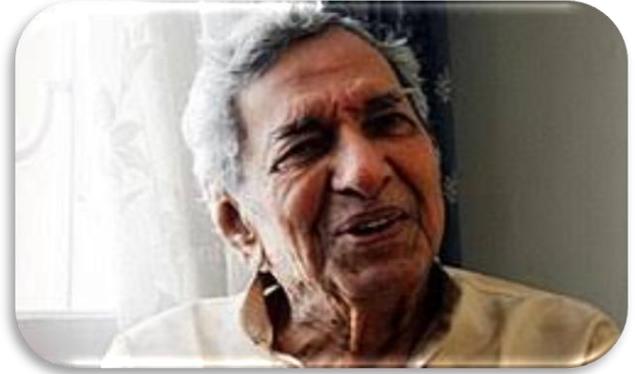
Bell and Watson could transmit sound through wires as early as 1875, but in 1876 Bell only received a patent for "Improvement in Telegraphy." Later that year, he and Watson built an early prototype that allowed them to talk to each other at a distance. On March 10, 1876, Bell and Watson made their first telephone call. They invented many other things besides the telephone, including the photophone, the metal detector, and the graphophone.

1952 - West Indies all-rounder Sir Vivian Richards was born.



West Indies' great cricketer Sir Vivian Richards was born on March 7, 1952 in St. John's, Antigua. His full name is Isaac Vivian Alexander Richards. He was one of the best batsmen of his generation. He was the highest run-scorer for West Indies in Test cricket. He scored 8,540 runs in 121 Test matches.

2012 - Famous Hindi film composer Ravi passed away.



In 2012, famous composer Ravi Shankar Sharma passed away. He died on March 7, 2012 in Mumbai. He was 86 years old. Ravi Shankar Sharma gave music for many Hindi and Malayalam films. He gave many songs like 'Chaudhvin Ka Chand Ho', 'Aaj Mere Yaar Ki Shaadi Hai', 'Neele Gagan Ke Tale', 'Babul Ki Duayen Leti Ja', 'O Meri Zohra Jabeen'. He gave music for films like 'Dilli Ka Thug' (1958), 'Humraaz' (1967), 'Neel Kamal' (1968), 'Ek Phool Do Mali' (1969) and 'Mehndi' (1984).

*Dear Aspirants,*

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**Best Wishes**

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