

**Daily**  
**CURRENT**  
**AFFAIRS**  
**CHRONICLE**

 Friday, March 13, 2026

**NEWS CREDIT**

PIB/ PTI/ News On Air/ The Hindu/ IANS/  
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**NEWS COVERED**

Business News, financial news, economy  
news, company news, politics news, India  
news, breaking news, Indian economy,  
International News, Sports News, and  
many more topics...

**English**



## Top Stories of The Day

- *Thakkali Srinivasan, Veteran Tamil Filmmaker and Musician, Passes Away at 72*
- *Praveen Kumar Wins Gold in T44 High Jump as India Dominates at World Para Athletics Grand Prix*
- *R. N. Ravi Sworn in as 22nd Governor of West Bengal*
- *Supreme Court of India Allows Passive Euthanasia for Harish Rana in Landmark Decision*
- *R. M. Nachammai Becomes First Woman Chief Superintendent of an Operational Nuclear Power Plant in India*
- *Hical Technologies Wins Contract from Dassault Aviation for Dassault Rafale Fighter Components*
- *Axis Max Life Insurance Partners with Saarathi Finance and Credit Private Limited to Offer Insurance for MSMEs*
- *ASSOCHAM and Indo Canada Chamber of Commerce Sign MoU to Boost India–Canada Trade*
- *Veteran Congress Leader and Former Union Minister Biren Singh Engti Passes Away at 81*
- *Farmland Rainwater Harvesting Systems Wins Water Transversality Global Award 2026*

## Veteran Tamil Filmmaker Thakkali Srinivasan Passes Away at 72



### Why in News?

- Veteran Tamil filmmaker and musician Thakkali Srinivasan passed away at the age of 72.

### Career Highlights:

- Thakkali Srinivasan worked as a producer, director, actor, musician, and screenplay writer.
- He made significant contributions to Tamil and Telugu cinema.
- He started his career as a film producer and later moved into direction and music composition.

### Notable Films Produced:

- Ivargal Varungala Thoongal
- Manasukul Mathappu
- Nalaya Manithan
- Jenma Natchathiram
- Adhisaya Manithan
- Witness

### Important Contributions:

- His science fiction film Nalaya Manithan became successful and was followed by the sequel Adhisaya Manithan.
- He made his directorial debut in 1991 with Jenma Natchathiram.
- He also played an antagonist in Soora Samharam starring Kamal Haasan.

### Social Work:

- In his later years, he was known for philanthropic activities.
- He ran an ashram and lived with his adopted children.

## Praveen Kumar Leaps to Gold as India Shines at World Para Athletics Grand Prix



### Why in News?

- Indian para athletes delivered an outstanding performance at the World Para Athletics Grand Prix.
- Praveen Kumar won gold in the men's T44 high jump, leading India's medal haul on the opening day.

### Key Highlights

- Praveen Kumar cleared 1.96 metres to win gold in the men's T44 high jump.
- Fellow Indians Unni Renu (1.86 m) and Banti (1.83 m) secured silver and bronze, completing an Indian-dominated podium.
- Praveen Kumar is also the gold medallist at the 2024 Summer Paralympics.

### Other Major Performances:

- Shailesh Kumar won gold in the men's T42 high jump with 1.84 metres.
- Preeti Pal secured gold in the women's 100m T35/T37 event with a time of 14.46 seconds.
- Preeti Pal had earlier won two bronze medals at the 2024 Summer Paralympics.

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### Discus Throw Events:

- Monu won gold in men's discus throw F11/F12 with 34.30 m.
- Praveen Sharma secured silver and Sanjay Reddy Neelam won bronze, giving India a podium sweep.

### Middle Distance Events:

- In women's 1500m T11/T12:
  - Gold – Soumya
  - Silver – Rakshita Raju
  - Bronze – Radha Venkatesh

### In men's 1500m T11:

- Gold – Ankur Dhama
- Silver – Keshavamurthy
- Bronze – Ravikumar Bankalagi

## RN Ravi takes oath as 22nd Governor of West Bengal, succeeds CV Ananda Bose



### Why in News?

- R. N. Ravi was sworn in as the 22nd Governor of West Bengal.
- He replaced C. V. Ananda Bose, who resigned on March 5, 2026.

### Previous Positions Held:

- Before becoming Governor of West Bengal, R. N. Ravi served as:

- Governor of Nagaland
- Governor of Meghalaya
- 26th Governor of Tamil Nadu

### Career in Civil Services:

- R. N. Ravi is a 1976-batch Indian Police Service (IPS) officer.
- He served in key national agencies such as:
  - Intelligence Bureau
  - Central Bureau of Investigation
- He worked extensively in Jammu & Kashmir, the North-East and Maoist-affected regions dealing with insurgency and security issues.

### Role in Peace and Security:

- Played a major role in conflict resolution in insurgency-affected regions.
- Appointed Centre's Interlocutor for Naga Peace Talks in 2014.
- Contributed to bringing several rebel groups into the mainstream peace process.
- Served as Deputy National Security Advisor of India in 2018.

## Passive Euthanasia in India: Supreme Court Allows Withdrawal of Treatment for Harish Rana



### Why in News?

- The Supreme Court of India permitted the first individual case of passive euthanasia in India.
- The court allowed the withdrawal of artificial life support for Harish Rana, a 32-year-old man

from Uttar Pradesh who has been in a vegetative state for over 12 years.

### Supreme Court Decision:

- The bench comprising J. B. Pardiwala and K. V. Viswanathan allowed the withdrawal of life-sustaining treatment.
- The decision came after medical boards and family members agreed that continued clinically administered nutrition (CAN) should be discontinued.
- The petition requesting withdrawal of life support was filed by Harish Rana's father.

### Background of the Case:

- Harish Rana suffered severe head injuries in 2013 after falling from a building.
- Since then, he has remained in a persistent vegetative state with no meaningful interaction or recovery.
- Doctors concluded that he has virtually no chance of recovery.

### Legal Context: Passive Euthanasia in India:

- In 2018, the Supreme Court of India legally recognised passive euthanasia under strict safeguards.
- Passive euthanasia allows withdrawal of life support so that death occurs naturally.
- However, active euthanasia (directly administering substances to cause death) remains illegal in India.

### Importance of Living Will:

- A living will is a legal document specifying a person's wishes regarding medical treatment in case of terminal illness.
- Harish Rana did not have a living will, so the family had to seek court permission for withdrawal of life support.

### Earlier Landmark Case:

- The debate on euthanasia in India began with the Aruna Shanbaug case.
- She remained in a vegetative state for 42 years after a brutal assault.
- In 2011, the Supreme Court of India rejected the plea for ending her life but recognized passive euthanasia under strict conditions.
- She passed away in 2015 due to pneumonia.

### Global Debate:

- Supporters argue euthanasia allows patients to die with dignity and avoid prolonged suffering.
- Opponents emphasize the sanctity of life and ethical concerns.

## R. M. Nachammai Becomes First Woman Chief Superintendent of Operational Nuclear Power Plant in India



### Why in News?

- R. M. Nachammai has become the first woman Chief Superintendent of an operational nuclear power plant in India.
- She will oversee reactor operations at the Kaiga Nuclear Power Station under Nuclear Power Corporation of India Limited.

### Appointment Details:

- R. M. Nachammai took charge as Chief Superintendent of Kaiga Generating Station Units 3 & 4.
- She will supervise key divisions:
- Operations

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- Maintenance
- Engineering Support
- The role includes 24×7 monitoring of reactor operations, safety systems and plant performance.

### Significance of the Appointment:

- It also aligns with India's goal of expanding nuclear power capacity to 100 GW by 2047.
- According to B. C. Pathak, the achievement represents "Nari Shakti" in the nuclear energy sector.

### Career and Education:

- R. M. Nachammai has more than 35 years of experience in nuclear power operations.
- She graduated in Electrical and Electronics Engineering from University of Madras in 1990 with a university rank.
- She joined NPCIL in 1991.

### Awards and Recognition:

- Received the Vikram Sarabhai Award for topping the second batch of NPCIL engineer trainees.
- Awarded NPCIL Special Contribution Award in 2010, 2014 and 2017 for outstanding work.

### Work in Nuclear Safety and Outreach:

- She has represented NPCIL in national and international nuclear safety forums.
- Participated in public awareness programs on nuclear power safety and energy.

### About Kaiga Nuclear Power Station:

- The Kaiga Nuclear Power Station currently operates four 220 MWe Pressurized Heavy Water Reactors (PHWRs).
- Total installed capacity: 880 MW.
- Units 5 and 6 are under development, which will increase capacity to 2,280 MW.

## Hical Gets Dassault Contract for Rafale Fighter Components



### Why in News?

- Hical Technologies has received a contract from Dassault Aviation.
- The Bengaluru-based company will manufacture products for control system applications of the Dassault Rafale.
- The development highlights the growing role of Indian aerospace manufacturing in the global defence supply chain.

### Key Details:

- Hical Technologies will produce critical components used in Rafale fighter aircraft control systems.
- The agreement strengthens cooperation between Indian defence manufacturers and global aerospace companies.

### Significance for India

- The contract reflects India's increasing capability in precision engineering and aerospace manufacturing.
- It supports the Make in India initiative in the defence sector.
- The partnership shows global recognition of India's manufacturing and technological expertise.

### About Rafale Fighter Aircraft

- The Dassault Rafale is one of the world's most advanced multirole fighter jets.

- It is manufactured by Dassault Aviation.
- The aircraft is used by the Indian Air Force and several other countries.

## Axis Max Life Partners with Saarathi Finance to Provide Insurance Protection for MSMEs



### Why in News?

- Axis Max Life Insurance Limited has entered into a strategic Corporate Agent partnership with Saarathi Finance and Credit Private Limited.
- The partnership aims to provide insurance protection to Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs) by integrating insurance with business loans.

### Key Details:

- Through Saarathi Finance's last-mile lending network, Axis Max Life will offer its insurance product Group Credit Life Secure (GCLS) to MSME borrowers.
- The insurance product will act as a financial safety shield for entrepreneurs.
- In case of an unfortunate event affecting the borrower, the outstanding loan burden will not fall on the entrepreneur's family or business.

### Objectives of the Partnership:

- Bridge the credit protection gap in the MSME sector.
- Integrate insurance protection directly into the digital lending process.

- Strengthen financial resilience for micro and nano-entrepreneurs across India.

### Significance:

- Supports the national vision of "Insurance for All by 2047."
- Promotes financial inclusion in Tier-3 and Tier-4 towns.
- Helps MSMEs manage financial risks while focusing on business growth and expansion.

### About Axis Max Life Insurance:

- Axis Max Life Insurance Limited is a joint venture between Max Financial Services Limited and Axis Bank.
- The company provides life insurance protection and long-term savings solutions through multiple distribution channels.
- As per FY 2024-25 audited financials, it recorded a Gross Written Premium of ₹33,223 crore.

### About Saarathi Finance:

- Saarathi Finance and Credit Private Limited is a Non-Banking Financial Company (NBFC).
- It focuses on providing credit solutions to MSMEs in semi-urban and rural India.
- The company aims to bridge the ₹44 lakh crore credit gap in the MSME sector.
- Saarathi currently operates 60+ branches across 6 Indian states.

## ASSOCHAM and ICCA Sign MoU to Boost India-Canada Trade Cooperation

### Why in News?

- The Associated Chambers of Commerce and Industry of India and Indo Canada Chamber of Commerce signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU).

- The agreement was signed during the India-Canada Business Roundtable held in New Delhi.



### Key Objectives of the MoU

- Strengthen trade, investment, and economic cooperation between both organizations.
- Increase engagement between Indian and Canadian business communities.
- Encourage companies from both countries to explore new business opportunities.

### Areas of Cooperation

- Both organizations will work together in the following areas:
- Exchange of Information:
- Share knowledge on trade policies, economic laws, and investment opportunities.
- Business Collaboration:
- Promote joint ventures and production partnerships between companies.

### Trade Promotion Activities:

- Organize trade missions and business delegations.
- Encourage participation in international exhibitions and trade events.

### Significance

- Strengthens economic and business ties between India and Canada.
- Provides a structured platform for collaboration between industries.
- Encourages greater trade and investment opportunities between the two countries.

### ASSOCHAM:

- President: Sanjay Nayar
- Founder: Dr. Niranjan Hiranandani
- Founded: 1920
- Headquarters: New Delhi
- Secretary General: Manish Singhal

### Veteran Cong leader, ex-Union minister Biren Singh Engti dies at 81



### Why in News?

- Veteran Congress leader Biren Singh Engti passed away at the age of 81.

### About Biren Singh Engti:

- Senior leader of the Indian National Congress from Assam.
- A five-time Member of Parliament (MP) from the Diphu Lok Sabha constituency.
- Entered the Lok Sabha in the 1970s.
- Won his last Lok Sabha election in 2014.

### Role in the Central Government:

- Served as Minister of State in the government led by Rajiv Gandhi.
- Contributed to political and administrative work at the national level.

### Role in Assam and Karbi Anglong:

- A prominent leader from Karbi Anglong.

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- Served as Chief Executive Member of the Karbi Anglong Autonomous Council.
- Worked for the development of hill regions in Assam.

## Farmland Rainwater Harvesting Systems Wins Water Transversality Global Award 2026



### Why in News?

- Farmland Rainwater Harvesting Systems received the Water Transversality Global Award 2026 for its innovative work in water conservation and sustainable farming practices.

### About the Award:

- The Water Transversality Global Award recognises innovative water management solutions across the world.
- It honours initiatives that help in sustainable use, conservation, and efficient management of water resources.

- The award promotes integrated water management practices to address global water challenges.

### About Farmland Rainwater Harvesting Systems:

- It is a water conservation initiative focused on collecting and storing rainwater in agricultural fields.
- The system helps farmers capture rainwater and use it for irrigation during dry periods.
- It reduces dependence on groundwater and external water sources.

### Key Benefits:

- Improves water availability for agriculture.
- Helps in groundwater recharge.
- Supports sustainable farming and climate resilience.
- Reduces water wastage during heavy rainfall.

### Importance:

- Such initiatives are important in countries facing water scarcity and irregular rainfall patterns.
- They promote climate-resilient agriculture and sustainable water management.

**Lets Revise**

- ❖ Who was the veteran Tamil filmmaker who passed away in March 2026? **Thakkali Srinivasan**
- ❖ Which 1989 science fiction film produced by Thakkali Srinivasan became successful? **Nalaya Manithan**
- ❖ In which film did Srinivasan act as an antagonist with Kamal Haasan? **Soora Samharam**
- ❖ Who won gold in the men's T44 high jump at the World Para Athletics Grand Prix? **Praveen Kumar**
- ❖ What height did Praveen Kumar clear to win gold? **1.96 metres**
- ❖ Which Indian athlete won gold in the men's T42 high jump? **Shailesh Kumar**
- ❖ Who won gold in the women's 100m T35/T37 event? **Preeti Pal**
- ❖ Which Indian athlete won gold in the men's discus throw F11/F12 event? **Monu**
- ❖ Who was sworn in as the 22nd Governor of West Bengal in 2026? **R. N. Ravi**
- ❖ Who was the previous Governor of West Bengal before R. N. Ravi? **C. V. Ananda Bose**
- ❖ Which court allowed India's first individual case of passive euthanasia in 2026? **Supreme Court of India**
- ❖ Who was the patient for whom passive euthanasia was allowed by the Supreme Court? **Harish Rana**
- ❖ In which year did the Supreme Court legally recognize passive euthanasia in India? **2018**
- ❖ Which famous euthanasia case in India involved a nurse who remained in a vegetative state for 42 years? **Aruna Shanbaug**
- ❖ Who became the first woman Chief Superintendent of an operational nuclear power plant in India? **R. M. Nachammai**
- ❖ Which nuclear power plant will R. M. Nachammai supervise as Chief Superintendent? **Kaiga Nuclear Power Station**
- ❖ Which organisation operates the Kaiga Nuclear Power Station? **Nuclear Power Corporation of India Limited (NPCIL)**
- ❖ In which state is the Kaiga Nuclear Power Station located? **Karnataka**
- ❖ Which award did R. M. Nachammai receive for topping the NPCIL engineer trainees batch? **Vikram Sarabhai Award**
- ❖ What nuclear power capacity target has India set for 2047? **100 Gigawatts (GW)**
- ❖ Which Indian company received a contract to manufacture components for Rafale fighter aircraft control systems? **Hical Technologies**
- ❖ Which company awarded the contract to Hical Technologies for Rafale components? **Dassault Aviation**
- ❖ Hical Technologies is headquartered in which city? **Bengaluru**

- ❖ Rafale fighter aircraft is manufactured by which company? **Dassault Aviation**
- ❖ Which Indian defence force operates Rafale fighter jets? **Indian Air Force**
- ❖ Which insurance company partnered with Saarathi Finance to provide credit life insurance to MSMEs? **Axis Max Life Insurance Limited**
- ❖ Saarathi Finance operates in which financial sector? **Non-Banking Financial Company (NBFC) sector**
- ❖ Axis Max Life Insurance is a joint venture between which two companies? **Max Financial Services Limited and Axis Bank**
- ❖ Which two organizations signed an MoU to strengthen India–Canada business cooperation? **ASSOCHAM and Indo Canada Chamber of Commerce (ICCC)**
- ❖ Where was the India-Canada Business Roundtable held? **New Delhi**
- ❖ Who was Biren Singh Engti? **A veteran Congress leader and former Union Minister from Assam.**
- ❖ How many times was Biren Singh Engti elected to the Lok Sabha? **Five times.**
- ❖ Which initiative won the Water Transversality Global Award 2026? **Farmland Rainwater Harvesting Systems.**
- ❖ What is the main aim of Farmland Rainwater Harvesting Systems? **To collect and store rainwater for agricultural use.**
- ❖ What does the Water Transversality Global Award recognise? **Innovative and sustainable water management solutions.**
- ❖ How does farmland rainwater harvesting help farmers? **It stores rainwater for irrigation during dry periods.**

Current affairs form the dynamic backbone of preparation for competitive examinations such as UPSC, SSC, and banking services. They bridge the gap between theoretical concepts and real-world developments, transforming static knowledge into practical understanding. In an age marked by rapid geopolitical changes, economic reforms, and policy innovations, a significant portion of these exams—often 30–35%—draws directly or indirectly from recent events.

Mastery of current affairs not only enhances scores but also cultivates analytical thinking, clarity of perspective, and decision-making skills—qualities indispensable for future administrators and professionals.

#### Key Dimensions of Importance

- **Syllabus Integration:** Current events seamlessly connect with core subjects like polity, economy, history, and geography. For instance, understanding constitutional provisions becomes more meaningful when linked to recent judicial reforms or landmark judgments.
- **Scoring Edge:** Many questions in prelims and mains are derived from contemporary developments. A well-prepared aspirant can secure quick and confident marks through accurate knowledge of high-yield topics from reliable news sources.
- **Interview Excellence:** In personality tests and interviews, panels evaluate awareness of pressing national and global issues—ranging from climate diplomacy to economic policy—requiring thoughtful, balanced responses.

As many toppers emphasize, current affairs are not a separate subject but the soul of exam preparation. Consistent engagement with credible sources like The Hindu, PIB releases, and Yojana magazine strengthens critical thinking and nurtures a well-rounded outlook, moving beyond rote memorization.

In a competitive landscape where millions aspire for limited opportunities, current affairs serve as a decisive differentiator. Adopting structured habits—daily news analysis, monthly revisions, and regular mock tests—empowers candidates to adapt confidently to evolving exam patterns. Ignoring this essential component is like navigating uncertain waters without direction—while mastering it ensures clarity, confidence, and a competitive advantage.

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