

# Daily Current Affairs

## 12 March 2025

### PM Modi Receives Highest National Award Of Mauritius

- Prime Minister Narendra Modi has become the **first Indian to receive a highest civilian award of Mauritius**, Grand Commander of the Order of the Star and Key of the Indian Ocean.
- Mauritius **Prime Minister Dr Navinchandra Ramgoolam** made the announcement during an Indian diaspora event in Port Louis this evening. The honour also adds to Mr Modi's growing list of international accolades, making it the 21st such recognition.



- Prime Minister Modi thanked the people and the government of Mauritius for giving him the country's highest civilian honour. He said, this is not just an honour for him, but an honour for the historic bond between India and Mauritius. **Mr Modi said, the deep-rooted cultural connection between** the two countries is evident in the warmth of the diaspora. In a special gesture, Prime Minister Modi also announced the issuance of Overseas Citizen of India (OCI) cards to his Mauritian counterpart Navin Ramgoolam and his spouse Veena Ramgoolam.

## U.S. INTEL CHIEF TULSI GABBARD TO VISIT INDIA



- **Mauritius Prime Minister thanked Prime Minister Modi** and the Government of India for granting OCI cards to the seventh generation of Indian descent. The community event was **attended by more than 3,500 people, including** members of the Mauritius Cabinet, government officials, and National Assembly members. Later tonight, Prime Minister Modi will hold a bilateral meeting with his Mauritian counterpart Navinchandra Ramgoolam.

### Govt Saved 48 Billion Kilowatt Of Energy

- Government **has distributed around 37 crore LED bulbs** across the country so far under the UJALA scheme. In a written reply to a question in Rajya Sabha, **Union Power Minister Manohar Lal said**, the scheme has saved about 48 billion kiloWatt per hour of energy per year.



- He said LEDs contain negligible toxic materials, making them **safer for disposal and reducing environmental pollution**. The Minister said LEDs provide a sustainable, energy-efficient lighting solution that supports environmental goals.

## Tulsi Gabbard To Visit India

- **US Director of National Intelligence Tulsi Gabbard** will visit India as part of a multi-nation trip to the Indo-Pacific. In a social media post yesterday, Gabbard said that the visit aims to build strong relationships and open lines of communication to achieve US President Donald Trump's objectives of peace and freedom.

# U.S. INTEL CHIEF TULSI GABBARD TO VISIT INDIA



- This will be **Gabbard's first visit to India since becoming the eighth Senate-confirmed Director** of National Intelligence and the first female combat veteran to hold the **position in Trump's second administration**. She previously met Prime Minister Narendra Modi last month during his visit to Washington, D.C., for a bilateral meeting with Trump at the White House.

## Ban On Awami Action Committee

- Central Government has imposed a **five-year ban on the Awami Action Committee (AAC)**, led by Mirwaiz Umar Farooq, and the **Jammu and Kashmir Ittihad Ul Muslimeen (JKIM)**, headed by Masroor Abbas Ansari, under the Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act (UAPA), 1967.

- In two separate notifications, the **Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA)** cited the **organizations' involvement in activities that threaten the sovereignty, integrity, and security of India**. According to the notification, AAC members have been accused of supporting terrorist activities, propagating anti-India narratives, and mobilizing funds for secessionist movements in Jammu and Kashmir.



- **The government has also alleged that the group incited violence**, promoted disaffection against the Indian state, and encouraged armed resistance. Multiple criminal cases have been registered against AAC and its leaders, including charges of sedition, **unlawful assembly, incitement of violence allegedly** delivering speeches against the Indian government, promoting election boycotts, and instigating protests.



- Additionally, the **NIA has filed a chargesheet against AAC spokesperson Aftab Ahmad Shah** and others for their alleged involvement in anti-national activities.
- Invoking Section 3 of the UAPA, the Centre has imposed an immediate five-year ban on the organization to prevent it from engaging in activities detrimental to national security.



- Similarly, the government accused **JKIM members** of actively supporting terrorist activities, engaging in anti-India propaganda, and mobilizing funds to promote separatist and secessionist agendas in J&K. The group has also been accused of **inciting public unrest, advocating violence**, and challenging India's constitutional framework. The government has also imposed a five-year ban on JKIM, effective immediately, under Section 3 of the UAPA.

## Commission On Status Of Women At UN

- Union Minister for Women and Child Development, **Annapurna Devi will lead India's delegation at the 69th session of the Commission on the Status of Women (CSW)** at the United Nations headquarters in New York.

**COMMISSION** on the  
**STATUS OF WOMEN**



- The session will focus on global progress in achieving gender equality and the empowerment of women, coinciding with the **30th anniversary of the Beijing Declaration** and Platform for Action. She will also participate in discussions on resourcing and **accelerating the implementation of the Beijing Declaration** and the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

## Financial Grant Scheme For Young Artists

- Ministry of Culture is implementing a financial grant Scheme by the name of **'Scholarships to Young Artists in Different Cultural Fields (SYA)'** to support young artists specialising in various cultural fields such as classical dance forms, indigenous artwork and other traditional art-forms for undergoing advanced training in their respective fields.



- Under this scheme component, a **Scholarship of Rs. 5,000/- per month** is provided upto a maximum of **400 Scholars for a period of 02 years** in four equal six-monthly instalments. The selected scholars should be in the age group of 18 years to 25 years and have been undergoing training under any Guru or Institution for a minimum of 5 years.
- The **Scholars are selected on the basis of their performance** in a personal interview / interaction before an Expert Committee constituted by the Ministry.



## Justice Bagchi Appointed As SC Judge

- Union government appointed **justice Joymalya Bagchi** as a judge of the **Supreme Court**, following the recommendation made by the Supreme Court collegium. With this elevation, **justice Bagchi is set to become the Chief Justice of India (CJI)** in May 2031, albeit for a little over four months, before retiring on October 2, 2031. His appointment fills one of the two vacancies in the Supreme Court, which has a sanctioned strength of 34 judges.



- The **Supreme Court collegium**, comprising **Chief Justice of India Sanjiv Khanna** and justices **Bhushan R Gavai**, **Surya Kant**, **Abhay S Oka** and **Vikram Nath**, had recommended Justice Bagchi's appointment on March 6. **Justice Bagchi was appointed as a judge of the Calcutta high court** in June 2011. In January 2021,

he was transferred to the Andhra Pradesh high court, before being repatriated to the Calcutta high court in November 2021. Over his 13-year tenure as a high court judge, he has gained extensive experience across diverse fields of law.

## Pakistan Train Hijacked

- In Pakistan, at **least six military personnel were killed and over 450 passengers** of the Peshawar-Quetta Jaffar Express have been taken hostage after the train came under attack from armed militants in Balochistan's Mach area.
- Media reports quoted a spokesperson for the **Balochistan government, Shahid Rind** saying that the train, which was travelling from Quetta in Balochistan province to **Peshawar in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa**, came under heavy fire during the assault leading to its derailment.



- It was also reported that **hundreds of passengers including women and children were** held by the militants during the incident. The Baloch Liberation Army (BLA), a militant separatist group operating in the region, claimed responsibility for the attack.
- The group issued a warning to Pakistan, threatening that any military response would lead to further escalation. Local media reports that authorities are **continuing their investigation into the attack**, which highlights the ongoing security challenges in the restive province of Balochistan, a region where separatist insurgencies have long been active.





## REVIEW QUESTIONS

**1. When Is Justice Joymalya Bagchi Expected To Become Chief Justice Of India**

- A. May 2029
- B. May 2030
- C. May 2031
- D. May 2032

**ANSWER: C**

**2. Name Of Financial Grant Scheme Implemented By Ministry Of Culture To Support Young Artists**

- A. National Talent Scholarship
- B. Young Artists Grant Program
- C. Scholarships to Young Artists in Different Cultural Fields
- D. Traditional Art Development Fund

**ANSWER: C**

**3. Who Is Leading India's Delegation At The 69th Session Of The Commission On The Status Of Women**

- A. Smriti Irani
- B. Nirmala Sitharaman
- C. Annapurna Devi
- D. Draupadi Murmu

**ANSWER: C**

**4. How Many Tiger Reserves Are There In Madhya Pradesh**

- A. 5
- B. 7
- C. 9
- D. 8

**ANSWER: C**

**5. What Is The Name Of The ₹2,500 Monthly Cash Scheme For Women Approved By The Delhi Government**

- A. Nari Samman Yojana
- B. Mahila Vikas Yojana
- C. Mahila Samriddhi Yojana
- D. Delhi Women's Welfare Scheme

**ANSWER: C**

**6. On Which Date Is The International Day Of Women Judges Observed Annually**

- A. March 5
- B. March 8
- C. March 10
- D. March 15

**ANSWER: C**

**7. What Record Did India Achieve By Winning The Champions Trophy Under Rohit Sharma's Captaincy**

- A. First Country To Win The Champions Trophy Twice
- B. First Country To Win The Champions Trophy Three Times
- C. First Country To Win All ICC Tournaments
- D. First Country To Win The Champions Trophy & T20 World Cup In The Same Year

**ANSWER: B**

**8. What Is "T-72"**

- A. Tank
- B. Asteroid
- C. Submarine
- D. Black hole

**ANSWER: A**

**9. The Loss And Damage Fund (LDF) Was Established At Which Event**

- A. COP26 (Glasgow, 2021)
- B. COP27 (Egypt, 2022)
- C. COP25 (Madrid, 2019)
- D. COP28 (Dubai, 2023)

**ANSWER: B**

**10. First Indian To Receive Highest National Award Of Mauritius**

- A. Rajnath Singh
- B. Narendra Modi
- C. Ajit Doval
- D. S Jaishankar

**ANSWER: B**

**11. Name Of Collateral Free Loan Initiative Launched By SBI For Women Entrepreneurs**

- A. Shakti Loan
- B. Udyogini
- C. Asmita
- D. Annapurna

**ANSWER: C**

**12. Where Was The Fisheries Startup Conclave 2.0 Held In March 2025**

- A. Bhopal
- B. Chennai
- C. Mumbai
- D. Hyderabad

**ANSWER: D**

**13. Which Country Is The World's Largest Producer Of 'Cassava'**

- A. Thailand
- B. India
- C. Nigeria
- D. Brazil

**ANSWER: C**

**14. Global Engagement Scheme Is Initiated By Which Ministry**

- A. Ministry of Tourism
- B. Ministry of Culture
- C. Ministry of Urban Development
- D. Ministry of Defence

**ANSWER: B**

**15. Kursk Region, Is Located In Which Country**

- A. China
- B. Israel
- C. India
- D. Russia

**ANSWER: D**

**16. Bangus valley, is located in which state/UT**

- A. Himachal Pradesh
- B. Jammu and Kashmir
- C. Uttarakhand
- D. Sikkim

**ANSWER: B**

**17. What Kind Of Disease Is “Vitiligo”**

- A. A disease causing loss of skin color in patches
- B. A vitamin deficiency disorder
- C. Neurological disorder
- D. None of the Above

**ANSWER: A**

**18. WHERE WAS THE “FESTIVAL OF LETTERS 2025” ORGANIZED**

- A. Mumbai
- B. Chennai
- C. New Delhi
- D. Bhopal

**ANSWER: C**

**19. India's First Battery- Grade Lithium Refinery Has Been Launched In Which City**

- A. Indore, Madhya Pradesh
- B. Greater Noida, Uttar Pradesh
- C. Solan, Himachal Pradesh
- D. Jaipur, Rajasthan

**ANSWER: B**

**20. What Name Has Been Given To Places Around & Between Two Gravitationally Bound Bodies Where A Third Object Could Stay Stationary Relative To The Other Two**

- A. Lagrangian point
- B. Ephemeris
- C. Lissajous
- D. Apside

**ANSWER: A**

