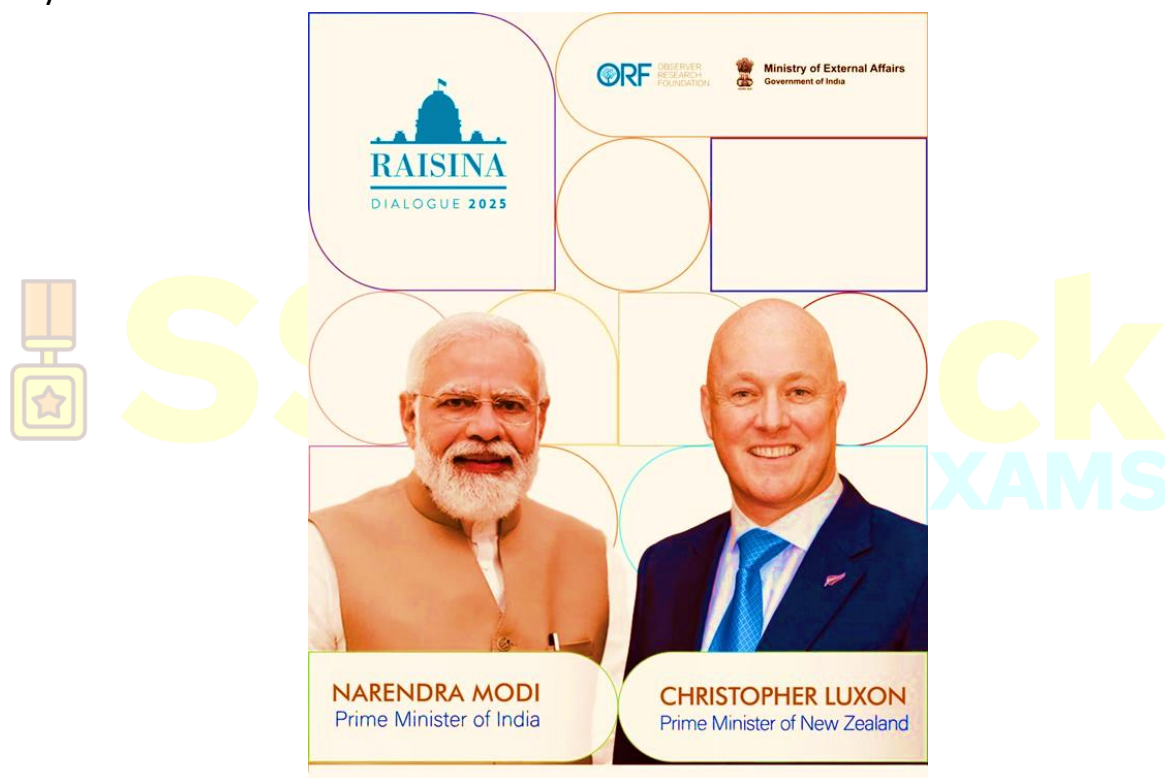


# Daily Current Affairs

## 17 March 2025

### 10th Edition Of Raisina Dialogue In New Delhi

- Prime Minister Narendra Modi will inaugurate the **10th edition of Raisina Dialogue 2025 in New Delhi**. Prime Minister of New Zealand, Christopher Luxon, will join the **inaugural session as the Chief Guest**, and deliver the keynote address.



- The three-day Raisina Dialogue will be held from today till 19th March. The theme this year is **“Kālachakra – People, Peace and Planet”**. During the event, decision makers and thought leaders of the world will engage each other across conversations in various formats, over six thematic pillars.
- **These include Politics Interrupted:** Shifting Sands and Rising Tides; Resolving the Green Trilemma: Who, Where, and How, and Digital Planet: Agents, Agencies and Absences.



- **10th Raisina Dialogue will witness participation of representatives** from about 125 countries. The participants include Ministers, former Heads of State and Heads of Government, Military Commanders, Captains of Industry, Technology Leaders, Academics, Journalists, Scholars on Strategic Affairs, Experts from leading Think Tanks, and Youth. Over 3500 participants will be joining the Dialogue in-person, and the proceedings will be viewed by millions across the world on various digital platforms.
- The **Raisina Dialogue is India's premier conference on geopolitics** and geoeconomics committed to addressing the most challenging issues facing the global community. Every year, leaders in politics, business, media, and civil society converge in New Delhi to discuss the state of the world and explore opportunities for cooperation on a wide range of contemporary matters.

## **New Zealand PM Christopher Luxon Arrives In Delhi**

- New Zealand **Prime Minister Christopher Luxon** arrived in New Delhi on Sunday afternoon on a five-day visit to India. He is accompanied by a high-level delegation, including Ministers, senior officials, businesses, media and members of the Indian diaspora community.



- Prime Minister Luxon was received by **Union Minister Prof. SP Singh Baghel** at the airport. The External Affairs Ministry in a statement said, Prime Minister Narendra Modi will hold talks with his New Zealand counterpart covering various aspects of bilateral ties.

## Stranded US Astronauts To Return To Earth

- **Two US astronauts stuck for more than nine months** on the International Space Station will return to Earth tomorrow night. In a statement, NASA said that **Sunita Williams and Butch Wilmore will** be transported home with another American astronaut and a Russian cosmonaut aboard a **SpaceX Crew Dragon** craft.



- The stranded duo have been on the **ISS since June after the Boeing Starliner spacecraft** they were testing on its maiden crewed voyage suffered propulsion issues and was deemed unfit to fly them back to Earth.
- **NASA astronaut Nick Hague and Roscosmos cosmonaut Aleksandr Gorbunov** will also return on the Dragon capsule. For Wilmore and Williams, it will mark the end of an ordeal that has seen them stuck for nine months after what was meant to have been a days-long roundtrip. Their prolonged stay was significantly longer than the standard ISS rotation for astronauts of roughly six months

## Fit India Carnival In New Delhi

- Union Minister for Youth Affairs and Sports, **Dr. Mansukh Mandaviya** along with Minister of State for Youth Affairs and Sports, Raksha Khadse will inaugurate the first-ever **Fit India Carnival at Jawaharlal Nehru Stadium** in New Delhi this evening. **Several Bollywood stars, Wrestler, Fitness enthusiast and Wellness guru** will also grace the inauguration ceremony.



The poster for the Fit India Carnival 2025 is vibrant and colorful, featuring a white background with a multi-colored border. At the top, the 'FIT INDIA' logo is displayed in blue and green. Below it, the text 'GET READY FOR THE 1<sup>ST</sup> EVER' is written in yellow, followed by 'FIT INDIA CARNIVAL' in large red letters. The dates '16<sup>th</sup> - 18<sup>th</sup> March, 2025' and the location 'JLN STADIUM' are also included. A central blue banner reads 'Let's Celebrate Fitness Like Never Before'. On the left, an illustration of a woman in a purple sports top and black leggings is shown in a dynamic pose. On the right, a woman in a brown top and pants is performing a yoga pose. The 'KEY ATTRactions' section lists various activities and performances.

**FIT INDIA**

GET READY FOR THE 1<sup>ST</sup> EVER

**FIT INDIA CARNIVAL**

**16<sup>th</sup> - 18<sup>th</sup> March, 2025**

📍 **JLN STADIUM**

Let's Celebrate  
Fitness Like Never  
Before

**KEY ATTRactions**

- Interact with India's top Fitness Icons
- Fun games and Fitness activities
- Exclusive sports zones including Cricket, Arm Wrestling etc
- Special performances including dances, Indigenous sports and Fitness acts
- Exclusive Sports Science arena
- Exciting prizes, healthy food and loads of fun activities

- The Fit India Carnival, a three-day fitness and wellness festival, to take place from today, aims to promote a healthy and active lifestyle, aligning with the **Fit India Movement's vision** of a fitter, healthier, and obesity-free nation. A host of sports activities including rope skipping, stationary cycling, arm wrestling, cricket bowling, squat and push-up challenges, etc will be the highlights over the three days at the Fit India carnival.
- During the carnival, Sports Authority of India **National Centre of Sports Sciences and Research (NCSSR)** will provide assessments related to nutritionists and psychologists, free of cost to people visiting the carnival.

## US To Impose New Travel Ban

- **Donald Trump administration is considering imposing** a new travel ban that could affect citizens from as many as **43 countries**, including Pakistan, Afghanistan, and Russia.
- A draft list of recommendations by security officials proposes categorising countries into three groups — **Red, Orange, and Yellow** — to restrict travel. Being placed on the Red List would mean a complete ban on entering the United States. **Pakistan and Russia** are included in the “Orange List,” which consists of 10 countries facing restricted travel rather than an outright ban. Other countries in the “**Orange List**” include **Myanmar**, Belarus, Haiti, Laos, Eritrea, Sierra Leone, South Sudan, and Turkmenistan.



- **The draft also places 10 countries**, including Afghanistan and Bhutan, on the Red List, meaning their citizens could face a full visa suspension. The other countries on the Red List are Cuba, Iran, Libya, North Korea, Somalia, Sudan, Syria, Venezuela and Yemen.



- **The proposal also includes a draft yellow list of 22 countries** that would be given 60 days to clear up perceived deficiencies, with the threat of being moved onto one of the other lists if they did not comply. That list includes Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Benin, Burkina Faso, Cambodia, Cameroon, Cape Verde, Chad, the Republic of Congo, the Democratic Republic of Congo, Dominica, Equatorial Guinea, Gambia, Liberia, Malawi, Mali, Mauritania, St. Kitts and Nevis, St. Lucia, Sao Tome and Principe, Vanuatu and Zimbabwe

## **Digital Transformation Award 2025**

- Prime Minister Narendra Modi commended the **Reserve Bank of India for being selected for the Digital Transformation Award 2025 by Central Banking, London, UK.** In a social media post, Mr. Modi said this accomplishment reflects an emphasis towards innovation and efficiency in governance. He added that Digital innovation continues to strengthen India's financial ecosystem and empower countless lives.



## Prime Minister's Internship Scheme

- Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman is scheduled to launch a dedicated app for the **Prime Minister's Internship Scheme (PMIS)**. The launch, aims to enhance participation by **facilitating easier registration** for the second round of the scheme, which accepts applications until March 31.
- The app seeks to address the **challenge of limited computer** access by leveraging the widespread use of mobile phones, which offer a user-friendly alternative for many applicants. In tandem with the app launch, a facilitation centre **dedicated to PMIS will be established in Kolkata**.
- This centre is a collaborative effort between the **Ministry of Corporate Affairs (MCA) and the Confederation of Indian Industry (CII)**. The CII, which operates 47 model career centres, will integrate PMIS cells to mobilise candidates and provide necessary guidance.



**PM Internship Scheme  
2024**

Providing internship opportunities to 1 crore youth in top 500 companies over 5 years

**Launch Date:** October 3, 2024

**Internship Opportunities:** 1 crore youth across 500 top companies

**Monthly Stipend:** ₹5,000 / month for selected interns for one year

**Portal Opening for Candidates:** October 12, 2024

**Online Portal:**  
[pminternship.mca.gov.in](http://pminternship.mca.gov.in)

## Special Olympics Winter Games

- Indian athletes concluded their remarkable campaign at the Special Olympics World Winter Games with **33 medals having 8 Gold, 18 Silver, and 7 Bronze** – in Turin, Italy. On the final day yesterday, India won nine medals.
- This was the **12th edition of the Special Olympics Winter Games**, happening after a long wait of 8 years. This was also the first time that Italy hosted the Special Olympics World Games.





## Hockey India Player Of The Year Awards

- India captain Harmanpreet Singh and senior goalkeeper Savita Punia won the Hockey India Balbir Singh Senior Player of the Year award in the men's and women's categories.



- **In men's hockey, Harmanpreet** led India to their second consecutive bronze medal at the 2024 Paris Olympics. He was also a part of the Tokyo Games bronze medal-winning side.
- **In women's hockey, Savita was a member of the Indian team** that came agonisingly close to winning a bronze in the Tokyo Olympics. The team had lost the third-place match to Great Britain. It was double celebration for Savita as she also won the Hockey India Baljit Singh Goalkeeper of the Year award for 2024. **This was the third time that Savita** won the award.
- **The seventh Hockey India Annual Awards** were held to commemorate 100 years of Indian hockey and also to celebrate the country's World Cup win in 1975 in Kuala Lumpur. The 1975 Men's World Cup-winning team was conferred with the Hockey India Major Dhyan Chand Lifetime Achievement award

## REVIEW QUESTIONS

1. **First Raisina Dialogue Was Held In**

- A. 2012
- B. 2015
- C. 2016
- D. 2014

**ANSWER: C**

2. **Fit India Carnival Will Be Inaugurated In**

- A. New Delhi
- B. Bhubaneshwar
- C. Chandigarh
- D. Chennai

**ANSWER: A**

3. **Which Ministry Has Launched The Third Edition Of The PM-YUVA Scheme**

- A. Ministry of Culture
- B. Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports
- C. Ministry of Education
- D. Ministry of Home Affairs

**ANSWER: C**

**4. PM's Scheme For Mentoring Young Authors. Which Organization Is Responsible For Implementing PM-YUVA 3.0**

- A. National Book Trust, India
- B. Ministry of Culture
- C. Indian Council of Historical Research
- D. Sahitya Akademi

**ANSWER: A**

**5. Which Banknote Denominations Will Be Issued In The Mahatma Gandhi (New) Series With The New Governor's Signature**

- A. ₹50 and ₹100
- B. ₹100 and ₹200
- C. ₹200 and ₹500
- D. ₹500 and ₹2000

**ANSWER: B**

**6. With Which Country Has India Signed An Mou For Cooperation In The Field Of Medical Products Regulation**

- A. Armenia
- B. Russia
- C. France
- D. Japan

**ANSWER: A**

**7. Which Company Has Jio Platforms Limited Signed A Deal With To Bring Starlink's Internet Services To India**

- A. Amazon Web Services
- B. OneWeb
- C. SpaceX
- D. Google Fiber

**ANSWER: C**

**8. What Is The Primary Goal Of The UN80 Initiative**

- A. Enhance efficiency and cost-effectiveness
- B. Create new peacekeeping missions
- C. Increase the UN's workforce
- D. Focus on climate change policies

**ANSWER: A**

**9. Where Is The First Facilitation Centre For The Prime Minister Internship Scheme Being Set Up**

- A. New Delhi
- B. Mumbai
- C. Bengaluru
- D. Kolkata

**ANSWER: D**

**10. Who First Calculated The Value Of Pi**

- A. Leonhard Euler
- B. Pythagoras
- C. Archimedes
- D. Aryabhata

**ANSWER: C**

**11. What Is The Theme For World Sleep Day 2025**

- A. Healthy Sleep, Healthy Life
- B. Prioritize Your Sleep
- C. Make Sleep Health a Priority
- D. Sleep for a Better Tomorrow

**ANSWER: C**

**12. What Is The Theme For World Consumer Rights Day 2025**

- A. Fair Digital Transactions
- B. Consumer Protection in the Digital Age
- C. A Just Transition to Sustainable Lifestyles
- D. Ethical Consumerism for a Better Future

**ANSWER: C**

**13. Water Sustainability Conference 2025 Was Organized In Which City**

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

**ANSWER: B**

**14. What Kind Of Disease Is “Thalassemia”**

- A. Respiratory disease
- B. Cardiovascular disease
- C. Genetic blood disorder
- D. Fungal infection

**ANSWER: C**

**15. Which Organization Recently Released The Report Titled “Compassion And Primary Health Care”**

- A. United Nations (UN)
- B. World Health Organization (WHO)
- C. World Bank
- D. International Red Cross

**ANSWER: A**

**16. Which Bank Is Selected For Digital Transformation Award 2025**

- A. SBI
- B. HDFC
- C. RBI
- D. ICICI

**ANSWER: C**

**17. How Many Medals India Win In Special Olympics Winter Games**

- A. 31
- B. 32
- C. 33
- D. 34

**ANSWER: C**

**18. Which City Will Host The WAVES 2025 Summit**

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

**ANSWER: C**

**19. Which Brand Has Been Ranked As The 3rd Most Valued Brand In India In The YouGov India Value Rankings 2025**

- A. Amazon
- B. Flipkart
- C. Nestle
- D. Amul

**ANSWER: D**

**20. Which Of The Following Is Not A Correct Observation As Mentioned By Megasthenes About India**

- A. There is abundant gold, silver, copper and iron in India
- B. There is a well established caste system in India
- C. There are frequent famines in India
- D. Dionysus has invaded India

**ANSWER: C**