

Daily Current Affairs

29 March 2025

Myanmar-Thailand Earthquake

- In Myanmar, 144 people have died, and 732 have so far been injured, following a powerful 7.7 magnitude earthquake that struck Myanmar and Thailand this afternoon. **The head of Myanmar's military government**, Min Aung Hlaing, in a televised speech this evening, said that 96 people have died in Nay Pyi Taw, 18 in Sagaing, and 30 in Mandalay.



- **In Thailand, at least three people were killed in Bangkok**, causing a high-rise building under construction to collapse. According to media reports, Defence Minister of Thailand Mr. Phumtham Wechayachai said three people were killed at the site where a high-rise under construction collapsed in a quake and 90 are missing in Bangkok. So far, seven people have been rescued, but unstable rubble is slowing rescue efforts.
- **The earthquake caused widespread fear in Bangkok** as buildings swayed. People evacuated offices, malls, and apartments. The city's transit system shut down, and roads were jammed. **Thailand's Department of Disaster Prevention said the quake** was felt in almost all regions of the country. Prime Minister Paetongtarn Shinawatra called an emergency meeting to assess the impact of the quake.

National Conference On Environment

- President Droupadi Murmu will inaugurate the **National Conference on Environment- 2025** in New Delhi. The two-day event is set to bring together **environmental experts, policymakers**, and activists to discuss critical environmental issues and formulate actionable solutions.



- The Conference is being organized by the **National Green Tribunal**. The meet will have four key technical sessions that will address pressing challenges faced by the environment, including climate change, pollution control, biodiversity conservation, and sustainable development.
- These sessions aim to **foster meaningful dialogue and collaboration** across sectors to promote environmental sustainability in India and globally.

6th BIMSTEC Summit

- Prime Minister Narendra Modi will embark on a **two-day visit to Thailand** on the 3rd of April to participate in the **6th BIMSTEC Summit**, this will be the Prime Minister's third visit to Thailand. **In November 2019**, Mr. Modi attended the ASEAN and East Asia Summit, which was hosted by Thailand.
- Earlier, he had **traveled to Bangkok en route to Tokyo in November 2016** when he went to pay homage to **the late King Rama IX**. Thailand is India's maritime neighbor, a valuable partner in the **Act East policy** and Vision for the **Indo-Pacific**, and a highly valued partner in BIMSTEC.



- **Thailand is the third-largest economy in ASEAN** and India's fourth-largest trading partner after Singapore, Indonesia, and Malaysia in the ASEAN region. Mr. Mazumdar said bilateral trade is almost 15 billion dollars, with India's exports to Thailand around 5 billion and imports from Thailand about 10 billion dollars. theme of the 6th BIMSTEC Summit is **"BIMSTEC – Prosperous, Resilient and Open."**

BIMSTEC



Bay of Bengal Initiative for Multi-Sectoral Technical & Economic Cooperation



Bangladesh



Sri Lanka



India



Nepal



Bhutan



Thailand



Myanmar

- **The Bangkok Vision 2030 will be adopted** at the Summit, and the Report of the BIMSTEC Eminent Persons' Group will also be endorsed to chart the future direction of BIMSTEC.



- Foreign Secretary Vikram Misri said that following the BIMSTEC Summit, Prime Minister Modi will travel to Sri Lanka from the 4th to the 6th of April for a state visit at the invitation of **Sri Lankan President Anura Kumara Dissanayake**. Earlier, the President of Sri Lanka paid a State Visit to India as his first visit abroad after assuming office.
- The Foreign Secretary said these visits in close succession reflect the importance that both countries **attach to their bilateral relations**. This will be the Prime Minister's fourth visit to Sri Lanka during his tenure in office. He last visited Sri Lanka in 2019.



U.S. Halts WTO Contributions

- **United States has halted its** contributions to the World Trade Organization as part of a broader effort by President Donald Trump's administration to cut government spending. The move is in line with Trump's "**America First**" **economic policies**, which have led to reduced U.S. engagement with global institutions. His administration has previously **withdrawn from the World Health Organization** and reduced funding for other international organizations.



- WTO had an **annual budget of 205 million Swiss francs in 2024**, with the U.S. responsible for **about 11 per cent**. However, at a WTO budget meeting held on March 4, a U.S. delegate stated that payments for the 2024 and 2025 budgets were on **hold pending a review of contributions** to international organizations. The U.S. has not provided a timeline for when a decision will be made.



Lanka India Business Association

- **Lanka India Business Association** has been officially launched in Sri Lanka to enhance economic **collaboration between India and Sri Lanka**. With India poised to become the **world's second-largest economy by 2075**, the initiative aims to foster trade, investment, and business networking between both nations.
- For decades, the **Western world has been the driving force behind** the global economy. However, recent economic trends indicate a shift eastwards, positioning India as a key player in global economic growth. **South Asia, particularly India**, is emerging as the new engine of economic expansion.



- As India rapidly grows, the neighboring countries in the region, including Sri Lanka, have a unique opportunity to capitalize on this transformation.
- **Sri Lanka's strategic location and its historical trade ties** with India make it an ideal partner for deepening economic relations.
- The economic relations between India and Sri Lanka date back centuries, with trade routes connecting the two nations through spices, textiles, and maritime commerce. Even today: **Indian goods use Sri Lanka's port** infrastructure for exports to the East.

- **Colombo Port** serves as a major transshipment hub for Indian exports. India is one of Sri Lanka's largest trading partners, fostering investments across multiple sectors.
- With India being the fastest-growing economy, the potential for stronger business ties between the two nations is immense. The formation of LIBA is expected to further accelerate this economic synergy.



- **Launch of Lanka India Business Association (LIBA)**
- The Lanka India Business Association (LIBA) is a newly established business platform that aims to:
 - Strengthen commercial ties between Indian and Sri Lankan businesses.
 - Provide a networking platform for investors and business leaders.
 - Foster collaborative projects across industries, including technology, trade, finance, and education.

National Technical Textiles Mission

- **India's textile industry** plays a crucial role in the national economy and has evolved into a hub of innovation. The country ranks as the **6th largest textile exporter globally**, holding a **3.9% share in world textile exports**.
- **Contributing nearly 2% to the GDP**, the sector is projected to expand to \$350 billion by 2030, generating **approximately 3.5 crore jobs**. While traditional textiles remain fundamental, the rise of technical textiles is transforming the

industry. These specialized fabrics prioritize functionality over aesthetics and are **categorized into 12 types, serving diverse** industries such as agriculture, healthcare, construction, and safety.



- To accelerate this sector's growth, the National Technical Textiles Mission (NTTM) was **launched in 2020, with a budget of Rs. 1,480 crore** for 2020-2026. The mission aims to strengthen research, boost exports, foster skill development, and position India as a global leader in technical textiles. The Mission has **four components**.
- **Research, Innovation and Development:** Fundamental research is conducted in Council of Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR) labs, IITs, and other reputable scientific, industrial, and academic institutions.
- **Promotion and Market Development:** It focuses on market growth, international collaborations, investment promotions, and 'Make in India' initiatives.
- **Export Promotion:** An Export Promotion Council for Technical Textiles has been established to enhance coordination and promotional activities in this sector.
- **Education, Training, and Skill Development:** It promotes higher-level technical education and skill development in technical textiles, covering engineering, medical, agriculture, and related sectors.

Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs (CCEA) approves

National Technical Textiles Mission at an outlay of Rs. 1480 crore

Components:

Research, Innovation &
Development

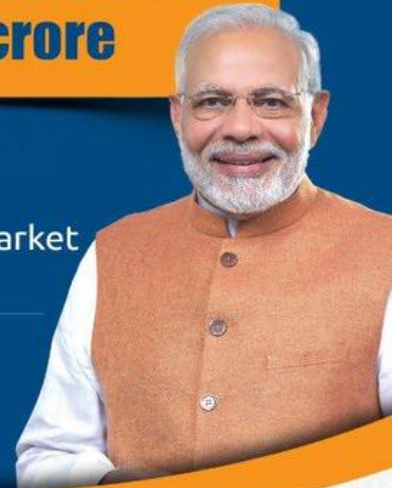


Promotion & Market
Development

Export Promotion



Education,
Training, Skill
Development



Roshni Nadar

- **Roshni Nadar, Chairperson of HCL Technologies**, has achieved a historic milestone by becoming the first Indian woman to enter the world's top 10 richest women list.



- According to the Hurun Global Rich List 2025, she **ranks 5th among the world's wealthiest women**, with a **net worth of ₹3.5 lakh crore (US\$40 billion)**. This achievement follows the **transfer of a 47% stake in HCL Technologies** from her

father, Shiv Nadar, further cementing her position as one of India’s most influential billionaires. **She remains India’s richest woman** and is now the third-richest person in the country in 2025.

Alice Walton (USA) – US\$102 Billion	Daughter of Walmart Founder Sam Walton.
Francoise Bettencourt Meyers (France) – US\$67 Billion	L'Oréal
Julia Koch & Family (USA) – US\$60 Billion	Koch Industries
Jacqueline Mars (USA) – US\$53 Billion	Global Pet Food Industry Boom.
Roshni Nadar (India) – US\$40 Billion	HCL Technologies.
Abigail Johnson (USA) – US\$32 Billion	CEO Of Fidelity Investments
Marilyn Simons & Family (USA) – US\$31 Billion	Renaissance Technologies
Linda Stephens & Family (USA) – US\$30 Billion	Endeavor Energy Resources

Khelo India Para Games 2025 Concludes

- **Khelo India Para Games 2025** saw **Haryana** once again emerging as the top-performing state with 34 gold medals, retaining its dominance from the inaugural edition held in 2023. **Tamil Nadu made significant progress**, jumping from third place in 2023 to second place in 2025 with 74 medals (28 gold, 19 silver, 27 bronze). and **Uttar Pradesh, which finished second in 2023**, dropped to **third place this year with 64 medals** (23 gold, 21 silver, 20 bronze). The event witnessed the creation of 18 national records, further highlighting the increasing competitiveness and excellence of para-athletes in India.

Rank	State	Gold	Silver	Bronze	Total
1	Haryana	34	39	31	104
2	Tamil Nadu	28	19	27	74
3	Uttar Pradesh	23	21	20	64
4	Rajasthan	22	18	24	64
5	Maharashtra	18	13	12	43
6	Gujarat	12	24	23	59
7	Karnataka	10	5	7	22
8	Delhi	8	11	20	39
9	Punjab	8	2	5	15
10	Andhra Pradesh	4	8	3	15

Asian Wrestling Championship

- In the **Asian Wrestling Championship-2025**, **Manisha Bhanwala** clinched India's first gold medal since 2021 edition, while **Antim Panghal** settled for a **bronze** at Amman in Jordan.
- **In women's 62 kg category**, Manisha defeated Korea's Ok J Kim by 8-7 to clinch the historic Amman in Jordan. Meanwhile, in **53 kg category bronze play-off**, Antim Panghal defeated Taipei's Meng H Hsieh by technical superiority without conceding a point. **Indian wrestlers have now won one gold, one silver and six bronze medals, including two** by Greco Roman wrestlers in the tournament.



REVIEW QUESTIONS

1. National Conference On Environment Will Be Hosted In

- A. New Delhi
- B. Gandhinagar
- C. Hyderabad
- D. Raipur

ANSWER: A

2. 6th BIMSTEC Summit Will Be Held In

- A. India
- B. Sri Lanka
- C. Thailand
- D. Myanmar

ANSWER: C

3. Which Of States Secured Top 3 Positions In Khelo India Para Games 2025

- A. Haryana, Maharashtra, Tamil Nadu
- B. Haryana, Tamil Nadu, Uttar Pradesh
- C. Punjab, Karnataka, Uttar Pradesh
- D. Rajasthan, Maharashtra, Tamil Nadu

ANSWER: B

4. National Technical Textiles Mission Was Launched In

- A. 2015
- B. 2019
- C. 2020
- D. 2022

ANSWER: C

5. Vertical Launch Short Range Surface To Air Missile Is Developed By Which Organization

- A. Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO)
- B. Defence Research & Development Organisation (DRDO)
- C. Hindustan Aeronautics Limited (HAL)
- D. Bharat Dynamics Limited

ANSWER: B

6. B Sumeeth Reddy, Announced Retirement, Was Associated With Which Sport

- A. Tennis
- B. Table Tennis
- C. Squash
- D. Badminton

ANSWER: D

7. PM-WANI Scheme Is Associated With Which Sector

- A. Healthcare
- B. Education
- C. Internet Services
- D. Agriculture

ANSWER: C

8. Which System Ensures Accurate Data Collection For Crop Production & Follows Data Protection Laws For Farmers' Information

- A. Agri Stack system
- B. Digital Crop Survey System
- C. Krishi Sakhis Program
- D. CSC Initiative

ANSWER: A

9. Which Of Following Is NOT One Of The Five States Selected For The Pilot Projects "Computer Didi Centers" And "Didi Ki Dukan"

- A. Jharkhand
- B. Madhya Pradesh
- C. Rajasthan
- D. Uttar Pradesh

ANSWER: D

10. Which Institution Collaborated With SAMEER On Development Of Advanced Medical Devices, Including An Indigenous MRI System

- A. IIT Bombay
- B. AIIMS
- C. Apollo Hospitals
- D. PGIMER

ANSWER: B

11. Which Company Won The Prestigious Superbrand 2025 Title For Excellence In Consumer Trust, Goodwill, And Leadership

- A. HDFC Ltd.
- B. Bajaj Finserv
- C. Tata Capital
- D. Muthoot FinCorp

ANSWER: D

12. Name Of AI Powered Chatbot Launched By Haryana

- A. Mitra
- B. Sarathi
- C. Pragati
- D. Suvidha

ANSWER: B

13. Which Ministry Has Launched The Digital Crop Survey (DCS) System

- A. Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology
- B. Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change
- C. Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare
- D. Ministry of Rural Development

ANSWER: C

14. What Kind Of Satellite Is "GSAT 18"

- A. Communication Satellite
- B. Navigation Satellite
- C. Earth Observation Satellites
- D. Astronomical Satellite

ANSWER: A

15. Bandipur Tiger Reserve Is Located In Which State

- A. Odisha
- B. Madhya Pradesh
- C. Karnataka
- D. Gujarat

ANSWER: C

16. Asian Wrestling Championship 2025 Hosten In

- A. Jordan
- B. Italy
- C. Turkey
- D. Japan

ANSWER: A

17. Who Is The Subject Of The Commemorative Postage Stamp Issued By The Department Of Posts In India

- A. Mata Amritanandamayi
- B. Mata Karma
- C. Sarojini Naidu
- D. Mother Teresa

ANSWER: B

18. When Will ATM Withdrawals Become More Expensive Due To A Fee Hike Approved By The RBI

- A. May 1
- B. June 1
- C. April 1
- D. July 1

ANSWER: A

19. Cabinet Declared Which Day As 'National Space Day' In India

- A. August 20
- B. August 23
- C. August 25
- D. August 27

ANSWER: B

20. What Is The Wallace Line

- A. A Political Boundary Between Indonesia And Australia
- B. An Invisible Boundary Separating The Ecozones Of Asia And Australia
- C. A Fault Line Causing Frequent Earthquakes In Southeast Asia
- D. A Trade Route Used In The 19th Century

ANSWER: B