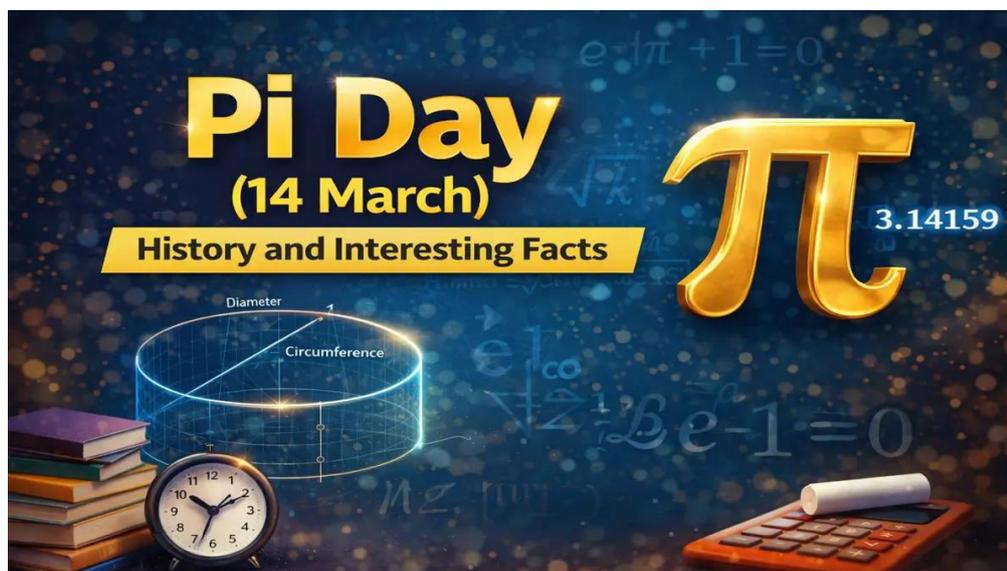


# Daily Defence Current Affairs

## 14 March 2025

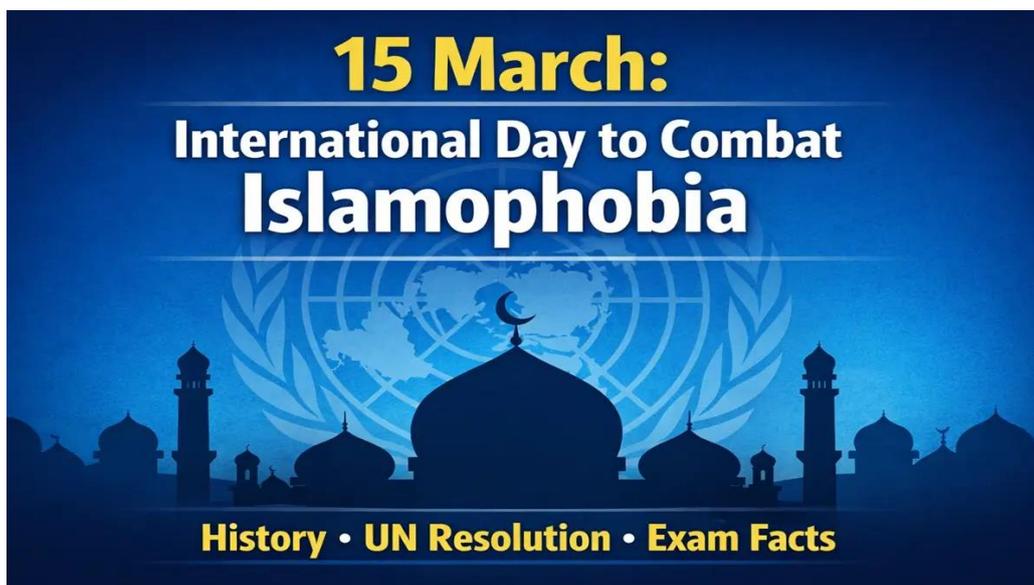
### Pi Day 2026

- Pi Day is celebrated every year on 14 March to honor the mathematical constant  $\pi$  (pi). The date 3/14 represents the first three digits of pi, which are 3.14. The day is widely celebrated by students, mathematicians, and science enthusiasts around the world.
- Pi ( $\pi$ ) is a mathematical constant that represents the ratio of a circle's circumference to its diameter. The value of pi is approximately 3.14159, and it is an irrational number, meaning its decimal digits continue infinitely without repeating.
- Pi Day is celebrated on 14 March (3/14) because the first three digits of pi are 3.14. This simple connection between the date and the number makes it an ideal day to celebrate the mathematical constant.
- Many enthusiasts also celebrate at 1:59 p.m., which represents the next digits of pi (3.14159).
- **History of Pi Day**
- Pi Day was first celebrated in **1988 by Larry Shaw**, a physicist at the Exploratorium science museum in San Francisco, USA. During the first celebration, participants walked in a circular parade and ate pies to mark the occasion.
- In 2019, UNESCO declared **14 March** as the **International Day of Mathematics**, further increasing the global importance of the day.



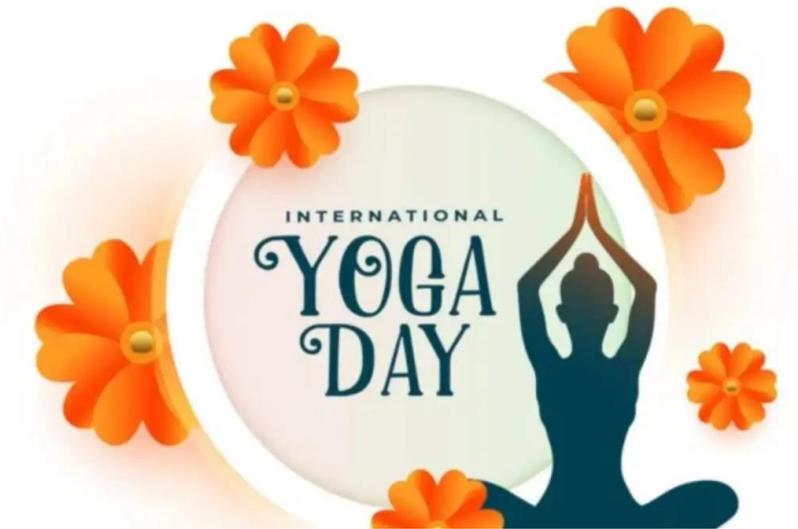
## International Day to Combat Islamophobia 2026

- The International Day to Combat Islamophobia is observed every year on 15 March to raise awareness about discrimination, prejudice, and hatred faced by Muslims around the world.
- The day encourages countries, organizations, and communities to promote tolerance, mutual respect, and peaceful coexistence among people of different religions and cultures.
- The main objective of this day is to highlight the challenges faced by Muslim communities and promote a culture of peace, understanding, and respect for religious diversity.
- Islamophobia refers to fear, prejudice, discrimination, or hostility directed against Islam or Muslims. It can appear in many forms, such as:
  - Hate speech or stereotypes about Muslims
  - Discrimination in employment or education
  - Attacks on mosques or religious sites
  - Online harassment and misinformation



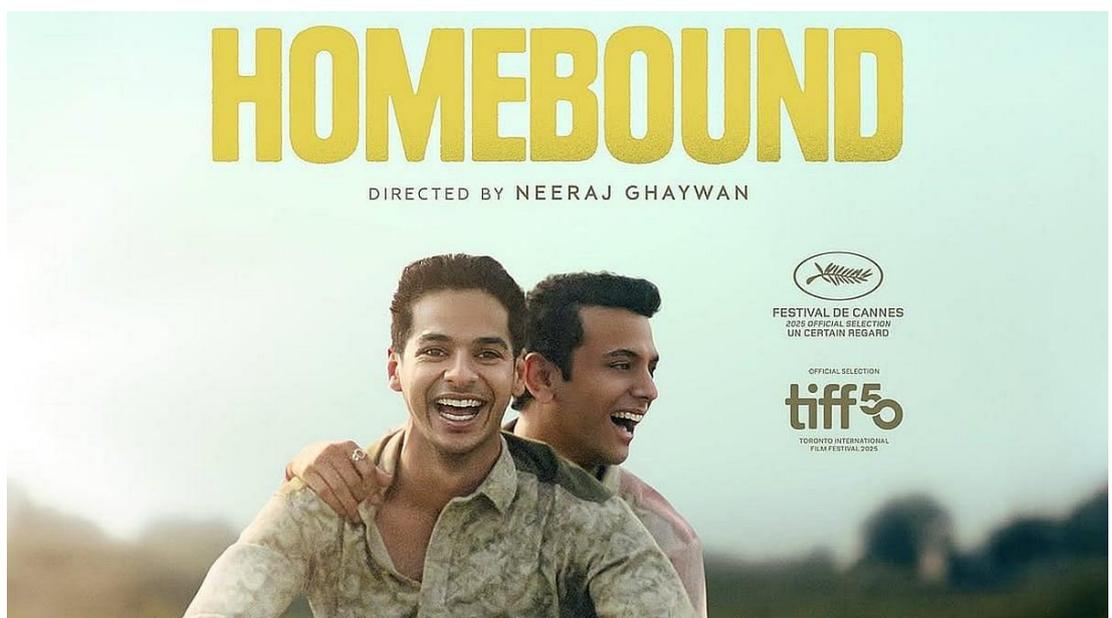
## Yoga Mahotsav 2026 Begins

- Yoga has become one of the most recognised wellness practices across the world. It promotes physical health, mental peace, and a balanced lifestyle. To celebrate this growing global movement, the Government of India launched Yoga Mahotsav–2026 in New Delhi.
- Union Minister of State (Independent Charge) for Ayush, Prataprao Jadhav inaugurated Yoga Mahotsav–2026 in New Delhi. The event was organised by the Ministry of Ayush to promote Yoga as a powerful tool for holistic health, well-being, and mental balance.
- During the event, the Minister launched “**10 Yoga Protocols for Non-Communicable Diseases (NCDs) and Target Groups.**” These protocols are specially designed to help people manage health conditions and maintain overall well-being.
- As part of preparations for International Day of Yoga 2026, the Morarji Desai National Institute of Yoga signed a Memorandum of Understanding with Habuild under the “**Yoga 365**” campaign.



## Homebound Becomes Only Indian Film Shortlisted

- Indian cinema has once again gained global recognition as Neeraj Ghaywan's film Homebound has been shortlisted for the Best International Feature Film category at the 98th Academy Awards (Oscars 2026). The announcement was made by the Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences (AMPAS) on 16 December 2025.
- Homebound is directed by Neeraj Ghaywan, known for his critically acclaimed films. The movie features a talented cast including:
  - Ishaan Khatter
  - Janhvi Kapoor
  - Vishal Jethwa



## Sujal Gaon ID for Digital Mapping of Rural Water

- The Union Ministry of Jal Shakti is taking big steps under Jal Jeevan Mission (JJM) 2.0 to provide safe drinking water to every rural household in India. With the government extending the mission till December 2028 and increasing the financial outlay, JJM 2.0 focuses on digital reforms, quality infrastructure, community participation, and long-term sustainability.
- Union Minister Shri C.R. Paatil chaired a meeting with State and UT Ministers from the Public Health Engineering Department (PHED), Rural Water Supply (RWS), and Panchayati Raj Departments. Shri V. Somanna, Minister of State, Ministry of Jal Shakti, also participated.
- Extension till December 2028 with Gram Panchayat-led governance
- Operation & Maintenance (O&M) systems strengthened
- Implementation through State/UT-specific MoUs
- Sujalam Bharat digital architecture enables source-to-tap mapping
- Jal Seva Aankalan for village-level service assessment
- Meri Panchayat app strengthens citizen oversight



## Rashtrapati Bhavan Hosts 'Purple Fest'

- A special celebration called Purple Fest was organised at Rashtrapati Bhavan on March 13, 2026 to recognise the talent, achievements, and dreams of Divyangjan (persons with disabilities).
- The event aimed to promote inclusion, respect, and awareness about the abilities of Divyangjan. Thousands of participants joined the celebration and enjoyed various activities designed especially for them.
- Participants enjoyed many activities, including:

- Fun and interactive games
- Learning sessions and awareness stalls
- Exhibitions organised by groups working for Divyangjan
- Social interaction and entertainment programs
- The festival aims to:
  - Increase understanding about disabilities
  - Encourage acceptance and respect
  - Promote equal opportunities
  - Build an inclusive society for everyone



## REVIEW QUESTIONS

1. Pi Day is celebrated every year on which date?

- A. 12 March
- B. 13 March
- C. 14 March
- D. 15 March

Answer: C. 14 March

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2. The mathematical constant  $\pi$  (pi) represents the ratio of:

- A. Area of circle to radius
- B. Diameter to circumference
- C. Circumference of a circle to its diameter
- D. Radius to circumference

Answer: C. Circumference of a circle to its diameter

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**3. Pi Day was first celebrated in 1988 by which physicist?**

- A. Albert Einstein
- B. Isaac Newton
- C. Larry Shaw
- D. Stephen Hawking

Answer: C. Larry Shaw

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**4. UNESCO declared 14 March as the International Day of Mathematics in which year?**

- A. 2015
- B. 2017
- C. 2019
- D. 2021

Answer: C. 2019

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**5. The International Day to Combat Islamophobia is observed annually on:**

- A. 14 March
- B. 15 March
- C. 16 March
- D. 18 March

Answer: B. 15 March

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**6. Yoga Mahotsav 2026 was inaugurated in which city?**

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

Answer: C. New Delhi

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**7. Yoga Mahotsav 2026 was inaugurated by which Union Minister of State for AYUSH?**

- A. Sarbananda Sonowal
- B. Mansukh Mandaviya
- C. Shripad Naik
- D. Prataprao Jadhav

**Answer: D. Prataprao Jadhav**

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**8. Which Indian film has been shortlisted for the Best International Feature Film category at the 98th Academy Awards?**

- A. Laapataa Ladies
- B. The Kerala Story
- C. Homebound
- D. The White Tiger

**Answer: C. Homebound**

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**9. The Jal Jeevan Mission (JJM) 2.0 has been extended till:**

- A. 2026
- B. 2027
- C. December 2028
- D. 2030

**Answer: C. December 2028**

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**10. The 'Purple Fest' organized at Rashtrapati Bhavan is mainly dedicated to:**

- A. Senior citizens
- B. Artists and musicians
- C. Women entrepreneurs
- D. Divyangjan (persons with disabilities)

**Answer: D. Divyangjan (persons with disabilities)**