



# Career Strategists IAS

Helpline -: 011-49324938, 9990606400

Add -: B-1/44 Sector 18 Rohini Delhi  
110089

2025-03-20

# CURRENT AFFAIRS



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## USEFUL FOR

- ★ UPSC
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## 1. Stuart Young becomes the new Prime Minister of Trinidad and Tobago

Stuart Young will be sworn in as the new Prime Minister of Trinidad and Tobago today at the Presidential Palace in St. Annes. He will replace outgoing Prime Minister Dr. Keith Rowley and is currently serving as the Minister of Energy and Energy Industries. Trinidad and Tobago is an island country in the southeastern West Indies, consisting of two main islands, Trinidad and Tobago. It is located northeast of Venezuela and northwest of Guyana.



## 2. Famous Oriya mathematician 'Ramakant Rath' passed away

Famous Oriya litterateur Ramakant Rath passed away recently. He was born in December 1934 in Cuttack, Odisha. He received many prestigious literary awards including Sarala Puraskar, Sahitya Akademi Award, Vishubha Puraskar, Saraswati Samman and Kabir Samman. In the year 2006, the Government of India awarded him Padma Bhushan for his contribution in the field of literature and education.



## 3. ASEAN Defence Ministers' Conference

The 14th meeting of the ASEAN Defence Ministers' Conference and Expert Working Group (EWG) on Counter Terrorism will be held on 19-20 March 2025 in New Delhi. India and Malaysia will co-chair the meeting, this is the first time that India will co-chair the counter-terrorism EWG. It will include representatives of 10 ASEAN member countries, 8 partner countries and the ASEAN Secretariat.



## 4. Recently World Cup 2025

The Kabaddi World Cup 2025 began in England on March 17, with the Indian men's team playing their first match against Italy in Wolverhampton. This is the first time the Kabaddi World Cup is being held outside Asia. The tournament will last for 7 days, with over 60 matches being played. A single-headed round-robin format has been adopted in both the men's and women's categories, and the top teams from each group will advance to the quarter-finals and semi-finals.





## 5. Sunita Williams's Return

NASA astronauts Butch Wilmore and Sunita Williams successfully returned to Earth on March 18 (March 19 Indian time) after spending more than 9 months in space. The delay was due to technical problems in the Boeing Starliner Crew Flight Test (CFT) mission. They landed safely in the Gulf of Mexico near Tallahassee, Florida from the SpaceX Crew Dragon capsule "Freedom".



## 6. Union Sports Minister Mansukh Mandaviya names Ayushmann Khurrana "Fit India Icon"

Bollywood actor Ayushmann Khurrana has been officially named as a "Fit India Icon". Union Sports Minister Mansukh Mandaviya announced this during the inaugural ceremony of the Fit India Movement in New Delhi. Ayushmann Khurrana has joined the Fit India Movement launched by Prime Minister Narendra Modi, which aims to inspire citizens to prioritize health and fitness.



## 7. Naval Exercise Varuna 2025 between India and France

The 23rd edition of the bilateral naval exercise 'Varuna', a symbol of strong maritime partnership between India and France, will be held from 19 to 22 March 2025. This annual exercise began in 2001 and has become a major platform to enhance the naval operational capabilities and interoperability of the two countries.



## 8. World Sparrow Day

World Sparrow Day is celebrated every year on 20 March, with the theme for 2025 - "Preserving the chirping of our little feathered friends". The house sparrow, once found in abundance in villages and cities, is now becoming rare. This day was started in 2010 by the organization "Nature Forever" to spread awareness about the declining population of sparrows and is now celebrated in more than 50 countries.



1. Who has recently become the new Prime Minister of Trinidad and Tobago?

- A - Stuart Young  
B - Mark Carney  
C - Justin Trudeau  
D - Wychmore

Stuart Young will take oath as the new Prime Minister of Trinidad and Tobago today at the President's House in St. Anne's. He will replace outgoing Prime Minister Dr. Keith Rowley. Currently he is the Energy Minister. Trinidad and Tobago is an island country in the West Indies, whose capital is Port of Spain. It became independent from the UK in 1962 and became a republic in 1976.



2. 'Ramakant Rath' was mainly a writer of which language?

- A - Hindi  
B - English  
C - Oriya  
D - Tamil

Famous Oriya writer Ramakant Rath passed away recently. He was born in December 1934 in Cuttack, Odisha. He received many prestigious awards including Sarala Puraskar, Sahitya Akademi Award, Saraswati Samman and Padma Bhushan (2006). Odia literature is an important part of the Indian literary tradition, which has its roots in ancient texts, folklore and Bhakti movement.



3. In which year was the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) established?

- A - 1956  
B - 1959  
C - 1967  
D - 1969

The 14th meeting of the ASEAN Defence Ministers' Conference and Counter-Terrorism EWG will be held on 19-20 March 2025 in New Delhi, which will be co-chaired by India and Malaysia. This is the first time that India will co-chair the group. It will include representatives of 10 ASEAN members, 8 partner countries and the ASEAN Secretariat.



4. Where is the Kabaddi World Cup - 2025 being held?

- A - Pakistan  
B - Saudi Arabia  
C - New Zealand  
D - England

The Kabaddi World Cup 2025 is being held in England from March 17, which is the first time it has been held outside Asia. The Indian men's team played the first match against Italy in Wolverhampton. The tournament will run for 7 days, with 60+ matches. The round robin format has been adopted in both men's and women's categories.





5. NASA astronauts Butch Wilmore and Sunita Williams have returned to Earth, from which SpaceX Crew Dragon capsule did this landing take place?

A - Freedom

B - Force

C - Williams

D - Wilmore

NASA astronauts Butch Wilmore and Sunita Williams returned safely to Earth on March 18 (March 19 Indian time) after spending 9 months in space. Due to technical problems with the Boeing Starliner CFT mission, the mission extended from 10 days to 9 months. They landed in the Gulf of Mexico near Florida on SpaceX Crew Dragon "Freedom".



6. Recently, which actor has been named as "Fit India Icon" by the Union Sports Minister?

A - Salman Khan

B - Vicky Kaushal

C - Ayushmann Khurrana

D - Rajkumar Rao

Bollywood actor Ayushmann Khurrana has been officially named "Fit India Icon". Union Sports Minister Mansukh Mandaviya announced this in New Delhi. He joined the Fit India Movement launched by Prime Minister Narendra Modi in 2019, which aims to inspire citizens to adopt a healthy lifestyle. Ayushmann Khurrana will play an important role in making the youth aware of fitness.



7. 'Varuna' naval exercise is held between the armies of which two countries?

A - India and Nepal

B - India and France

C - India and Australia

D - India and USA

The 23rd edition of the bilateral naval exercise 'Varuna' between India and France will be held from 19-22 March 2025. This annual exercise began in 2001 and strengthens naval cooperation. Varuna 2025 will include INS Vikrant, Charles de Gaulle, MiG-29K, Rafale-M, destroyer ships and Scorpene-class submarines.



8. When is World Sparrow Day celebrated?

A - 15 March

B - 16 March

C - 19 March

D - 20 March

World Sparrow Day is celebrated every year on 20 March, the theme for 2025 is - "Preserving the chirping of our little feathered friends". It was started by the organization "Nature Forever" in 2010. The number of sparrows has decreased due to urbanisation, pesticides and lack of greenery. For conservation, a "Save Sparrow" campaign was launched, which was supported by PM Modi.





## One Liner

1. Stuart Young has become the new Prime Minister of which country - **Trinidad and Tobago**
2. Recently an Odia language writer Ramakant Rath passed away, when was he awarded Padma Bhushan - **year 2006**
3. Where is the headquarters of the Association of South-East Asian Nations ASEAN - **Jakarta (Indonesia)**
4. When was the first Kabaddi World Cup organized - **year 2019**
5. Where is the headquarters of the International Kabaddi Federation (IKF) located - **Jaipur (Rajasthan - India)**
6. Recently, which two astronauts have successfully returned to Earth after staying in space for about 9 months - **Sunita Williams and Butch Wilmore**
7. When did the Fit India Movement start - **29 August - 2019**
8. Who is the Union Sports Minister - **"Mansukh Mandaviya"**
9. Which edition of the "Varuna" exercise between the navies of India and France is being organized - **"23rd edition, 19-22 March by 2025"**
10. What is the theme of World Sparrow Day 2025 - **"Preserving the chirping of our little feathered friends"**

