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## History of 26th March

- ◆ **1552** : **Guru Amardas** became the third **Guru of the Sikhs**.
- ◆ **1668** : **England** captured **Bombay**.
- ◆ **1972** : The fourth President of India, **V.V. Giri** inaugurated the International **Sanskrit Conference**.
- ◆ **1973** : **Farmers** in the hill states of India protesting against deforestation had put forward a proposal to protect the environment, which was called the **Visibility Movement**.
- ◆ **2006** : Indian saint **Anil Biswas** passed away.

## Current Affairs Related to 26th March

- ◆ **Environment Ministry made new rules on biodegradable plastics**. The new rules will make it harder for disposable plastic manufacturers to label products as biodegradable. It defines biodegradable plastics as capable of being degraded through biological processes in specific environments such as soil and landfills. The new rule does not specify which chemical tests can be used to detect the presence of microplastics in biodegradable plastics.
- ◆ **New Zealand said it would ban disposable e-cigarettes or vapes and increase financial penalties** for those selling such products to minors. The move comes less than a month after the government repealed a unique law to phase out tobacco smoking by imposing a lifetime ban on youth buying cigarettes. This unique law was made by the previous leftist government. Under the new laws the government will impose fines of up to NZ\$1,000,000 on retailers selling vapes to children under the age of 18.
- ◆ **A new Indian-made tank engine was tested for the first time in Mysuru**. The Defense Ministry said this demonstrates the country's technological prowess and commitment towards self-reliance in defense technologies. The 1500 HP engine represents a paradigm shift in military propulsion systems with state-of-the-art features. The project was launched in August 2020 and is expected to be completed by mid-2025. This engine will power the Arjun MK-1A tank.
- ◆ **Counseling Markets, a major player in the insurance and financial services**, has revealed plans to individualise its shares by setting up a wholly owned subsidiary called PB Pay Pvt Ltd. The goal of this subsidiary is to gain expertise in domestic and international payments integration company approved by the Board of Directors.
- ◆ **God's Cards & Company Limited, in association with Titan Company Limited proudly presents** the Titan Builders Card, an exclusive shopping credit card designed to offer unique benefits to you. With a focus on cashback, gift vouchers and reward points, this card assortment promises benefits of over Rs 2,000,000. Individuals can easily apply through Titan LCD Card digitally on the official Religious Card website.
- ◆ **Bhutan's highest civilian award, the Order of the Duk Gyalpo, will be presented** to Prime Minister Narendra Modi by Bhutan's King Jigme Khesar Namgyel Wangchuck. Bhutan's highest civilian award in 2021 was announced in recognition of PM Modi's efforts towards strengthening India-Bhutan ties, especially India's effort to provide 5,000,000 doses of COVID-19 vaccines.
- ◆ **The Indian Space Research Organization has achieved a significant milestone with the success** of India's first relaunched vehicle Pushpak with the launch objective of RLV-Lex 02 at Chitradurga. This achievement is a symbol of ISRO's success in space and technology.
- ◆ **Neeraj Mishti organized naming meetings at the International Legal Association Headquarters** to appoint Dr. Neeraj Mishti, Secretary, Legal Department of India, to lead an important institution in Geneva. Its objective was to include cooperation and innovative initiatives in logistics and information and communication technology. The Digital Innovation Board is comprised of scientists/scientific ministers and deputy ministers from ITU's 23 member countries, whose mission is to foster innovation and entrepreneurship for a more inclusive digital future.
- ◆ **The Indian Banks Association has elected Central Bank of India Managing Director** and Chief Executive Officer MV Rao as its new president. This decision was taken in the meeting of the nominated administrative committee.

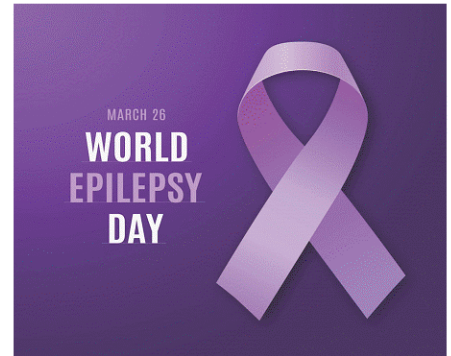


## National & International Current Affairs

**1. When is Purple Day of Epilepsy celebrated every year?**

- (A) 26th March (B) 27th March  
(C) 28th March (D) 29th March

**(A)** Epilepsy Day is an international grassroots effort dedicated to raising awareness of epilepsy around the world. Every year on March 26, people in countries around the world are invited to wear purple and host events in support of epilepsy awareness.



**2. Recently USA has announced a ban on the sale of petrol running cars.**

- (A) Year 2025 (B) Year 2030  
(C) Year 2035 (D) Year 2040

**(C)** The European Parliament and EU member states have reached a deal to ban the sale of new petrol and diesel-powered cars and vans by 2035. However, the agreement came after scientists warned that emissions would need to fall by 45% this decade to reach the 1.5% target.



**3. Who has recently been named the flag bearer of Paris Olympics 2024?**

- (A) Neeraj Chopra (B) Deepak Dahiya  
(C) Sharath Kamal (D) None of these

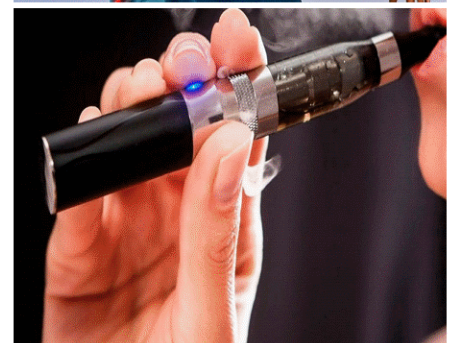
**(C)** TT player Sharath Kamal to be Indian flag bearer at Paris Olympics 2024 Two-time Commonwealth Games gold medalist, veteran table tennis player Sharath Kamal has been appointed as the flag bearer of the Indian contingent at Paris Summer Olympics 2024. The Indian Olympic Committee announced this.



**4. Recently the government of which country will ban disposable e-cigarettes?**

- (A) France (B) New Zealand  
(C) Sri Lanka (D) Germany

**(B)** The New Zealand government has announced a ban on e-cigarettes or vapes. The move comes less than a month after the country enacted a law aimed at phasing out smoking. Along with the ban, prices have also been increased in New Zealand supermarket stores and for people under 18.



**5. Who has recently won the Global Inequality Award 2024?**

- (A) Beena Aggarwal (B) James K Boyce  
(C) Both of the above (D) None of these

**(C)** Recently Professor Emeritus James Boyce won the first Global Inequality Research Award with Bima Agrawal. Economic, social and environmental inequalities have been the subject of a growing body of theoretical and empirical work, becoming visible and influential around the world.





**6. Which country has recently launched Operation Indravati?**

- (A) India (B) Pakistan  
(C) Sri Lanka (D) China

**(A)** This operation has been started to evacuate Indian citizens from Haiti to Dominican Republic. Foreign Minister Dr. S. Jaishankar said that 12 Indians have been evacuated. Haiti is witnessing violent gang wars. On February 29, gangs in Haiti began attacking the Haitian capital Port-au-Prince.



**7. Which medal has Nayana James won recently in India Open Jump?**

- (A) Silver Medal (B) Bronze Medal  
(C) Gold Medal (D) None of these

**(C)** In the 3rd Indian Open Jump Competition, Nayana James of Kerala won the gold medal in women's long jump by registering a personal best mark of 6.67 meters in Florida. His jump was spectacular as no athlete threatened the 2024 Paris Olympics qualification mark that day.



**8. Who has recently been elected as the new President of Federation of Indian Export Organization?**

- (A) Ashwini Kumar (B) Pradeep Mittal  
(C) Ashok Srivastava (D) None of these

**(A)** Recently, Ashwini Kumar of Victor Forgings, Gurgaon, Jalandhar has been elected as the new President of Federation of Indian Export Organization. Ashwini Kumar is a renowned businessman and artist from Supermarkets of Punjab, representing the engineering sector.



**9. Which new technology unit has been introduced by the Indian Army recently?**

- (A) STEAL (B) SHARP  
(C) STEAG (D) None of these

**(C)** Recently, the Indian Army has formed a specialized technical unit, Signals Technology Evolution and Adaptation Group, which is based on the research and development of artificial intelligence, future communication technology like 5G, 6G, machine learning, quantum technology etc.



**10. Who has recently been appointed as the new BMC Commissioner?**

- (A) Sanjay Kumar (B) Bhushan Gagrani  
(C) Kishore Makwana (D) None of these

**(B)** Recently Bhushan Gagrani is a 1990 batch IAS officer. He was working as Additional Chief Secretary in the Chief Minister's Office. He was also holding the responsibility of Urban Development, Water Resources and Marathi Language Department. The office of councilors of Mumbai Municipal Corporation has been abolished.

