EVERYDAY CURRENT AFFAIRS – MARCH 05, 2026

TAMILNADU

- **Tamil Nadu Maintains National Leadership in Deceased Organ Donation in Jan–Feb 2026**
- ✓ Tamil Nadu continues to lead India in deceased organ donation, recording 57 donations in the first two months of 2026 (January–February) — averaging nearly one donation per day.
- ✓ The state's programme, managed by the Transplant Authority of Tamil Nadu (Transtan), remains the most successful and consistent in the country, contributing significantly to the national pool of organs for transplantation.
- ✓ This early-year performance underscores Tamil Nadu's robust public awareness campaigns, efficient hospital coordination, and strong grief-counselling systems that have made it a model for other states.

NATIONAL

- **Indian Army and Ladakh Forest Department Sign MoU to Protect High-Altitude Wildlife**
- ✓ The Indian Army and the Forest, Ecology and Environment Department of the Union Territory of Ladakh signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) to jointly conserve key wildlife species and their habitats in Ladakh's high-altitude ecosystems.
- ✓ The agreement focuses on flagship and keystone species including Snow Leopard, Himalayan Wolf, Bharal (Blue Sheep), Ibex, Marmot, and Black-

necked Crane, aligning with India's commitments under the Global Snow Leopard & Ecosystem Protection Program (GSLEP).

- ✓ The MoU underscores the Army's dual role in national security and environmental stewardship, balancing border defence with sustainable development and biodiversity protection in one of the world's most ecologically sensitive regions.

INTERNATIONAL

- ➢ **First UK Nation to Legalise Water Cremations**
- ✓ Scotland has become the first country in the United Kingdom to legally permit water cremations (also known as alkaline hydrolysis, resomation, or aquamation), following approval of regulations by the Scottish Parliament.
- ✓ The legislation, passed in early 2026 and effective from March 2026, allows the process as an alternative to traditional flame cremation and burial, marking a significant step in modernising funeral options.
- ✓ The move positions Scotland ahead of the rest of the UK, where alkaline hydrolysis remains unregulated or prohibited in England, Wales, and Northern Ireland despite growing interest and pilot campaigns.

STATE

- ➢ **'Saksham Skill Survey':**
- ✓ Mumbai has launched India's first localised, AI-driven 'Saksham Skill Survey', a comprehensive initiative to assess the skills, education, and employability potential of youth aged 18–40.
- ✓ The survey aims to cover 55,000 households through door-to-door enumeration.
- ✓ The project seeks to train at least 15,000 candidates by next year and achieve self-reliance (via employment or entrepreneurship) for 5,000 of them, creating a replicable model for decentralised workforce planning.