EVERYDAY CURRENT AFFAIRS – MARCH 07, 2026

NATIONAL

- **Indian Government Suspends TRP Ratings for TV News Channels**
  - ✓ The Ministry of Information and Broadcasting has directed the Broadcast Audience Research Council (BARC) to suspend Television Rating Points (TRP) for TV news channels for four weeks, starting March 7, 2026.
  - ✓ The decision comes amid concerns over sensational reporting related to the Israel–Iran conflict.
  - ✓ The government said the temporary suspension aims to discourage competitive pressure among channels that may lead to exaggerated or unverified coverage, which could create fear among viewers especially those with connections to conflict-affected regions in West Asia.
  - ✓ The directive was issued under Clause 24.2 of BARC policy guidelines, which requires compliance with government instructions.

- **India Becomes Third-Largest Hub for Billionaires**
  - ✓ The Hurun Rich List 2026 reveals that India now has 308 billionaires, making it the third-largest billionaire hub globally after the United States and China.
  - ✓ India added 57 new billionaires this year, while 27 dropped out, resulting in a net rise of 24. The total wealth of Indian billionaires increased 10% to ₹112.6 trillion, reflecting strong entrepreneurial growth.
  - ✓ Mukesh Ambani remains India and Asia's richest person with a net worth of ₹9.8 trillion, followed by Gautam Adani at ₹7.5 trillion. Roshni Nadar Malhotra ranks third and is the only woman in India's top 10 richest list.

- ✓ The healthcare sector produced the most new billionaires, while Cyrus S. Poonawalla recorded the largest wealth gain. Mumbai remains India's biggest billionaire hub with 95 billionaires, and Ritesh Agarwal is the youngest billionaire at 32.

INTERNATIONAL

- ➢ **Indonesia Social Media Ban for Children Under 16**
- ✓ Indonesia will ban social media access for children under 16 starting March 28, 2026, according to an announcement by Meutya Hafid.
- ✓ The regulation will prevent minors from creating accounts on major platforms such as TikTok, YouTube, Instagram, and Facebook.
- ✓ Technology companies will be required to introduce stronger age-verification systems to ensure users under 16 cannot access these services.
- ✓ The government said the measure aims to protect minors from cyberbullying, online fraud, pornography exposure, and social media addiction.
- ✓ The move reflects a growing global trend where governments are introducing age-based digital safety regulations to safeguard children from harmful online content and excessive social media use.

STATE

- ➢ **Karnataka Proposed to Ban Social Media for Children**
- ✓ The government of Karnataka has proposed banning social media use for children under 16 in its Budget 2026.
- ✓ The proposal aims to protect children from harmful online content, excessive screen time, and digital addiction. If implemented, Karnataka could become the first Indian state to introduce such a restriction.
- ✓ The government of Andhra Pradesh is considering restrictions for children under 13 and monitored access for teenagers.
- ✓ At the national level, Ashwini Vaishnaw said the government is studying age-based regulations under the Digital Personal Data Protection Act to improve online safety for minors.

APPOINTMENT

- **Chief Justice of Madras High Court**

✓ President of India appointed Justice Sushrut Arvind Dharmadhikari as the Chief Justice of the Madras High Court (HC) under Article 217(1) of the Constitution of India.

✓ He Enrolled as an advocate in 1992, he served as the Standing Counsel for the Union of India, the Income Tax Department, and the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) between 2000 and 2015.

✓ He served as a Judge of the Kerala High Court and as a Permanent Judge of the Madhya Pradesh (MP) High Court.

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