EVERYDAY CURRENT AFFAIRS – MARCH 08, 2026

NATIONAL

➢ **'Pragati' and 'Vikas' for India's First Digital Census 2027**

✓ Pragati and Vikas for Census 2027, symbolising equal participation of female and male enumerators in India's first fully digital census.

✓ The upcoming Census 2027 will be conducted for the first time using digital tools, allowing citizens to complete self-enumeration through a secure web portal in 16 languages before the door-to-door survey begins.

✓ Four digital systems were introduced to support the census process, including the Houselisting Block Creator App, HLO Mobile Application, Self-Enumeration Portal, and Census Management and Monitoring System for real-time tracking.

✓ The nationwide exercise will be conducted in two phases—the Houselisting and Housing Census (2026) and Population Enumeration (February 2027)—with over 30 lakh enumerators and officials deployed across India.

➢ **'Sudarshan' AI Tool for Digital Surveillance**

✓ Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI) removed over 1.2 lakh misleading social media posts linked to unregistered financial influencers (finfluencers) to protect investors.

✓ SEBI Chairman Tuhin Kanta Pandey announced that SEBI has introduced an in-house AI tool "Sudarshan" to strengthen digital surveillance in financial markets.

- ✓ The "Sudarshan" AI system helps SEBI track misleading financial content online, monitor unregistered finfluencers, and detect violations of SEBI regulations.

➢ **Integrate Ayushman Bharat Pradhan Mantri Jan Arogya Yojana with ESI Scheme**

- ✓ National Health Authority (NHA) and Employees' State Insurance Corporation (ESIC) signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) to integrate Ayushman Bharat Pradhan Mantri Jan Arogya Yojana (AB PM-JAY) with the ESI Scheme.
- ✓ National Health Authority is the implementing agency of Ayushman Bharat Pradhan Mantri Jan Arogya Yojana, the flagship health insurance scheme of the Government of India.
- ✓ Under this integration, workers covered under the Employees' State Insurance Corporation scheme will be able to receive treatment in empanelled government and private hospitals under Ayushman Bharat Pradhan Mantri Jan Arogya Yojana across India.

STATE

➢ **AI "G-SPIDER" Robot**

- ✓ The Thiruvananthapuram Municipal Corporation has commissioned the G-SPIDER robotic system for hazardous canal maintenance.
- ✓ Developed by Genrobotic Innovations, the robot uses Cable-Driven Parallel Robotics and a biomimetic claw to handle irregular debris.
- ✓ Part of Swachh Bharat Mission-Urban 2.0, the project aims for 100% human-free cleaning of the Amayizhanchan canal.
- ✓ The AI identifies waste types in real-time, moving extracted materials directly to collection vehicles to eliminate human contact with toxic waste.

SPORTS

➢ **Khelo India Tribal Games 2026**

- ✓ The first-ever Khelo India Tribal Games 2026 will take place from March 25 to April 6, 2026, across Raipur, Jagdalpur, and Sarguja.

- ✓ Features 7 medal sports (Athletics, Football, Hockey, Weightlifting, Archery, Swimming, Wrestling) and 2 demonstration sports (Mallakhamb, Kabaddi).
- ✓ The mascot 'Morveer' was unveiled to represent the courage and cultural pride of India's tribal communities.
- ✓ The games are declared an 'Event of National Importance' and will be benchmarked against international technical standards by the Ministry of Youth Affairs & Sports.

IMPORTANT DAYS

- ➢ **International Women's Day – March 08**
- ✓ International Women's Day is celebrated every year on 8 March to recognise the social, economic, cultural, and political achievements of women worldwide.
- ✓ Theme 2026 – Rights. Justice. Action. For ALL Women and Girls
- ✓ The day also highlights the importance of gender equality and women's rights, encouraging action to remove discrimination and empower women globally.
- ✓ United Nations officially began celebrating International Women's Day in 1975, which was also declared as the International Women's Year.

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