

PRABHA IAS IPS COACHING ACADEMY



DAILY DOSE

CURRENT AFFAIRS – 25/03/2026

1. World Air Quality Report 2025:

Recent - Swiss company IQAir published the World Air Quality Report 2025, highlighting a deteriorating global air quality.

Only 14% of cities met the WHO's PM2.5 annual guideline ($5 \mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$) in 2025, down from 17% in 2024.

Pakistan is the most polluted country, with PM2.5 levels over 13 times WHO limit.

Loni, Uttar Pradesh, is the world's most polluted city, with PM2.5 levels about 22 times higher than WHO guidelines.

Twenty-five of the most polluted cities are in India, Pakistan, and China; Central and South Asia remain the most polluted region.

India ranked as the 6th most polluted country in 2025, improving from 5th in 2024.

New Delhi remained the world's most polluted capital for the 8th consecutive time.

2. Districts as Export Hubs Initiative:

Recent - The government has expanded the Districts as Export Hubs (DEH) initiative to strengthen district-level export capacity.

Launch: In 2019, as part of the Foreign Trade Policy (FTP).

Nodal Agency: Directorate General of Foreign Trade (DGFT) under Ministry of Commerce & Industry.

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Objective: Promote district-led export growth by identifying and developing products/services with export potential.

3. Raajmarg Infra Investment Trust (RIIT):

Recent - Raajmarg Infra Investment Trust (RIIT) was officially listed on the Bombay Stock Exchange (BSE) and the National Stock Exchange (NSE).

RIIT is an Infrastructure Investment Trust (InvIT) sponsored by the National Highways Authority of India (NHAI), under the Ministry of Road Transport and Highways (MoRTH).

It is NHAI's first InvIT to directly allow everyday retail citizens to invest in highway infrastructure equity.

Objective: Monetise operational highway assets and offer retail investors stable toll-based cash flows.

Asset Portfolio: The trust initially holds five toll roads across Jharkhand, Andhra Pradesh, Tamil Nadu, and Karnataka.

4. Halometallurgy for Lithium-ion Battery Recycling:

Recent - Scientific studies have introduced a novel halometallurgical method using common alkali salts for Lithium-ion battery (LIB) recycling.

Halometallurgy employs halogens (mainly chlorine) or halogen salts to recover critical metals like lithium from used lithium-ion batteries.

5. Hudsonian Godwit:

Recent – The Hudsonian godwit population has plunged 95% in four decades due to a complex mix of environmental changes across multiple countries.

It is a large shorebird in the sandpiper family, Scolopacidae.

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The Hudsonian godwit (*Limosa haemastica*) is one of the world's most remarkable travellers.

It is mainly found in North America and South American countries.

Conservation Status - IUCN Red List – Vulnerable.

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