SHANKAR IAS ACADEMY
SINCE 2004
Best Academy for Civil Services Exam Coaching

MICRO CURRENT AFFAIRS
FEBRUARY 2026

TNPSC
Thervupettagam

shankariasacademy.com

tnpscthervupettagam.com

CONTENTS

TAMIL NADU

- ❖ Tamil Nadu Chief Minister M.K. Stalin unveiled the foundation for an integrated Multi-Modal Facility Complex (MMFC) with Kuralagam at Broadway, Chennai.

- ❖ At the India Global Education Summit 2026 in Chennai, the 872-acre Knowledge City is planned in the Tiruvallur district as an integrated academic–industrial ecosystem.

- ❖ The State government has notified the Tamil Nadu Anand Marriage Registration Rules, 2026, Anand Marriages are solemnised according to Sikh marriage ceremonies, commonly known as Anand Karaj.

- ❖ Tamil Nadu Chief Minister M.K. Stalin announced that the Thiruvottiyur highway in Chennai would henceforth be called 'Vallalar Nedunchalai'.

- ❖ The DMK government plans to install a 125-foot statue of Chola king Raja Raja Chola at the Grand Chola Museum in Thanjavur.

- ❖ In a first of its kind, the Madras High Court is set to use an artificial intelligence (AI)-assisted algorithm system called 'Super law Courts'.

- ❖ The Tamil Nadu State Council for Science and Technology (TNSCST) won the first prize at the 38th Kerala State Science Congress.

- ❖ Tamil Nadu Chief Minister unveiled the statue of the late actor 'Kalaivanar' N.S. Krishnan in Chennai.

- ❖ Tamil Nadu Chief Minister inaugurated the State's first glow garden in Mamallapuram.

- ❖ Tamil Nadu Chief Minister M.K. Stalin announced that a statue of former Premier (CM) of Madras presidency, Omandur Ramasamy Reddiyar would be installed on the campus of the Government Medical College, Omandurar Government Estate, Chennai.

- ❖ 50 years ago, on February 1, 1976, the Tamil Nadu government was dismissed for the first time in history.

- ❖ The Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman proposed the development of 15 archaeological sites Lothal, Dholavira, Rakhigarhi, Adichanallur, Sarnath, Hastinapur, and Leh Palace across the country into vibrant and experiential cultural destinations.

- ❖ Tamil Nadu Chief Minister M.K. Stalin inaugurated the renovated Poompuhar tourism complex at Poompuhar, Mayiladuthurai district, Tamil Nadu.

- ❖ Tamil Nadu Chief Minister M.K. Stalin inaugurated an eco-park at Navalur Lake in SIPCOT (State Industries Promotion Corporation of Tamil Nadu Limited), Siruseri, Chengalpattu district.

- Tamil Nadu Chief Minister M.K. Stalin announced that the Tamil Biennale will be held in January 2027 at the Tamil Nadu Global Tourism Summit 2026 in Chennai.

- Tamil Nadu will receive 4.097% of the net proceeds of shareable Central taxes, as per the recommendations of the 16th Finance Commission.

- Tamil Nadu Chief Minister will inaugurate Ranipet's first car manufacturing, at the State Industries Promotion Corporation of Tamil Nadu (SIPCOT) complex in Panapakkam.

- The Tamil Nadu government informed the Madras High Court that it issued a Government Order (G.O.) on January 21, 2026, to abolish the police orderly system.

- Over 500 stone age tools have been discovered in Tiruchi, Pudukottai, and Namakkal districts, Tamil Nadu, suggesting Lower and Middle Palaeolithic habitation.

- Tamil Nadu Chief Minister M.K. Stalin unveiled Tamil Nadu's first statue of German philosopher and communist leader Karl Marx at the Egmore Museum complex in Chennai.

- V.O. Chidambaranar (VOC) Port Authority has become the first port in India to deploy an Anti-Drone System.

- Tamil Nadu is projected to become a $150 billion electronics hub by 2030.

- Tamil Nadu recorded the highest per capita income growth in India, increasing from 0.07% in 2020–2021 to 11.19%.

- Tamil Nadu recorded its highest-ever monthly deceased organ donations with 33 donors in January 2026.

- Tamil Nadu's Gross State Domestic Product (GSDP) reached ₹31.19 lakh crore in 2024–25, with real growth of 11.2%, the highest among major States.

- Tamil Nadu ranks first in the country in terms of the number of safe deliveries conducted in Government hospitals.

- Tamilnadu's Maternal Mortality Ratio (MMR) has dropped to 35 per lakh live births, and the Infant Mortality Rate (IMR) stands at 12 per thousand live births.

- Tamil Nadu ranks first in the country with a higher education enrollment rate of 47 per cent, nearly double the national average.

- The foundation stone for the Rs 261-crore Global Sports City was laid by Tamil Nadu Chief Minister M.K. Stalin in Chennai.

- The Tamil Nadu government signed Memoranda of Understanding (MoUs) worth ₹5,980 crore to promote semiconductor and aerospace manufacturing.

- The 2,300-year-old rock paintings at Kumittipathi village in Coimbatore district remain without protection despite being declared a protected monument in 2025.

- The Greater Chennai Corporation presented its ₹9,319 crore Budget for 2026–2027.

NATIONAL

- 77th Republic Day Parade was led by Parade Commander Lieutenant-General Bhavnish Kumar, General Officer Commanding of Delhi Area.

- The Government of India has notified Coking Coal as a Critical and Strategic Mineral under the MMDR Act, 1957 (Mines and Minerals Development and Regulation Act).

- The Census will be done in two phases, with the House listing and Housing Census (HLO) to be held from April to September 2026 and the PE in February 2027.

- India has launched its first AI-enabled university pilot at Chaudhary Charan Singh University (CCSU), Meerut, Uttar Pradesh.

- Union Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman proposed to support the mineral-rich states of Odisha, Kerala, Andhra Pradesh, and Tamil Nadu.

- The Supreme Court has ruled that the right to menstrual hygiene is an integral part of the right to life under Article 21 of the Constitution.

- Tap water coverage in urban areas has increased by 64% since 2011 under the Atal Mission for Rejuvenation and Urban Transformation (AMRUT) and AMRUT 2.0.

- India became the world's second most optimistic consumer market in January 2026.

- Indian Railways commissioned 472.3 km of Kavach Version 4.0 safety system in a single day, the largest ever in the country.

- Union Budget 2026–27 announced a new scheme to develop a Buddhist Circuit in the Northeast, The scheme aims to preserve and develop Buddhist temples and monasteries in the northeastern States.

- The 2026 Delhi Declaration was adopted during the second India–Arab Foreign Ministers' Meeting held in New Delhi.

- Union Government signed an agreement with various stakeholders to establish the Bharat Container Shipping Line (BCSL) to strengthen maritime logistics.

- India and China recorded a historic bilateral trade of USD 155.6 billion in 2025, growing by about 12% during the year, Indian exports to China increased by 9.7% in 2025.

- The Union Government released the first national data on waste-pickers under the NAMASTE (National Action for Mechanised Sanitation Ecosystem) scheme.

- The Union Ministry for Railways announced the completion of second Mountain Tunnel MT-6 in Palghar, Maharashtra, for the Mumbai–Ahmedabad High-Speed Rail (MAHSR) project.

- India's first dedicated Glass Museum is being developed in Firozabad, Uttar Pradesh, known as the "Glass City of India".

- Indian Railways has launched India's first LNG-Diesel dual-fuel DEMU (Diesel Electric Multiple Unit) train at Sabarmati in Ahmedabad.

- The book Red Lines Redrawn: Operation Sindoor and India's New Normal, authored by Major General Bipin Bakshi (Retd), Air Marshal Rajesh Kumar (Retd), Ambassador Anil Trigunayat, and Brigadier Akhelesh Bhargava (Retd), details India's Operation Sindoor.

- The Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change (MoEFCC) notified the Solid Waste Management Rules, 2026, replacing the SWM Rules, 2016, under the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986.

- The Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation (MoSPI) launched the PAIMANA (Project Assessment, Infrastructure Monitoring and Analytics for Nation-building) portal.

- The Union Department of Fisheries has sanctioned a Smart and Integrated Fishing Harbour at Mayabunder, Andaman & Nicobar Islands.

- Rajasthan is the largest wool-producing state in India, contributing 16,013.50 thousand kg (47.53% of total production).

- Steel Authority of India Limited (SAIL) received the "Great Place to Work" certification for February 2026–February 2027.

- India participated as a Partner Country at Gulfood 2026 in Dubai for the first time, with participation led by APEDA (Agricultural and Processed Food Products Export Development Authority).

- India sent the Devnimori Buddha relics to Sri Lanka for a public exposition in Colombo from February 4–10, 2026.

- India is in talks with China to explore opening an additional route for the Kailash Mansarovar Yatra, including Shipki La Pass in Himachal Pradesh.

- India marked 50 years of the Bonded Labour System (Abolition) Act (BLSA), 1976, which abolished bonded labour.

- The Sawalkote Hydropower Project is being fast-tracked after the suspension of the Indus Waters Treaty following the 2025 Pahalgam terror attack.

- Indian Railways has deployed an Artificial Intelligence (AI)-based system to prevent elephant deaths on railway tracks.

- The SATYA Portal was launched under the Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology (MeitY).

- India has been designated Country of the Year at BIOFACH 2026, the world's largest organic trade fair held in Nuremberg, Germany, from 10–13 February 2026.

- India has proposed reforms in the Kimberley Process Certification Scheme to improve the regulation of the global diamond trade.

- A new report by Zscaler has ranked India second globally in enterprise Artificial Intelligence and Machine Learning usage.

- Prime Minister Narendra Modi shifted his official workspace to Seva Teerth, a newly built complex near Raisina Hill in New Delhi.

- The Indian Army will host the first-ever International Military Adventure Challenge Cup (IMACC – International Military Adventure Challenge Cup) 2026 in the Eastern Himalayas.

- The Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs approved India's first underwater twin-tube road-cum-rail tunnel project in Assam.

- The Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology (MeitY) launched Kaushal Rath, a mobile Artificial Intelligence (AI) awareness initiative under the "Yuva AI for All" National AI Literacy Programme in February 2026.

- India became the second-largest active smartphone installed base globally in 2025, with over 740 million smartphones in use, after China.

- Balaghat, Madhya Pradesh, has been selected as the pilot district under the World's Largest Grain Storage Plan in the Cooperative Sector.

- The Adani Group entered the nuclear power sector after the passage of the Sustainable Harnessing and Advancement of Nuclear Energy for Transforming India (SHANTI) Act, 2025.

- The Indian Prime Minister inaugurated the first Emergency Landing Facility (ELF) in Northeast India at Moran Bypass in Dibrugarh, Assam.

- India's first National Cow Culture Museum will be established in Mathura, Uttar Pradesh.

- The Assam Rifles plans to induct indigenous Tangkhul Hui and Kombai dog breeds into its dog squad and phase out foreign breeds by 2050.

- The Indian Navy has assumed the command of Combined Task Force-154 (CTF-154) for the first time.

- The Government of India has launched White Revolution 2.0 to increase milk procurement by 50 % over the next five years.

- The Union Cabinet has approved the launch of the Urban Challenge Fund (UCF) with ₹1 lakh crore central assistance.

- Union Home Minister has launched India's first Central Bank Digital Currency (CBDC)-based Public Distribution System (PDS) in Gandhinagar, Gujarat.
- Tamil Nadu reports the highest incidence of consanguineous marriages among peer States at 28%, according to estimates based on the National Family Health Survey-5 (NFHS-5).
- Larsen & Toubro (L&T) partnered with NVIDIA to build India's first sovereign gigawatt-scale Artificial Intelligence (AI) factory infrastructure.
- The Rajya Sabha Member of Parliament P. Wilson introduced a private member's Constitution (Amendment) Bill, 2026, to provide reservation in judicial appointments.
- The Prime Minister presented the M.A.N.A.V. framework at the India AI Impact Summit in New Delhi, M.A.N.A.V. stands for Moral and Ethical Systems, Accountable Governance, National Sovereignty, Accessible and Inclusive Artificial Intelligence (AI), and Valid and Legitimate Systems.
- 'Bharat GI' is launched by the Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade (DPIIT) to promote India's GI tagged products globally under the tagline "A World Exclusive."
- India has operationalised its first private-sector helicopter Final Assembly Line (FAL) for the H125 at Vemagal, Karnataka.
- The Delhi Declaration was formally adopted at the India AI Impact Summit 2026 held in New Delhi.
- The Ministry of Agriculture has launched Phase-1 of Bharat VISTAAR in Jaipur, Rajasthan, during the AI Summit 2026.
- The President of India inaugurated the Centenary Celebration of the Ol Chiki script in New Delhi to mark 100 years of its invention.
- Prime Minister inaugurated the world's first commercial-scale Second-Generation (2G) bioethanol plant that uses bamboo as feedstock at Golaghat in Assam.
- The 80th anniversary of the 1946 Royal Indian Navy (RIN) Revolt is observed on 18 February 2026.
- India assumed the chairmanship of the Indian Ocean Naval Symposium (IONS) at the 9th Conclave of Chiefs held in Visakhapatnam.
- The National Highways Authority of India (NHAI) has launched India's first Bee Corridors initiative along National Highways.
- The Indian Navy launched its first indigenously designed and built Cadet Training Ship (CTS) 'Krishna' at the L&T Shipyard in Kattupalli, Chennai.
- The Prime Minister of India inaugurated India's first Namo Bharat Rapid Rail Transit System (RRTS – Regional Rapid Transit System) on the Delhi–Meerut corridor connecting Delhi and Meerut in Uttar Pradesh.

- The union Health minister launched the Secure AI for Health Initiative (SAHI) and Benchmarking Open Data Platform for Health AI (BODH) at the India AI Impact Summit 2026 to strengthen India's health AI ecosystem.

- The Ministry of Home Affairs has released India's first anti-terror policy, named PRAHAAR.

- Prime Minister Narendra Modi became the first Indian Prime Minister to address the Knesset Plenum (Parliament of Israel) during his two-day visit to Israel.

- Amaravati in Andhra Pradesh will host India's first Quantum Valley under the National Quantum Mission.

- Vice-President C. P. Radhakrishnan has released the updated Tamil and Gujarati editions of the Constitution of India at Uprashtrapati Bhavan.

- India remained the second-largest buyer of Russian fossil fuels in January 2026, according to data released by the Centre for Research on Energy and Clean Air (CREA).

- The Indian Navy will commission INS Anjadip at Chennai Port, and it is the third ship under the Anti-Submarine Warfare Shallow Water Craft (ASW-SWC) project.

- India established its first government-supported National Biobank dedicated to Lysosomal Storage Disorders.

- The Department of Biotechnology (DBT) has launched "SUJVIKA", an Artificial Intelligence (AI)-based Biotech Product Data Portal, on 25 February 2026, marking its 40th Foundation Day.

INTERNATIONAL

- The India-European Union free trade agreement (FTA) is widely termed as the "mother of all deals", India allowed European Union (EU) banks to open 15 branches in the country over a four-year period.

- France's National Assembly backed legislation to ban children under 15 years old from social media.

- India has agreed to import goods worth about 100 billion US dollars annually from the United States for the next five years.

- Spain announced a nationwide ban on social media access for children under 16 years.

- India has joined the BRICS Centre for Industrial Competencies (BCIC) to strengthen manufacturing skills and industrial cooperation among BRICS countries.

- India backed the FORGE (Forum on Resource, Geostrategic Engagement) initiative at the Critical Minerals Ministerial in Washington DC.

- A two-year-old, Jude Owens from Manchester (UK), set two Guinness World Records by becoming the youngest player to make a bank shot in pool and a double-pot shot in snooker.

- China commissioned the world's largest compressed-air energy storage (CAES) power plant in Jiangsu province, with a storage capacity of 2,400 megawatt hours (MWh) and a power generation capacity of 600 megawatts.

- India has paid $35.18 million to the United Nations (UN) Regular Budget for 2026, This makes India part of the 'honour roll' of 51 UN Member States who paid their dues in full and on time.

- US President Donald Trump announced Project Vault, a $12-billion initiative to build a strategic stockpile of critical minerals.

- India and the World Bank Group announced the New Country Partnership Framework (NCPF) for 2026–2031 to support India's development aligned with the Viksit Bharat vision.

- India and the United Kingdom signed a Social Security Agreement in New Delhi.

- The North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) launched the "Arctic Sentry" mission to strengthen security in the Arctic region after tensions related to Greenland.

- The World Economic Forum launched the Davos Compact on Antimicrobial Resistance (AMR) in 2025 to support global action against drug-resistant infections.

- The Union Cabinet approved the Startup India Fund of Funds 2.0 (FoF 2.0) with a corpus of ₹10,000 crore.

- The Union Government informed Lok Sabha that 8,630 complaints were received against sitting judges in the last 10 years.

- Cyclone Gezani made landfall in Toamasina, a major port city in Madagascar.

- A copper tool excavated in Egypt has been re-identified as a possible bow drill after fresh microscopic analysis.

- India and France launched the India-France Year of Innovation to promote cooperation in technology and research.

- Archaeologists discovered a 2,000-year-old Iron Age temple complex at Hedegaard in Denmark.

- The United Nations Environment Programme Finance Initiative (UNEP FI) has launched the UNEP FI Impact Centre, The centre is a specialised platform to support impact management in financial institutions.

- India and France upgraded their ties to a "Special Global Strategic Partnership" during French President Emmanuel Macron's visit to India.

- The siege and capture of El-Fasher city in North Darfur, Sudan, has been reported to bear "hallmarks of genocide" following a United Nations-mandated independent fact-finding mission's investigation.

- Charax Spasinou was an ancient city in southern Mesopotamia, near the Tigris River in present-day Iraq, recently rediscovered using advanced archaeological technology.

- Poland withdrew from the Ottawa Convention (Anti-Personnel Mine Ban Treaty).

- After the India AI Impact Summit 2026, plans were announced for the next global AI summits in Geneva (2027) and the UAE in 2028.

- South Korea lodged a diplomatic protest against Japan's Takeshima Day event held on 22 February 2026 in Shimane Prefecture.

- China is the largest producer of bell pepper (capsicum) in the world.

ECONOMY

- The Union Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation (MoSPI) released details of a new Consumer Price Index (CPI) series, The base year of CPI has been revised from 2011–12 to 2023–24.

- The National Statistics Office (NSO) will conduct a nationwide Migration Survey from July 2026 to June 2027.

- Kotak Mahindra Bank became the first bank in India to issue a fully digital Foreign Portfolio Investor (FPI) licence.

- The United Arab Emirates (UAE) became the largest overseas destination for Indian blue-collar workers in 2025, surpassing Saudi Arabia.

- India's gross NPAs (Non-Performing Assets) of scheduled commercial banks fell to a historic low of 2.15% in September 2025.

- The Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation (MoSPI) announced a revision of the base year for key economic indicators, Gross Domestic Product (GDP) and Index of Industrial Production (IIP) will have a new base year of 2022-23, while the Consumer Price Index (CPI) base year is revised to 2024.

- India's retail inflation was recorded at 2.75% in January 2026 under the new Consumer Price Index (CPI) series (Base: 2024 = 100).

- The Government of India revised the base year of India's merchandise trade indices from 2012–13 to 2022–23.

SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

- ❖ The Atomic Scientists set the Doomsday Clock at 85 seconds to midnight on January 27, 2026, the closest it has ever been.

- ❖ The DRDO successfully demonstrated Solid Fuel Ducted Ramjet (SFDR) missile technology.

- ❖ DRDO successfully test-fired the nuclear-capable Agni-3 ballistic missile (surface-to-surface missile) off the Odisha coast.

- ❖ The Indian Air Force's Pechora surface-to-air missile system has been fully digitised to improve air defence capability.

- ❖ The National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) released ExoMiner++, an open-source artificial intelligence model to detect exoplanets.

- ❖ Google DeepMind launched AlphaGenome, an artificial intelligence tool that predicts how genetic mutations affect gene regulation and human diseases.

- ❖ A rare red aurora was observed over Hanle, Ladakh, after a powerful solar flare triggered a geomagnetic storm.

- ❖ The James Webb Space Telescope (JWST) discovered the most distant galaxy named MoM-z14.

- ❖ Azista Space achieved India's first in-orbit imaging ("in-orbit snooping") capability by capturing images of the International Space Station (ISS) using an indigenous satellite.

- ❖ ISRO's Space Applications Centre identified a safe landing site near Mons Mouton on the Moon for Chandrayaan-4.

- ❖ Moltbook is an AI-only social networking platform created by Matt Schlicht, CEO of OctaneAI, designed for artificial intelligence (AI) agents to post, comment, and interact without human prompts or moderation.

- ❖ Researchers from India – Australia have developed a flexible and economical biosensor capable of rapidly detecting myoglobin, a critical cardiac biomarker linked to the early stages of a heart attack.

- ❖ iLive Connect was introduced as the world's first doctor-led Artificial Intelligence (AI) powered home healthcare ecosystem.

- ❖ Haven-1 is expected to become the world's first private space station, planned for launch in 2027.

- ❖ Hindustan Aeronautics Limited (HAL) and Russia's United Aircraft Corporation (UAC) signed an agreement to produce Superjet-100 (SJ-100) aircraft in India.

- ❖ Recently, the European Space Agency (ESA) has released a high-resolution image of the 2026 Winter Olympic venues in northern Italy using the Copernicus Sentinel-2 mission.

❖ Scientists from Stanford University created the first global map of rare continental mantle earthquakes.

❖ The AIIMS, New Delhi, conducted the first remote real-time ultrasound on a patient at India's Maitri research station in Antarctica.

❖ Bengaluru-based Sarvam AI has unveiled two Artificial Intelligence (AI) language models at the India AI Impact Summit 2026 in New Delhi.

❖ VoicERA, an open-source Voice Artificial Intelligence (AI) stack, was launched at the India AI Impact Summit 2026 on the BHASHINI National Language Infrastructure.

❖ Gnani.ai has launched Vachana Text-to-Speech (TTS) and Speech-to-Text (STT) models, which are trained on more than one million hours of Indian voice data.

❖ BharatGen unveiled PARAM 2 17B, a 17-billion-parameter multilingual Mixture-of-Experts (MoE) foundational model.

❖ IIT Madras Global Research Foundation launched its first Applied Artificial Intelligence (AI) Innovation Centre at Dubai CommerCity, UAE.

❖ The International Solar Alliance (ISA) launched the Global AI-for-Energy Mission at the India AI Impact Summit 2026 in New Delhi.

❖ The Sun produced an X8.3 solar flare on 1 February 2026, the strongest solar flare recorded this year.

ENVIRONMENT

❖ Patna Bird Sanctuary in Etah district, Uttar Pradesh and Chhari-Dhand in Kutch district of Gujarat have been added to India's Ramsar network.

❖ Sunabeda Wildlife Sanctuary is located in Odisha's Nuapada district, it was recently declared Maoist-free status.

❖ The United States is officially out of the Paris Agreement under the administration of President Donald Trump.

❖ The Al-Jawf region of Saudi Arabia recorded snowfall in its interior desert areas for the first time in recorded history in late 2025.

❖ A pair of peacocks was spotted at about 6,000 ft near Manali in Himachal Pradesh, which is unusual for this species.

❖ A faunal survey conducted in Karimpuzha Wildlife Sanctuary, Kerala, recorded several new species in the sanctuary.

❖ Volcán de Fuego (Volcano of Fire), one of the most active volcanoes in Central America, erupted recently in Guatemala.

❖ The dugong population in Tamil Nadu has been estimated at 270 individuals.

- The foundation stone for Tamil Nadu's first Sea Turtle Conservation Centre was laid at Guindy in Chennai.

- Goa became the second Indian state, after Kerala, to publish a state-level Bird Atlas.

- Researchers discovered a new mushroom species named Hemileccinum indicum in the Indian Himalayas.

- Researchers discovered two new marine worm species along the West Bengal coast in the northern Bay of Bengal, The species are Namalycastis solenotognatha and Nereis dhritiae.

- A reticulated python (Malayopython reticulatus) was discovered in Sulawesi, Indonesia, It has been recognised by the Guinness World Records as the longest measured snake in the world.

- Colyttus bilineatus, a rare jumping spider belonging to the family Salticidae, was recorded for the first time in India in Assam.

- Researchers discovered a new orchid species named Diplozentrum papillosum in the Idukki district of Kerala, belonging to the Diplozentrum genus endemic to the southern Western Ghats.

- A Rusty-spotted Cat was recorded alive in Shergarh Sanctuary in Baran district of Rajasthan.

- The 16th Tamiraparani water bird survey recorded over 21,000 water birds in southern Tamil Nadu.

- A new flowering plant species, "Dicliptera pakhalica," has been discovered in Pakhal Wildlife Sanctuary, Telangana.

- Recently, the Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR)–Central Marine Fisheries Research Institute (CMFRI) achieved captive breeding of the mangrove clam Geloina erosa.

- Researchers have discovered a new dragonfly species named Lyriothemis keralensis in Kerala.

- A recent study reported a rise in lion-tailed macaque populations in human-dominated landscapes of the Anamalai Hills in the Western Ghats.

- The Sangtam tribal body in Nagaland passed a resolution to protect pangolins and stop illegal hunting and trade.

- A mud volcano recently erupted in Diglipur in the Andaman Islands.

- The Indian Grey Hornbill was voted as the 'Bird of Tirupattur' district in a public poll conducted by the Forest Department.

❖ The Chhattisgarh Forest Department has started six "hornbill restaurants" in Udanti Sitanadi Tiger Reserve for the Malabar Pied Hornbill.

❖ The wetlands in Murshidabad district, called the "kidneys of South Bengal," are shrinking quickly at about 2.1 % per year.

❖ Three new cubs were born at Kuno National Park, Madhya Pradesh, increasing India's total cheetah population to 38.

❖ The Philippine eagle is one of the largest and rarest eagles in the world and is popularly known as the "monkey-eating bird."

❖ Palamu Tiger Reserve has launched the 'Vanjeevi Didi' initiative to promote community-based wildlife conservation.

❖ Scientists of the Zoological Survey of India have discovered a new species of Diplura named Lepidocampa sikkimensis in the eastern Himalayas.

REPORTS AND INDICES

❖ The World Nuclear Association released the World Nuclear Outlook Report 2026.

❖ The United Nations published a landmark report on global water bankruptcy in January 2026, titled "Global Water Bankruptcy: Living Beyond Our Hydrological Means in the Post-Crisis Era.

❖ The International Organization for Migration (IOM) released the Global Appeal 2026 Report.

❖ The World Bank released the 2025 report "A Breath of Change" on air pollution in the Indo-Gangetic Plains and Himalayan Foothills.

❖ The International Energy Agency (IEA) released the Electricity 2026 report on global electricity markets.

❖ NITI Aayog released 11 reports on "Scenarios Towards Viksit Bharat and Net Zero."

❖ NITI Aayog released the sixth edition of "Trade Watch Quarterly" for Quarter 2 of FY 2025–26 (July–September 2025) in New Delhi.

❖ NITI Aayog released a report titled "Revitalising Apprenticeship Ecosystem: Insights, Challenges, Recommendations and Best Practices".

❖ The Asia and the Pacific SDG Progress Report 2026 was released by the United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP).

Report	Organization	Top	Bottom	India's position
Artificial Intelligence (AI) investment	World Economic Forum (WEF)	United States (US) and Singapore	–	8
Global Soft Power Index 2026	Brand Finance	United States, China, and Japan	–	32
Panchayat Advancement Index 2.0	Ministry of Panchayati Raj	Tripura	–	
QS Europe Rankings 2026	–	The University of Oxford	–	
Global Biomass Energy Production Rankings 2026	–	United States	–	5
QS 2026 - Most Affordable City for International Students	–	Delhi	–	
Global LEED Certifications	US Green Building Council (USGBC)	United States	–	2
Global Innovation Index	World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO)	China	–	7
Network Readiness Index 2025	–	–	–	45
Women, Peace and Security Index 2025–26	–	Denmark	–	131
Corruption Perceptions Index 2025	–	Denmark	–	91
The Global AI Brain Race Report 2026	–	United States	–	6

STATES

❖ The Economic Survey 2025–26 reported that Karnataka leads India's generative artificial intelligence startup ecosystem.

❖ India nominated Meghalaya's living root bridges for the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) World Heritage List 2026–27.

❖ Uttar Pradesh made Aadhaar-based authentication mandatory for property registration from 1 February 2026.

❖ The Kerala Government has announced free education up to the graduate level for Arts and Science students in the State Budget 2026–27.

❖ Odisha's Buddhist Diamond Triangle has been added to India's UNESCO World Heritage Tentative List by the UNESCO World Heritage Centre.

❖ The Kerala State becomes India's First to Provide Free Graduation Education and School Student Insurance.

❖ Chittoor district enters the Guinness World Records as CM Chandrababu Naidu of Andhra Pradesh distributes 5,555 e-cycles.

❖ Ahmedabad City Crime Branch has become the first police force in India to integrate Aadhaar verification with PATHIK software.

❖ Karnataka has set up the Karnataka Platform-Based Gig Workers Welfare Development Board in January 2026.

❖ Dhamtari in Chhattisgarh became the first district in India to collect property tax through the SAMARTH Panchayat portal.

❖ Gujarat has emerged as India's top renewable energy state with 42.58 GW capacity, contributing 16.5% of the national total.

❖ Madhya Pradesh will observe 2026 as the 'Year of Agriculture', theme for the year is "Prosperous Farmers – Prosperous State."

❖ Andhra Pradesh launched the Pilloo AI which is a voice-based accounting app designed for micro, small and medium enterprises (MSMEs).

❖ A review meeting on the development of the Matabari Tourism Circuit in Tripura was chaired by the Union Minister of Communications and Development of North Eastern Region.

❖ A rare early 8th-century CE Telugu inscription has been discovered at Pitikayagulla in Andhra Pradesh.

❖ Andhra Pradesh signed a MoU with FICCI-FLO to establish an exclusive women's industrial park.

- Tripura Gramin Bank (TGB) launched India's first Regional Rural Bank (RRB) co-branded RuPay credit card to expand digital banking services and financial inclusion in rural and semi-urban areas.

- NTPC Green Energy Limited (NGEL) is going to develop India's first large-scale green urea production ecosystem at the Pudimadaka Green Hydrogen Hub near Visakhapatnam, Andhra Pradesh.

- Alwar district (Rajasthan) became the first district in India to achieve 100% insurance coverage under the "Insurance for All by 2047" roadmap.

- NITI Aayog released a draft plan to make Andhra Pradesh a clean energy hub by 2035.

- Kerala became the first Indian state to announce a dedicated Elderly Budget for FY27.

- The Centre signed a tripartite MoU to create the Frontier Nagaland Territorial Authority (FNTA).

- The First Women-Led Industrial Park was inaugurated at Gowribidanur, Karnataka, by FICCI Ladies Organisation (FLO) Bangalore.

- Airbus inaugurated a Centre of Excellence (CoE) at Gati Shakti Vishwavidyalaya (GSV) in Vadodara, Gujarat, to promote sustainable aviation research, innovation, and skill development in the aerospace sector.

- The Chief Minister of Odisha inaugurated India's first Flat Rolled Products (FRP) aluminium manufacturing unit at the Aditya Aluminium complex in Sambalpur district.

- Andhra Pradesh will formally launch the Amaravati Quantum Valley (AQV) project.

- Odisha announced the development of the National UAV (Unmanned Aerial Vehicle) Test and Innovation Corridor at Rangeilunda during Wings India 2026.

- Adampur Airport in Punjab was renamed Guru Ravidas Ji Maharaj Ji Airport, during Guru Ravidas' birth anniversary event in Jalandhar.

- Cochin International Airport (CIAL) in Kerala will become the first airport in India to operate hydrogen-powered buses for passenger transport to reduce emissions in airport transportation.

- Uttarakhand Chief Minister laid the foundation stone of the Sharda River Corridor Project at Tanakpur in Champawat district to promote tourism, infrastructure development, and employment generation.

- Himachal Pradesh Chief Minister launched 'Padhai with AI' in Bilaspur district, The initiative uses Artificial Intelligence (AI) to provide digital learning, exam-oriented study material, and personalized support.

- Kerala launched NeophyteID, an artificial intelligence (AI)-powered mobile application to detect invasive plant species.

- Uttar Pradesh presented its first Economic Survey 2025–26 in the State Legislative Assembly.

- Mumbai Coastal Road introduced India's first musical road on the northbound lane from Nariman Point to Worli on the Mumbai Coastal Road.

- The Delhi Metro Rail's Magenta Line will become the longest corridor in the Delhi Metro network, stretching about 89 kilometres.

- Odisha recorded its highest marine dolphin population in five years, with 765 dolphins counted in the 2026 census.

- The government of Uttar Pradesh presented a Budget of ₹9.12 lakh crore for the financial year 2026–27 in the State Assembly.

- Goa is set to release its first biodiversity and cultural features map, developed by WWF India (World Wide Fund for Nature India), to promote environmental awareness among students.

- The Andhra Pradesh Legislative Assembly introduced an Artificial Intelligence (AI)-based digital attendance system for Members of the Legislative Assembly (MLAs) in 2026.

- The Indian Prime Minister inaugurated the Kumar Bhaskar Varma Setu and the Northeast's first Emergency Landing Facility (ELF) in Assam.

- Kerala became the first State in India to approve a comprehensive Urban Policy.

- Bihar presented an Artificial Intelligence (AI)-powered remote e-voting system at the India AI Impact Summit held in New Delhi.

- The Kerala government has declared tidal flooding as a State-specific disaster.

- Kerala has approved India's first comprehensive Graphene Policy to promote research, development and manufacturing of graphene.

- The Bihar state cabinet approved the construction of a new international airport at Sonepur in Saran district.

- Losar Festival 2026 is celebrated from 18–20 February in McLeod Ganj, Himachal Pradesh, marking the Tibetan New Year and the start of the Fire Horse Year.

- Delhi Chief Minister inaugurated the CM Shri School at Sarojini Nagar, marking India's first AI-driven comprehensive education model.

- The Maharashtra government, led by Chief Minister Devendra Fadnavis, has revoked a decade-old 5% reservation for socially and educationally backward sections of the Muslim community.

- The 1,750-megawatt (MW) Demwe Lower Hydel Project in Arunachal Pradesh has received an 11-year extension of environmental clearance till 2037.

❖ Bela Gram Panchayat from Bhandara district, Maharashtra, was showcased at Mumbai Climate Week 2026 as India's first net-zero Panchayat.

❖ The National Green Tribunal (NGT) directed the Uttar Pradesh government to change the Suav's status from "drain" to "river" in official records, Suav (also called Suwawan) is a tributary of the Rapti River in Balrampur district, Uttar Pradesh.

❖ The Jammu and Kashmir government is considering diversion of Ravi river water to the Jammu region and revival of the Tulbul Navigation Barrage Project after the suspension of the Indus Waters Treaty (1960).

❖ Saundala village in Maharashtra declared itself a caste-free village on 5 February 2026 through a Gram Sabha resolution.

❖ A 12th-century multi-lingual Hoysala inscription was discovered at K. Bettahalli village in Mandya district, Karnataka.

INITIATIVES, SCHEMES AND CAMPAIGNS

Name	Ministry/Organization	Aim
Mahatma Gandhi Gram Swaraj Initiative	–	The initiative aims to improve global market linkages and branding support for khadi and related products.
Divyangjan Kaushal Yojana	–	Will provide customised, industry-relevant training to Divyangjans in Information Technology (IT), AVGC (Animation, Visual Effects, Gaming and Comics), Hospitality, and Food & Beverages sectors.
Divyang Sahara Yojana	–	Aims to ensure timely access to high-quality assistive devices for eligible Divyangjans.
SBI CHAKRA Initiative	–	It aims to build institutional capability to assess and finance sunrise and high-technology sectors.
Sampoornata Abhiyan 2.0	–	The campaign aims to achieve saturation of 5 Key Performance Indicators (KPIs) in 112 Aspirational Districts and 6 KPIs in 513 Aspirational Blocks across India.

Fuel-conservation campaign	–	The SAKSHAM (Sanrakshan Kshamata Mahotsav) 2026 was launched in Chandigarh and is observed from February 1 to February 15, 2026.
Yuva Sahakar Scheme	The National Cooperative Development Corporation (NCDC)	Newly formed cooperative societies with innovative ideas
SabhaSaar Initiative	Ministry of Panchayati Raj	It aims to make Gram Sabha and Panchayat meetings easier to document by automatically converting audio and video recordings into text summaries.
Tamil Nadu Urban Greening Policy 2026	–	The aim is to develop climate-resilient, sustainable, and liveable cities by increasing urban green cover.
JALAJ Livelihood Centres	Union Minister of Jal Shakti	The initiative aims to link river conservation with sustainable livelihoods in the Ganga River basin.
NPS Swasthya Pension Scheme	Pension Fund Regulatory and Development Authority (PFRDA	It aims to integrate health-related financial benefits with the National Pension System (NPS).
Mukhyamantri Gramotthan Yojana	–	The aim is to strengthen rural governance and infrastructure in villages.
Mukhya Mantrir Eti Koli Duti Paat Scheme	Government of Assam	The initiative aims to support the tea tribe and the indigenous communities of Assam.
Pudhumai Penn scheme	–	Under the scheme, ₹1,000 per month is provided to girl students studying in colleges.
Lakhpati Bitiya Yojana	Delhi government	The scheme will begin on 1 April 2026 and provides financial assistance totalling ₹56,000 during a girl's schooling and higher education, which is expected to grow to around ₹1 lakh with interest.

Lymphatic Filariasis Elimination Campaign	Union Ministry of Health and Family Welfare	India aims to eliminate Lymphatic Filariasis by 2027 under Sustainable Development Goal 3 (SDG-3).
PM RAHAT Scheme **PM RAHAT (Road Accident Victim Hospitalization and Assured Treatment).**		The scheme provides cashless treatment up to ₹1.5 lakh per road accident victim for 7 days from the date of the accident.
Baby Care Kit Scheme	Government of Tamil Nadu	to reduce the Infant Mortality Rate (IMR) among low birth weight (LBW) babies.
Lakhpati Didi Scheme	The Government of India	The initiative aims to increase income opportunities and promote rural women's entrepreneurship.
Sthree Suraksha Scheme	Kerala government	To provide financial support to unemployed women and transwomen from economically weaker sections.
'Anbu Karangal' Scheme	–	Provides monthly financial assistance of Rs.2,000 to protect children who have lost their parents, and to ensure that they continue their schooling up to the age of 18 without dropping out.
Anbu Cholai	–	To alleviate the difficulties faced by the elderly, day-care centers.
'Perunthalaivar Kamarajar College Development Scheme'	–	To improve the infrastructure in arts and science, engineering and polytechnic colleges.
'Kalloori Kanavu' Scheme	–	Implemented to guide students who have completed their school education in selecting higher education courses aligned with their interests.
'Vetri Nichayam' Scheme	–	Tamil Nadu Skill Development Corporation, to equip youth with skill training and prepare them for employment.

Scheme	Government	Objective
'Ungal Thoguthiyil Muthalamaichar' Scheme	–	To fulfill ten priority demands arising from the long-standing grievances of people.
The 'Kalaignar Kaivinai Thittam'	–	The objective of providing financial assistance, skill training, and comprehensive infrastructure support for the development of artisans engaged in 25 categories of handicrafts.
Neithal Restoration Movement'	–	The Government is undertaking mangrove restoration across 3,733 hectares.
'Iyothee Thass Pandithar Habitation Development Scheme',	–	The infrastructure facilities in the Adi Dravidar and Tribal habitations is being improved.
'Tholkudi' Scheme	–	To enhance infrastructure facilities in tribal habitations.
'Annal Ambedkar Overseas Scholarship for Higher Education Scheme'	–	To reduce the financial burden on students pursuing postgraduate or research studies.
'Chief Minister's Adi Dravidar and Tribal Socio-Economic Development Scheme' (CM ARISE)	–	With the objective of empowering persons belonging to the Adi Dravidars and Tribal communities as entrepreneurs.
Mobile Bidi Pustaka Hidi' campaign	The Karnataka Government	The campaign aims to develop a reading habit and improve concentration and academic performance among students.

Award	Awardee	Associated field	Remarks
–	Roshini	Class 9 student from Ranipet	Won a gold medal at the 29th All India National Championship 2026 for Traditional Martial Arts, held in Goa.
Republic Day Parade 2026	Best Marching Contingent-Indian Navy Best Marching Contingent -The Delhi Police The top three Tableaux from States and Union Territories-Maharashtra (Ganeshotsav: A Symbol of Aatmanirbharta), Jammu & Kashmir (Handicrafts and Folk Dances), and Kerala (Water Metro and 100% Digital Literacy: Aatmanirbhar Kerala for Aatmanirbhar Bharat). The Best Tableau from Central Ministries and Departments -(Vande Mataram – The Soul Cry of a Nation). Ministry of Culture	–	–
State Film Awards – 2016/2022	Best actor awards - Vijay Sethupathi, Keerthy Suresh, Karthi, Nayanthara, Dhanush, Jyothika, Suriya, Aparna Balamurali,	–	–

	Arya, Lijomol Jose, Vikram Prabhu, and Sai Pallavi Best film awards - Maanagaram, Aram, Pariyerum Perumal, Asuran, Koozhangal, Jai Bhim, and Gargi The best director awards - Lokesh Kanagaraj, Pushkar–Gayathri, Mari Selvaraj, R. Parthiban, Sudha Kongara, T.J. Gnanavel, and Gautham Ramachandran		
Best State for Promotion of Aviation and Ecosystem	Uttarakhand	–	–
–	Captain Hansja Sharma	–	First woman officer of the Indian Army qualified to fly the Rudra Armed Helicopter
–	Sunetra Pawar	–	The first Woman Deputy Chief Minister of Maharashtra
President's Police Colour Award	Sikkim Police	–	–
Padma Bhushan	S.K.M. Maeilanandhan K.R. Palaniswamy	–	–
Padma Shri	H.V. Hande, Ranjani, Gayathri, Punnia murthy, Natesan, Rajastapathi Kaliappa Goundar, V. Kamakoti,	–	–

	K. Ramasamy for science and technology Othuvaar Thiruthani Swaminathan for art Thiruvaarur Bakthavathsalam for art and writer Sivasankari		
–	Sir Mark Tully	A former BBC journalist	He was knighted in 2002 and awarded the Padma Bhushan in 2005.
Grammy Awards 2026	Dalai Lama - Best Audio Book, Narration and Storytelling Recording. Best Music Film - Steven Spielberg	–	–
	S.S. Rajagopalan	Eminent educationist	He was a member of the committee that formulated Samacheer Kalvi and served on the technical committee of the All-India Forum for Right Education.
First Prize at the Swachhata Pakhwada Awards 2025	Paradip Port Authority of Odisha was named Cleanest Port of the Year	–	–
–	Elon Musk	–	The first person in history to cross a net worth of $800 billion, according to Forbes, following the merger of SpaceX and the xAI company.
–	Yumnam Khemchand Singh	New CM of Manipur	–
Global Teacher Prize 2026	Indian teacher Rouble Nagi	–	–

–	Soraya Aghaei Hajiagha,	An Iranian badminton player	The first female member from Iran to the International Olympic Committee (IOC).
–	Gyalyum Ashi Dorji Wangmo Wangchuck	Queen Mother of Bhutan	22nd Upendra Nath Brahma 'Soldier of Humanity' Award 2025.
Poompuhar State Awards 2025-26	K. Venkatesh, C. Sangeetha, A. Babu, K. Reeta, M. Shabana, S. Murugan, A. Raj, A. Gavvabeevi, T. Celine Mary, and M. Kumar.	–	–
–	Samrat Rana and Suruchi Singh	–	Won a silver medal in the 10m air pistol mixed team event at the Asian Shooting Championship 2026 held in New Delhi.
Kalaignar Ninaivu Kalaithurai Vithagar Award	Veteran actor M.N. Rajam (2024) and veteran filmmaker S.P. Muthuraman(2025)	–	–
–	Kabak Yano from Arunachal Pradesh	Indian mountaineer	Successfully summited Mount Aconcagua in Argentina.
"Most Proactive State" award under RCS–UDAN (Regional Connectivity Scheme – Ude Desh ka Aam Nagrik) in the Non-Priority Area category.	Uttar Pradesh	–	–
–	Devika Sihag	A badminton player from Haryana	Won her first Badminton World Federation (BWF) Super 300 title at the Thailand Masters 2026.

Wiley Research Heroes Prize 2025	Dr. Chandrakant Lahariya	An Indian public health expert	He became the first Indian to receive this global research recognition.
Crafoord Prize 2026	Veerabhadran Ramanathan	Indian-origin climate scientist	Veerabhadran Ramanathan is known for research on greenhouse gases (GHGs) and global warming.
–	Meghana Sajjanar	–	Won individual bronze medal in the Asian Rifle and Pistol Shooting Championships 2026, held in New Delhi.
–	Aditya Pandya	–	17 years, became India's youngest male analogue astronaut after completing a lunar-habitat simulation mission at Dholavira in the Rann of Kutch, Gujarat.
–	Smaran Sarvesh	Indian archer	Won the gold medal in the Recurve Under-18 Men's category at the NIMES Archery Tournament 2026 held in France.
	Thanya Nathan C		Became the first visually challenged woman in Kerala to top the Judicial Service disability merit list for Civil Judge Junior Division recruitment.
	Anahat Singh	Indian squash player	Entered the world top 20 rankings after winning her first Professional Squash Association PSA

			Bronze title at the Squash on Fire Open 2026 in Washington, USA
Chang-Crandall Humanitarian Award 2026	Dr. Haripriya Aravind and Dr. R. Venkatesh	Senior ophthalmologists	–
–	Ritu Tawde	Mumbai Mayor	The first Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) Mayor of Mumbai in 44 years.
Outstanding Service for Prevention of Blindness Award 2026	Mohan Rajan	Ophthalmologist	–
–	Aalin Sherin Abraham, a 10-month-old baby	–	Became Kerala's youngest organ donor after she died in accident.
Freestyle Chess World Championship	Magnus Carlsen	–	–
–	Lucas Pinheiro Braathen	–	won Brazil's first-ever Winter Olympics gold medal in alpine skiing at the giant slalom event during the 2026 Winter Olympics.
	David J. Farber	Grandfather of the Internet	He was an American computer scientist who contributed to the development of early computer networking and the expansion of ARPANET, the precursor to the Internet.

BBC Awards 2025	Smriti Mandhana - BBC Indian Sportswoman of the Year 2025 Divya Deshmukh - Emerging Player of the Year award for winning the FIDE Women's World Cup. Preethi Pal - Para-Sportswoman of the Year Anjali Bhagwat - Lifetime Achievement Award for her career in shooting	–	–
The Award of Merit at the 2025 UNESCO Asia-Pacific Awards for Cultural Heritage Conservation	475-year-old Our Lady of Grace Cathedral in Vasai, Maharashtra	–	–
–	Sanae Takaichi	Japan's first woman PM	–
–	Ranvir Sachdeva	–	Youngest speaker at the India AI Impact Summit 2026
–	cue sports player	Pankaj Advani	Won the Liber Win Champions Cup 2026 and was named Indian Brand Ambassador for Liber Win.
–	Rob Jetten		Became the youngest Prime Minister of the Netherlands

–	Retired IAS officer Atulya Misra and retired IPS officer Abhay Kumar Singh	State Information Commissioners in the Tamil Nadu Information Commission.	–
–	R. Nallakannu	–	R. Nallakannu was a leader of the CPI and served as the Tamil Nadu State Secretary for three terms from 1992.

EVENTS AND SUMMITS

❖ Ministry of Civil Aviation, Airports Authority of India (AAI), and Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce and Industry (FICCI) was organized a major civil aviation conference and exhibition named Wings India 2026 in Hyderabad.

❖ India will host the World Seafood Congress (WSC) 2026 for the first time in Chennai.

❖ The World Governments Summit 2026 was held in Dubai, UAE.

❖ The 25th edition of Bharat Rang Mahotsav, the world's largest international theatre festival, will be held in Rohtak, Haryana.

❖ PLASTINDIA 2026, one of the world's largest plastics exhibitions, is held in New Delhi.

❖ The Black Swan Summit India 2026 was held in Bhubaneswar Odisha under the Bharat Netra initiative.

❖ The 5th Rüsoma Orange Festival began at Rüsoma village near Kohima, Nagaland, promoting horticulture-led rural development and orange cultivation. The festival is held under the theme "Abundance of Rüsoma."

❖ A World Radio Day Conclave 2026 was hosted by Akashvani Raipur in collaboration with UNESCO in Chhattisgarh.

❖ India hosted the first BRICS Sherpa and Sous-Sherpa Meeting in New Delhi as part of its 2026 chairmanship of BRICS, The theme of India's chairmanship is "Building for Resilience, Innovation, Cooperation and Sustainability."

- The Bharat Bodhan AI Conclave 2026, organised by the Ministry of Education in New Delhi, focused on using Artificial Intelligence (AI) to improve school education, including literacy, teaching, governance, and multilingual learning.

- The Rajasthan desert city of Jaisalmer will host the country's first Jain Chadar Mahotsav from 6 to 8 March 2026.

- A national conference on "Emerging Trends, Technologies, and Artificial Intelligence in Veterinary Medicine: Challenges and Opportunities" began in Chennai.

- Tamil Nadu celebrated five years of sporting achievements at the 'Champions of Tamil Nadu' event in Chennai.

- The International Conference on Dam Safety (ICDS) 2026 concluded in Bengaluru.

- The 39th Ordinary Session of the Assembly of Heads of State and Government of the African Union was held in Addis Ababa, Capital of Ethiopia.

- Mumbai will host the Earthshot Prize 2026, founded by Prince William, for the first time during Mumbai Climate Week.

- The 23rd edition of BioAsia 2026, an international life sciences summit, has started in Hyderabad with a focus on Artificial Intelligence (AI), automation, drug discovery, and biologics development, The theme of the summit is "TechBio Unleashed – Artificial Intelligence (AI), Automation, and Revolutionary Changes in Life Sciences."

DEFENCE EXERCISES AND OPERATIONS

Name	Countries/ Organization Involved	Venue
Agni Pariksha	Indian Army and Indo-Tibetan Border Police (ITBP)	Arunachal Pradesh
KHANJAR-XIII	India-Kyrgyzstan	Assam
Vayu Shakti-2026	Indian Air Force (IAF)	Rajasthan
Exercise MILAN	Indian Navy	Visakhapatnam, Andhra Pradesh
Exercise Vajra Ghaat	The Indian Army	Rajasthan
Exercise Vajra Prahar	The Indian Army and the United States Army	Himachal Pradesh.

SPORTS

❖ Carlos Alcaraz of Spain defeated Novak Djokovic of Serbia in the 2026 Australian Open men's singles final, Novak Djokovic became the oldest man in the Open Era to reach an Australian Open final.

❖ Elena Rybakina of Kazakhstan clinched her second Grand Slam title by defeating world No. 1 Aryna Sabalenka of Belarus in the 2026 Australian Open women's singles final.

❖ India won the ICC Under-19 Cricket World Cup 2026, defeating England in the final at Harare, Zimbabwe.

❖ The Winter Olympics 2026/ Milano Cortina 2026 will be held in February 2026 in Milan and Cortina d'Ampezzo, Italy.

❖ India finished first in the medal table at the Asian Rifle/Pistol Championship 2026, held at Dr. Karni Singh Shooting Range, New Delhi.

IMPORTANT DAYS

Date	Important Day	Theme
January 25	World Leprosy Day 2026	"Leprosy is curable, the real challenge is stigma".
January 27	International Day of Commemoration in Memory of the Victims of the Holocaust 2026	"Holocaust Remembrance for Dignity and Human Rights"
January 30	World Neglected Tropical Diseases Day 2026	"Unite. Act. Eliminate"
February 01	Indian Coast Guard Day 2026	–
February 02	World Wetlands Day 2026	"Wetlands and Traditional Knowledge: Celebrating Cultural Heritage"
February 02	Rheumatoid Arthritis Awareness Day 2026	–
February 04	World Cancer Day 2026	"United by Unique"
February 04	International Day of Human Fraternity 2026	"Dialogue Over Division"

February 06	International Day of Zero Tolerance for Female Genital Mutilation 2026	"Towards 2030: No End To FGM Without Sustained Commitment and Investment".
February 10	International Epilepsy Day 2026	EpilepsyPledge
February 10	National Deworming Day 2026	–
February 10	World Pulses Day 2026	–
February 10	International Day of the Arabian Leopard 2026	–
Every year on the second Tuesday of February (February 10, 2026)	Safer Internet Day	"Smart Tech, Safe Choices: Exploring the Safe and Responsible Use of Artificial Intelligence (AI)".
February 11	World Unani Day 2026	"Innovation and Evidence in Unani Practice"
February 11	International Day of Women and Girls in Science 2026	"From Vision to Impact: Redefining STEM by Closing the Gender Gap"
February 12	International Day for the Prevention of Violent Extremism as and when Conducive to Terrorism 2026	"Preventing Violent Extremism in the Age of New and Emerging Technologies"
February 12	National Productivity Day 2026	"Clusters as Growth Engine: Maximizing Productivity in MSMEs"
February 13	World Radio Day	"Radio and Artificial Intelligence: AI is a tool, not a voice"
February 13	National Women's Day 2026	–
February 15	International Childhood Cancer Day 2026	Demonstrating Impact — From Challenge to Chang."
February 17	Global Tourism Resilience Day	"Tourism Resilience in Action: From Crisis Response to Impactful Transformation"
February 18	International Asperger Syndrome Day	–

February 20	Mizoram Foundation Day 2026	–
February 20	Arunachal Pradesh Foundation Day 2026	–
February 20	World Day of Social Justice 2026	"Renewed Commitment to Social Development and Social Justice"
February 20	Zomi National Day	
February 21	International Mother Language Day 2026	"Youth Voices on Multilingual Education"
February 21	World Pangolin Day 2026	–
February 22	100th World Thinking Day 2026	"Our Friendship"
February 23	World Peace and Understanding Day	–
February 24	Central Excise Day 2026	–
February 27	World NGO Day 2026	"Restoring Dignity Through Inclusion"
February 28	National Science Day 2026	"Women in Science: Catalysing Viksit Bharat"

✯ ✯ ✯ ✯ ✯ ✯ ✯ ✯ ✯ ✯