

Daily Current Affairs 27 February 2025



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Q1. The Gujarati biography titled “*Vishwaguru Srila Prabhupada*”, released in February 2026, was authored by whom?

- (a) Dr. Usha Upadhyay
- (b) A.C. Bhaktivedanta Swami Prabhupada
- (c) Bhupendra Patel
- (d) Gaur Gopal Das

Ans.(a)

Sol. Answer: (a)

Solution

- The book “*Vishwaguru Srila Prabhupada*” was authored by Dr. Usha Upadhyay.
- It was released on 23 February 2026 by Bhupendra Patel in Gandhinagar, Gujarat.
- The biography highlights the life and spiritual journey of A. C. Bhaktivedanta Swami Prabhupada.
- He was the Founder–Acharya of International Society for Krishna Consciousness (ISKCON).

Information Booster

- The book is written in Gujarati language.
- It portrays Srila Prabhupada’s role in spreading Vedic philosophy and Indian culture worldwide.

Additional Knowledge

- ISKCON was founded in 1966 in New York, USA.
- Srila Prabhupada translated and commented on major Vedic scriptures like the Bhagavad Gita.

Q2. Central Excise Day is observed annually in India on which date?

- (a) 26 January
- (b) 1 April
- (c) 24 February
- (d) 15 August

Ans.(c)

Sol. Answer: (c)

Solution

- Central Excise Day is observed every year on 24 February across India.
- The day commemorates the enactment of the Central Excise and Salt Act, 1944.
- It recognises the contribution of the Central Board of Indirect Taxes and Customs (CBIC) in tax administration and national development.
- Central Excise Duty (CED) is an indirect tax levied on goods manufactured or produced in India for domestic consumption.

Information Booster

- The Central Excise and Salt Act, 1944 consolidated 11 earlier excise laws into a single framework.
- In 1966, it was renamed as the Central Excise Act, 1944.
- The Central Excise Tariff Act, 1985 provided detailed schedules of duty rates and valuation rules.

Additional Knowledge

- After GST (2017), excise duty is mainly applicable to petroleum products and tobacco.
- Excise duty is a tax on manufacture, while GST is largely a tax on supply.

Q3. In February 2026, Dr. Bhargav Mallappa, Chairman of MBRA Groups, was conferred which royal honour by Kerajaan Kutai Mulawarman of Indonesia?

- (a) Dato
- (b) Datuk Seri
- (c) Tan Sri
- (d) Padma Bhushan

Ans.(a)

Sol. Answer: (a)

Solution

- Dr. Bhargav Mallappa, Founder and Chairman of MBRA Groups and senior leader of the Indian National Congress, was conferred the royal honour of “Dato” on 23 February 2026.
- The honour was awarded by Kerajaan Kutai Mulawarman, a traditional royal institution of Indonesia.
- The title was bestowed by His Majesty Maharaja Kutai Mulawarman.
- He was recognised for contributions in social development, humanitarian efforts, agriculture, and economic empowerment.
- He was also appointed as an Honorary Member of the Grand Palace Family of the Kutai royal institution.

Information Booster

- Dr. Mallappa signed Consortium Cooperation Agreements in his capacity as CEO of MBRA Agro Impex Food Products (OPC) Pvt. Ltd.
- The agreements aim to promote bilateral cooperation in agro-based trade, food processing, and rural economic development.

Additional Knowledge

- The honour strengthens India-Indonesia agro-economic cooperation.
- Tamil Nadu is positioned as a potential gateway for Nusantara-linked investments.

Q4. Who became the youngest-ever Prime Minister of the Netherlands in February 2026?

- (a) Mark Rutte
- (b) Dick Schoof
- (c) Rob Jetten
- (d) Sigrid Kaag

Ans.(c)

Sol. Answer: (c)

Solution

- On 23 February 2026, Rob Jetten was sworn in as the youngest-ever Prime Minister of the Netherlands at the age of 38.
- He also became the country’s first openly gay head of government.
- He succeeded Dick Schoof, who had been serving since 2024 and continued in a caretaker role after the government collapsed in June 2025.
- The oath of office was administered by Willem-Alexander at Huis ten Bosch Palace in The Hague.

Information Booster

- He leads a minority coalition government formed after the October 2025 elections.
- His party, Democrats 66 (D66), formed a coalition with CDA and VVD.
- The coalition holds 66 out of 150 seats in the Dutch lower house.

Additional Knowledge

- Netherlands follows a constitutional monarchy system.
- Minority governments require external support for passing legislation.
- The capital of the Netherlands is Amsterdam, which is the constitutional capital and most populous city. However, the seat of government, parliament, and the royal house is located in The Hague. The official currency of the Netherlands is the Euro.

Q5. The coffee table book titled *"Atal Bihari Vajpayee: The Eternal Statesman"*, released in February 2026, was authored by whom?

- (a) C.P. Radhakrishnan
- (b) Venkaiah Naidu
- (c) Narendra Modi
- (d) Vijay Goel

Ans.(d)

Sol. Answer: (d)

Solution

- The book *"Atal Bihari Vajpayee: The Eternal Statesman"* was authored by Vijay Goel, former Union Minister.
- It was released by C. P. Radhakrishnan, Vice President of India, in February 2026.
- The event was held at Dr. Ambedkar International Centre, New Delhi.
- The book was published by Gandhi Smriti and Darshan Samiti.
- It pays tribute to Atal Bihari Vajpayee, Bharat Ratna awardee and former Prime Minister of India.

Information Booster

- The book highlights Vajpayee's journey as a poet, parliamentarian, and national leader.
- It includes rare photographs and anecdotes from his public life.

Additional Knowledge

- Major milestones covered: Pokhran Nuclear Test (1998) and development initiatives like Delhi Metro.
- Atal Bihari Vajpayee served as Prime Minister three times (1996, 1998–1999, 1999–2004).

Q6. During the State Visit of the President of Brazil to India in February 2026, India and Brazil set a target to increase bilateral trade to which of the following levels by 2030?

- (a) USD 20 billion
- (b) USD 25 billion
- (c) USD 30 billion
- (d) USD 40 billion

Ans.(c)

Sol. Answer: (c)

Solution

- President of Brazil Luiz Inácio Lula da Silva visited India from 18–22 February 2026 at the invitation of Narendra Modi.
- Bilateral meeting was held at Hyderabad House, New Delhi.
- Both countries set a target to expand bilateral trade to USD 30 billion by 2030.
- Present bilateral trade stands at USD 15.21 billion.
- India maintains a trade surplus of around USD 1.5 billion.

Information Booster

- Ceremonial reception hosted by Droupadi Murmu at Rashtrapati Bhavan.
- ApexBrasil office to be opened in New Delhi for trade promotion.
- India–Brazil Economic Forum discussed defence, renewable energy, pharma, agriculture, AI, and India–Mercosur PTA expansion.

Additional Knowledge

- MoUs signed in MSMEs, pharmaceuticals, rare earths, steel, digital trade (e-COO), education, cinema, and heritage.
- Multiple-entry tourist & business visas extended from 5 to 10 years.

Q7. In February 2026, Digital Bharat Nidhi (DBN) signed a Memorandum of Cooperation with which state government for the implementation of the Amended BharatNet Programme (ABP)?

- (a) Tamil Nadu
- (b) Andhra Pradesh
- (c) Telangana
- (d) Karnataka

Ans.(b)

Sol. Answer: (b)

Solution

- Digital Bharat Nidhi (DBN), under the Department of Telecommunications (DoT), Ministry of Communications, signed the MoC with the Andhra Pradesh Government in February 2026.
- The agreement aims at expedited implementation of the Amended BharatNet Programme (ABP) in the state.
- The MoC was signed in Tadepalle, Guntur district.
- The state will facilitate Right of Way (RoW), infrastructure access, and coordination support.
- The Government of India approved ₹2,432 crore for execution of the programme in Andhra Pradesh.

Information Booster

- Digital Bharat Nidhi functions under the Department of Telecommunications (DoT).
- The state constituted AP BharatNet Infrastructure Limited (APBIL) as a Special Purpose Vehicle (SPV) for project implementation.
- BharatNet aims to provide broadband connectivity to rural areas through optical fibre infrastructure.

Additional Knowledge

- BharatNet is one of the world's largest rural broadband connectivity programmes.
- RoW (Right of Way) permission is crucial for laying optical fibre cables.

Q8. According to the States' Electricity Transition (SET) Report 2026, which of the following states emerged as leaders in electric vehicle (EV) adoption and green hydrogen development?

- (a) Karnataka, Kerala, Himachal Pradesh
- (b) Delhi, Haryana, Punjab
- (c) Uttar Pradesh, Andhra Pradesh, Rajasthan
- (d) Gujarat, Maharashtra, Tamil Nadu

Ans.(c)

Sol. Answer: (c)

Solution

- The 3rd edition of the States' Electricity Transition (SET) Report 2026 was released by Institute for Energy Economics and Financial Analysis and Ember.
- The report highlighted progress in electricity transition at the sub-national level.
- Uttar Pradesh, Andhra Pradesh, and Rajasthan emerged as leaders in EV adoption and green hydrogen development.
- These states performed strongly under the "Market Enablers" dimension.

Information Booster

- The report assessed 21 States, covering 95% of India's total power demand.
- Evaluation was based on three dimensions:
 - Decarbonization
 - Power Ecosystem Readiness and Performance
 - Market Enablers

Additional Knowledge

- Decarbonization leaders: Karnataka, Himachal Pradesh, Kerala.
- Power Ecosystem leaders: Delhi, Haryana.
- Market Enabler strengths include updated renewable energy policies, green tariffs, and Time-of-Day (ToD) tariffs.

Q9. National Monetisation Pipeline 2.0 (NMP 2.0), launched in February 2026, aims to unlock an aggregate monetisation potential of approximately:

- (a) ₹10 lakh crore
- (b) ₹12.5 lakh crore
- (c) ₹16.72 lakh crore
- (d) ₹20 lakh crore

Ans.(c)

Sol. Answer: (c)

Solution

- NMP 2.0 was launched by Nirmala Sitharaman in February 2026 in New Delhi.
- It is the second phase of the National Monetisation Pipeline for Central ministries and public sector entities.
- The plan has been formulated by NITI Aayog in consultation with infrastructure ministries.
- It is aligned with the Asset Monetisation Plan 2025–30 announced in the Union Budget 2025–26.
- NMP 2.0 estimates an aggregate monetisation potential of ₹16.72 lakh crore for the period FY26–FY30.
- It includes ₹5.8 lakh crore from private sector investment.
- The target is more than 2.6 times higher than NMP 1.0.

Information Booster

- Asset monetisation means unlocking value from existing or under-utilised brownfield infrastructure assets.
- Funds generated are reinvested in new infrastructure creation.
- Objective: Improve capital efficiency and accelerate infrastructure development without increasing fiscal burden.

Additional Knowledge

- Time Period Covered: FY 2025–26 to FY 2029–30.
- Focus sectors generally include roads, railways, power, telecom, and other core infrastructure.

Q10. The 'MANAV Framework', unveiled during the 2nd India–AI Impact Summit 2026, stands for which of the following?

- (a) Moral, Accessible, Neutral, Accountable, Verified
- (b) Moral and Ethical Systems, Accountable, National Sovereignty, Accessible and Inclusive, Valid and Legitimate
- (c) Modern AI Network for Advanced Validation
- (d) Managed Algorithmic Network for Autonomous Vision

Ans.(b)

Sol. Answer: (b)

Solution

The MANAV Framework was unveiled by Narendra Modi at the 2nd India–AI Impact Summit 2026 held at Bharat Mandapam.

MANAV stands for: M – Moral and Ethical Systems A – Accountable N – National Sovereignty A – Accessible and Inclusive V – Valid and Legitimate

The framework provides guiding principles for responsible AI governance in India, focusing on ethical standards, accountability mechanisms, protection of national data, inclusive access, and legal legitimacy.

Information Booster

- The summit was held from 16–20 February 2026 in New Delhi.
- The event concluded with the adoption of the “New Delhi Declaration on AI Impact.”
- The declaration was endorsed by 91 countries and international organisations.

Additional Knowledge

- France President Emmanuel Macron addressed the summit.
- UN Secretary-General António Guterres delivered the opening address.
- The 2027 edition will be held in Geneva, Switzerland, announced by Guy Parmelin.

