



EVERYDAY CURRENT AFFAIRS – FEBRUARY 08, 2025

STATE

- **Himachal Sets Stage for North India's First Green Hydrogen Facility**
- ✓ In a significant step toward green energy transition, Himachal Pradesh has initiated North India's first Green Hydrogen Plant at Dabhota in Nalagarh, situated in the state's industrial belt of Baddi-Brotiwala and Nalagarh near Chandigarh.



- ✓ Chief Minister Sukhwinder Singh Sukhu laid the foundation stone for the 1 MW plant, which aligns with the state's goal of becoming India's first green state by March 31, 2026.
- ✓ The plant is expected to be operational within a year and will contribute to reducing carbon emissions by utilizing renewable energy sources for hydrogen production.

NATIONAL

- **100 GW In Solar Power**

- ✓ India has achieved a historic milestone by surpassing 100 Giga Watt (GW) of installed solar power capacity, reinforcing its position as a global leader in renewable energy.



- ✓ It marks a significant step toward realizing the ambitious target of 500 GW of non-fossil fuel-based energy capacity by 2030.
- ✓ Minister of New and Renewable Energy, Pralhad Joshi, mentioned that initiatives like solar panels, solar parks, and rooftop solar projects have brought about revolutionary changes.
- ✓ In 2014, the country had a limited solar module production capacity of just 2 GW. Over the past decade, this has surged to 60 GW in 2024, establishing India as a global leader in solar manufacturing.

SCHEMES

➤ Skill India Programme

- ✓ On 7 February, the continuation and restructuring of the 'Skill India Programme (SIP)' till 2026, with an outlay of Rs. 8,800 crore for the period from 2022-23 to 2025-26, has been approved by the Union Cabinet.



- ✓ The government has combined three components—Pradhan Mantri Kaushal Vikas Yojana 4.0 (PMKVY 4.0), Pradhan Mantri National Apprenticeship Promotion Scheme (PM-NAPS), and the Jan Shikshan Sansthan (JSS) scheme—under the composite central sector scheme, the Skill India Programme (SIP).

- ✓ The government has launched these initiatives to provide structured skill development, on-the-job training (OJT), and community-based learning, ensuring that both urban and rural populations, including marginalized communities, have access to high-quality vocational education.

