



EVERYDAY CURRENT AFFAIRS – JANUARY 02, 2026

NATIONAL

- **The e-Bill System has been inaugurated by Union Minister for Chemicals and Fertilizers**
 - ✓ The system will enable the government to process fertilizer subsidies.
 - ✓ It will process subsidy transactions worth nearly 2 lakh crore rupees.
 - ✓ Additionally, it will play a significant role in strengthening transparent, efficient and technology-driven governance.
 - ✓ The e-Bill System includes strong financial control mechanisms.
 - ✓ Payments are verified using predefined digital criteria.
 - ✓ Each action within the system is automatically recorded and records support auditing and accountability.
 - ✓ The system helps reduce fraud and misuse of funds and minimizes human errors in bill processing.
 - ✓ The initiative replaces manual and paper-based procedures.

- **Sagarmala Finance Corporation Limited (SMFCL) has started lending operations**
 - ✓ SMFCL was inaugurated on June 26, 2025. It is India's first non-banking financial company dedicated to the maritime sector. The company has sanctioned loans worth about ₹4,300 crore.
 - ✓ The approvals were cleared at SMFCL's 51st board meeting. The roadmap set an overall borrowing limit of ₹25,000 crore and fixed a lending target of ₹8,000 crore. SMFCL plans to build a loan book of ₹8,000 crore in FY26.

- ✓ Out of the sanctioned amount, around ₹4,000 crore has been allocated to a greenfield port project. Dredging Corporation of India has been sanctioned ₹150 crore and Goa Shipyard has received loan approval of ₹110 crore. SMFCL has been designated as the nodal agency for the Maritime Development Fund, having a total corpus of ₹25,000 crore.
 - ✓ It includes a ₹20,000-crore Maritime Investment Fund and a ₹5,000-crore Interest Incentivisation Fund.
 - ✓ SMFCL expects guidelines for the Shipbuilding Financial Assistance Scheme soon. Shipbuilding Financial Assistance Scheme has an outlay of ₹44,700 crore and is expected to boost investment in shipbuilding.
- **Dulhasti Stage-II Hydroelectric Project Approved on Chenab River**
- ✓ The Union Government's environmental clearance mechanism has approved the Dulhasti Stage-II Hydroelectric Project on the Chenab River in Kishtwar district, Jammu and Kashmir.
 - ✓ The approval was granted by the Expert Appraisal Committee (EAC) on Hydel Projects during its 45th meeting, functioning under the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change (MoEFCC).
 - ✓ The clearance allows the floating of construction tenders for the project, which is estimated to cost more than ₹3,200 crore.
 - ✓ The installed capacity of Dulhasti Stage-II will be 260 Megawatt, consisting of two units of 130 Megawatt each.

INTERNATIONAL

- **Kiribati Welcomes the World's First New Year**
- ✓ The island nation of Kiribati was the first to enter the New Year due to its proximity to the International Date Line.
 - ✓ Kiribati is situated 14 hours ahead of Coordinated Universal Time (UTC), making it the first country to celebrate.
 - ✓ It is a coral island nation located in the Pacific Ocean and is the only country situated in all four hemispheres (North, South, East, and West).
 - ✓ Kiribati is also known as "Christmas Island" and primarily consists of atoll islands.
- **China Tests YJ-20 Hypersonic "Eagle Strike" Missile**

- ✓ China has intensified its naval capabilities by testing the YJ-20 hypersonic missile, which poses a significant threat to maritime vessels.
- ✓ The YJ-20 is a hypersonic missile, meaning it travels at speeds greater than Mach 5. The missile was test-fired from a Type 055 destroyer, which is a specialized "destroyer" ship designed to hit targets with high precision.
- ✓ It is also referred to as "Eagle Strike" because of its ability to lock onto and hit targets even if they move.

IMPORTANT DAYS

➤ **World Introvert Day - January 2**

- ✓ World Introvert Day is observed annually on 2 January across the world.
- ✓ The day was first celebrated in 2011 to give introverts space to recharge after the busy holiday season.
- ✓ It promotes awareness that introversion is a natural personality trait, not a weakness.
- ✓ The day encourages respect for different communication styles and personalities.
- ✓ Schools and organizations use this day to promote mental well-being and self-acceptance.

