



EVERYDAY CURRENT AFFAIRS – JANUARY 07, 2026

TAMILNADU

- **Stalin Signs MoU with UN Women for Gender-Responsive Governance**
- ✓ Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu Stalin, signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with the United Nations Programme for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women (UN Women) in Chennai, TN to strengthen institutional capacities for gender-responsive governance, improve women's welfare, and promote inclusive development across TN.
- ✓ The MoU strengthens gender-responsive governance, planning, and budgeting in TN while promoting women's economic opportunities with technical and implementation support from UN Women.
- ✓ TN has been chosen as India's first State to participate in a national-level innovation initiative of the United Nations Children's Fund - Office of Innovation (UNICEF-OoI), headquartered in Sweden.

NATIONAL

- **Chief Guests at India's Republic Day 2026**
- ✓ India's Republic Day celebrations on 26th January 2026 are expected to have strong diplomatic significance, with European Union (EU) leaders likely to attend as chief guests.
- ✓ The European Union has officially accepted India's invitation, highlighting the growing importance of the India-EU Strategic Partnership amid changing global economic and geopolitical conditions.

- ✓ The expected chief guests include Ursula von der Leyen, President of the European Commission, and António Costa, President of the European Council.

➤ **India Becomes World's Largest Rice Producer**

- ✓ India has achieved a major agricultural milestone by becoming the world's largest producer of rice, overtaking China.
- ✓ India's rice production reached 150.18 million tonnes, surpassing China's production of 145.28 million tonnes.
- ✓ This achievement reflects the success of improved irrigation facilities, adoption of high-yielding varieties, and strong policy support for farmers.
- ✓ During an event in New Delhi, the minister launched 184 improved crop varieties developed by the Indian Council of Agricultural Research.
- ✓ These include 122 cereals, 6 pulses, 13 oilseeds, 11 fodder crops, 6 sugarcane varieties, 24 cotton varieties, and one variety each of jute and tobacco.

➤ **Specialised cancer care training programme for BIMSTEC Countries**

- ✓ The second phase of the specialised cancer care training programme for BIMSTEC Countries was launched at Homi Bhabha Cancer Hospital and Research Centre (HBCHRC) in Visakhapatnam.
- ✓ External Affairs Ministry Joint Secretary (BIMSTEC & SAARC) C.S.R. Ram launched the programme.
- ✓ He highlighted that the rising burden of cancer in the region makes capacity building and skill development essential.

➤ **The National Textiles Ministers' Conference 2026**

- ✓ The National Textiles Ministers' Conference 2026 will start on January 8 for two days in Guwahati, Assam and will be attended by Textile ministers from States and senior officials from Union Territories.
- ✓ The theme of the conference is "India's Textiles: Weaving Growth, Heritage & Innovation"
- ✓ Aims to become a global textile manufacturing hub by 2030.

DEFENCE

➤ Modern Warfare Force 'Bhairav'

- ✓ Indian Army announced the creation of a modern warfare force named 'Bhairav', aimed at enhancing India's combat capabilities by integrating drone technology and establishing a pool of over 1 lakh trained drone operatives.
- ✓ The Bhairav unit is prepared for modern warfare, with all operatives trained to use drones for targeting enemy bases and formations in real operations.
- ✓ Aims to bridge the gap between the Para Special Forces (SF) and regular Infantry battalions, carrying out special operations at tactical to operational depth.
- ✓ Approximately 15 Bhairav battalions, which have been deployed across various formations along both borders.

➤ 'Suryastra Rocket Launch System'

- ✓ Indian Army (IA), under the Ministry of Defence (MoD), signed an Emergency Procurement (EP) contract worth Rs.293 Crores with NIBE Limited for the procurement of the Suryastra rocket launcher system.
- ✓ Suryastra is India's first indigenously developed, multi-calibre, long-range, precision-guided rocket launcher system, inducted by the IA to significantly enhance its deep-strike artillery capabilities.
- ✓ The systems are being produced in collaboration with Israel's Elbit Systems, under a technology partnership, adapted from Israeli Precise & Universal Launching System (PULS) technology.

BOOKS & AUTHORS

➤ 'History That India Ignored'

- ✓ Goa Chief Minister (CM) Pramod Sawant launched the second edition of the book titled 'History That India Ignored', authored by Prem Prakash, a veteran journalist and the Chairman of Asian News International (ANI), in Panaji, Goa.
- ✓ The book was first published in April 2025 by Vitasta Publishing Private Limited.

- ✓ The book revisits India's freedom struggle from lesser-known angles and it highlights unsung heroes, revolutionary movements, the Indian National Army (INA), and overlooked uprisings like the Vellore Mutiny (1806) and the Battle of Imphal.

ENVIRONMENT

- **India Energy Week 2026**
- ✓ India Energy Week 2026 will be organised in Goa from January 27 to January 30.
- ✓ Participants from more than 120 countries will attend the event.
- ✓ Jointly hosted by the Federation of Indian Petroleum Industry and dmg events.
- ✓ India Energy Week Strategic Conference, four-day conference will feature high-level dialogue across its themed theatres – Collaboration, Resilience, Transition and Addition – setting a new benchmark for strategic insight and policy innovation.

