



## EVERYDAY CURRENT AFFAIRS – FEBRUARY 02, 2025

### TAMIL NADU

- **New Wetlands in Tamil Nadu 2025**
- ✓ Two bird sanctuaries in Tamil Nadu's Ramanathapuram district — Sakkarakottai and Therthangal — have been designated as Ramsar sites.



- ✓ With this, the State has 20 Ramsar sites and continues to have the highest number of Ramsar sites in India.
- ✓ Uttar Pradesh follows with 10 sites.
- ✓ Ramanathapuram hosts two other Ramsar sanctuaries, that is Chitrangudi and Kanjirankulam.
- ✓ Other 2 new sites are the Khecheopalri Wetland (Sikkim), and the Udhwa Lake (Jharkhand).
- ✓ Thus, now India hosts total of 89 Ramsar sites.

### DEFENCE

- **DRDO Successfully Tests VSHORAD System**

- ✓ DRDO conducted three consecutive successful flight trials of the Very Short-Range Air Defence (VSHORAD) system, targeting low-altitude, high-speed threats.



- ✓ The missile intercepted and destroyed targets mimicking low-flying drones, demonstrating precision and effectiveness.
- ✓ The tests were carried out in a final deployment configuration, showcasing the system's readiness and capability.

## ECONOMY

### ➤ Union Budget 2025-26

- ✓ Finance Minister presented the Union Budget 2025-26 with the theme “Sabka Vikas”.
- ✓ The Budget aims to make reforms in Taxation, Power Sector, Urban Development, Mining, Financial Sector, and Regulatory Reforms.
- ✓ Union Budget highlights that Agriculture, MSME, Investment, and Exports are engines in the journey to Viksit Bharat.



- ✓ Main Headlines:
- ✓ 1. Finance Minister presented the Union Budget 2025-26 with the theme “Sabka Vikas”.
- ✓ 2. Government target Fiscal Deficit of 4.4% of GDP.
- ✓ 3. Finance Minister announced that no income tax will be payable for those with an income up to ₹12 lakh.

- ✓ 4. Finance minister proposed to introduce identity cards for gig workers and UPI-linked credit cards for street vendors.
- ✓ 5. Ministry of Railways has introduced the SuperApp 'SwaRail'.
- ✓ 6. The government will launch a 6-year "Mission for Aatmanirbharta in Pulses.
- ✓ 7. A comprehensive multi-sectoral 'Rural Prosperity and Resilience' programme will be launched in partnership with states.
- ✓ 8. In the budget 2025, the Union Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman announced establishment of Cancer Center in each district.
- ✓ 9. The Government announced the increase in loan limits from Rs. 3 lakhs to Rs. 5 lakhs for loans taken through Kisan Credit Cards.
- ✓ 9. The government will also launch a new scheme for 5 lakh women, Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes first-time entrepreneurs.
- ✓ Under this scheme, loans up to Rs. 2 crores will be provided during the next 5 years.
- ✓ 10. Government will also launch a scheme to make India a global hub for toys representing the 'Made in India' brand.
- ✓ 11. Five National Centres of Excellence for skilling will be set up with global expertise and partnerships.
- ✓ 12. A Centre of Excellence in Artificial Intelligence for education will be set up with a total outlay of 500 crore.
- ✓ 13. Budget proposed Gyan Bharatam Mission, for survey, documentation and conservation of more than 1 crore manuscripts in academic institutions.

