



EVERYDAY CURRENT AFFAIRS – JANUARY 12, 2026

TAMILNADU

- **Centre Launches ₹235 Crore Port Infrastructure & Digital Governance Projects in Tamil Nadu**
 - ✓ The Central Government rolled out projects worth ₹235 crore in Tamil Nadu to strengthen port infrastructure and enhance digital maritime governance.
 - ✓ The projects were launched by Union Minister Sarbananda Sonowal, Ministry of Ports, Shipping and Waterways, during the “Viksit Bharat, Viksit Ports” programme in Chennai.
 - ✓ The initiative focuses on developing climate-resilient, digitally enabled and globally competitive ports, improving port safety, operational efficiency, and ease of doing business.
 - ✓ Out of the total allocation, ₹129.36 crore is for Chennai Port Authority, and ₹105.64 crore for Kamarajar Port Limited.
- **First Phase of All-India Tiger Estimation (AITE-26) Begins at Thanthai Periyar Wildlife Sanctuary, Tamil Nadu**
 - ✓ The first phase of All-India Tiger Estimation 2026 (AITE-26) began at Thanthai Periyar Wildlife Sanctuary, Erode Forest Division, Tamil Nadu.
 - ✓ It is a national wildlife census to estimate tiger population, assess prey density, habitat quality, and ecosystem health using standard scientific methods.
 - ✓ Forest staff underwent structured training before field deployment to ensure accuracy and uniformity in data collection.

- ✓ Field operations launched across 4 forest ranges – Anthiyur, Bargur, Chennampatti and Thattakarai.
- ✓ More than 150 trained personnel were deployed covering 52 forest patrol beats for systematic data coverage.

NATIONAL

- **India Launches Raisina Science Diplomacy Initiative (RSDI) 2026**
- ✓ India launched the Raisina Science Diplomacy Initiative (RSDI) 2026 to strengthen the link between science, technology, and diplomacy.
- ✓ The initiative is jointly launched by the Office of the Principal Scientific Adviser (PSA) to the Government of India and the Observer Research Foundation (ORF).
- ✓ The initiative will operate alongside the Raisina Dialogue 2026, scheduled from 5th to 7th March 2026 in New Delhi.
- ✓ The initiative reflects growing importance of science and technology in global diplomacy.
- ✓ Major reasons: maintaining strategic autonomy, strengthening India's role as an emerging global power, ensuring technology governance, promoting equitable participation in global standards, and addressing research security and technology control.

RANKING & INDEX

- **Bengaluru Ranked Best City for Women in India – 2025**
- ✓ Bengaluru has been ranked the best city for women in India (2025), emerging as the top performer in a national study on urban inclusion for women.
- ✓ The ranking highlights Bengaluru's strong social infrastructure, robust industrial opportunities, better safety environment, and career growth ecosystem for women.
- ✓ The study was released by Avtar, a Chennai-based workplace inclusion firm, which assessed 125 cities across India under the City Inclusion Index.
- ✓ Top 5 Cities (2025 Ranking) are Bengaluru (53.29), Chennai (49.86), Pune (46.27), Hyderabad and Mumbai.

IMPORTANT DAYS

- **National Human Trafficking Awareness Day – 11th January**
- ✓ National Human Trafficking Awareness Day 2026 is observed on 11th January to highlight and combat the issue of human trafficking.
- ✓ January is also designated as National Slavery and Human Trafficking Prevention Month, but this day specifically focuses on raising awareness and stopping illicit trafficking practices.

