



## EVERYDAY CURRENT AFFAIRS – JANUARY 28, 2026

### INTERNATIONAL

- **Outcomes of India-EU Leaders' Visit 2026**
- ✓ India-European Union relations reached a new milestone in 2026 with a high-level visit by EU leaders Antonio Costa and Ursula von der Leyen.
- ✓ The discussions strengthened the India-EU Strategic Partnership, covering trade, security, clean energy, technology, and people-to-people ties.
- ✓ A key highlight was the announcement of the India-EU Free Trade Agreement to boost bilateral trade and investment, along with an MoU between the RBI and ESMA to enhance financial cooperation.
- ✓ In defense and security, both sides launched a Security and Defense Partnership and agreed to negotiate a Security of Information Agreement for exchanging classified information.

### STATE

- **Gujarat to Support Girls' Education with ₹1,250 Crore under Namo Laxmi Scheme**
- ✓ Gujarat is set to provide ₹1,250 crore under the Namo Laxmi Scheme in 2025-26, benefiting over 12 lakh girls studying in Classes 9-12.
- ✓ The initiative aims to prevent dropouts, improve nutrition, and promote secondary and higher secondary education.
- ✓ Under the scheme, each girl receives ₹50,000 over four years ₹20,000 for Classes 9-10 and ₹30,000 for Classes 11-12 combining monthly support with completion-based payouts.

- ✓ Eligible students must be enrolled in government or recognised schools, have completed Classes 1–8 in eligible institutions, and come from families earning up to ₹6 lakh annually.

## SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY

- **SpaceX Completes First-Ever Medical Evacuation from ISS**
- ✓ SpaceX, successfully conducted the first-ever medical evacuation mission from the International Space Station (ISS), safely returning four astronauts to Earth.
- ✓ The returning crew included NASA astronauts Zena Cardman and Mike Fincke, JAXA astronaut Kimiya Yui, and Roscosmos cosmonaut Oleg Platonov, who landed aboard SpaceX's Dragon capsule off the coast of San Diego, USA.
- ✓ The astronauts concluded a 167-day mission, travelling nearly 71 million miles and completing over 2,670 orbits around Earth, returning earlier than scheduled due to medical reasons.

## SUMMIT

- **Global Seaweed Expo and Summit**
- ✓ The 7th India International Seaweed Expo & Summit will be held at Kochi on January 29–30 at ICAR-CMFRI, bringing together global experts, policymakers, industry leaders, investors and entrepreneurs.
- ✓ Delegates from countries including the US, Russia, Australia, France, Maldives, Indonesia, Sri Lanka and Tanzania will discuss the economic, nutritional and environmental potential of seaweed, highlighting it as a sunrise sector for India.
- ✓ The two-day event is being organised by the Indian Chamber of Commerce (ICC) in collaboration with CMFRI and CSIR-CSMCRI, with participation expected from senior officials of central government departments.

## AWARDS

- **Subhas Chandra Bose National Award 2026**

- ✓ Lieutenant Colonel Sita Ashok Shelke has been awarded the Subhas Chandra Bose National Award for Disaster Management 2026 in the individual category for her exceptional contributions in disaster management.
- ✓ The Sikkim State Disaster Management Authority has been selected for the award in the institutional category.
- ✓ These awards honour outstanding efforts in disaster preparedness, response, and resilience, recognising exemplary contributions across India.

## IMPORTANT DAYS

### ➤ International Data Privacy Day

- ✓ International Data Privacy Day is observed on 28 January. It highlights the need to protect personal data.
- ✓ India is the third-largest digitalised economy. Digital platforms operate at population scale.
- ✓ Risks of data misuse and cyber threats are rising. The IT Act 2000 provides the base.
- ✓ The DPDP Act 2023 strengthens citizen rights. DPDP Rules 2025 operationalise protection.
- ✓ ₹782 crore is allocated for cybersecurity. Trust, privacy, and innovation must grow together.

