



EVERYDAY CURRENT AFFAIRS – FEBRUARY 08, 2026

NATIONAL

- **‘India-Netherlands Hydrogen Fellowship Programme’**
 - ✓ Department of Science and Technology (DST), Ministry of Science & Technology (MoS&T), launched ‘India-Netherlands Hydrogen Fellowship Programme’ in New Delhi.
 - ✓ Department of Science and Technology (DST) also hosted the signing of a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) between the University of Groningen, the Netherlands, and 19 Indian Institutes of Technology (IITs) to establish an academic cooperation framework in green energy and hydrogen(H_2) research.
 - ✓ The initiative aligns with the Government of India (GoI)’s vision of National Green Hydrogen Mission (NGHM), Energy Independence by 2047, and Net-Zero emissions by 2070.
- **‘IITM-Unicorn Frontier Fund I’**
 - ✓ IIT (Indian Institute of Technology) Madras Research Park (IITMRP), in partnership with Unicorn India Ventures (UIV), launched a ‘IITM-Unicorn Frontier Fund I’, a venture capital fund, worth Rs.600 crores to support deep-technology startups in India.
 - ✓ The fund includes greenshoe option of Rs.400 crores, bringing the total of Rs.1000 crores, for a tenure of 10 years extendable by 2 years.
 - ✓ It plans to invest in over 25 startups and will allocate about 60% for initial investments and 40% for follow-on funding.

- ✓ It includes robotics, space technology, defence technology, semiconductors, medtech and other strategic technologies.

STATE

➤ State-level Bird Atlas

- ✓ The government of Goa published “Bird Atlas of Goa” during the 9th Bird Festival of Goa held at Valpoi (in Goa), becoming the 2nd state in India after Kerala, to publish a comprehensive state-level bird atlas.
- ✓ The Bird Atlas of Goa, an ambitious citizen science driven initiative, has been completed in a single year effort, covering 370 square kilometers (sq. kms) of area and nearly 1,400 km of transact distance.
- ✓ The festival carried the theme “Majestic Mhadei”, highlighting the ecological importance of the Mhadei river basin.

SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY

➤ Missile ‘Agni-3’ Successfully Test-Fired in Odisha

- ✓ India successfully test-fired the Agni-3 missile, an Intermediate Range Ballistic Missile (IRBM), from the Integrated Test Range (ITR), Chandipur, Odisha.
- ✓ The launch, conducted under the Strategic Forces Command (SFC), validated all operational and technical parameters, strengthening India’s strategic deterrence capabilities.
- ✓ Surface-to-surface missile
- ✓ Developed by Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO)
- ✓ Range: 3,000–3,500 kilometer(km)
- ✓ Payload: Up to 1,500 kg; capable of carrying conventional or nuclear warheads

