



EVERYDAY CURRENT AFFAIRS – FEBRUARY 09, 2026

STATE

- **NITI Aayog Drafts Blueprint to Make Andhra Pradesh a Clean Energy Hub by 2035**
 - ✓ The draft plan was presented by BVR Subrahmanyam, Chief Executive Officer, NITI Aayog, to the Andhra Pradesh Government in Vijayawada.
 - ✓ The blueprint focuses on clean power generation, energy storage, grid modernisation, and affordable electricity, under the ASSET (Accelerating Sustainable State Energy Transition) platform.
 - ✓ The plan proposes massive investments of around ₹7.5 lakh crore to support Andhra Pradesh's clean energy transition. Of this, ₹3.3–₹3.4 lakh crore is earmarked for domestic energy transition, while ₹4–₹4.2 lakh crore is planned to develop Andhra Pradesh as a renewable energy export hub.
 - ✓ Nearly 90% of the total investment is expected from private sector players, highlighting strong private participation. The investment push is expected to generate 5–6 lakh new jobs, significantly boosting the State's economy.
 - ✓ Currently, about 47% of Andhra Pradesh's power generation comes from renewable sources.
- **Operation Shastra**
 - ✓ Delhi Police launched a city-wide crackdown named 'Operation Shastra' to curb the misuse of social media platforms for intimidation and fear-mongering.
 - ✓ The operation targets individuals who post photos with weapons, use abusive language, or project criminal dominance online.

- ✓ Operation Shastra is designed as a preventive policing measure to stop crimes before they occur, rather than reacting after incidents take place.

RANKINGS

➤ R&D Spending Ranking

- ✓ Global R&D spending hit a record \$2.87 trillion in 2024, according to the Global Innovation Index 2025, reflecting nearly 3% annual growth and a long-term shift toward innovation-led development.
- ✓ China overtook the United States to become the world's largest R&D spender, investing \$785.9 billion, driven by focus on AI, semiconductors, and advanced manufacturing.
- ✓ The US ranked second, while Japan and major European economies saw declining global shares as Asia's contribution rose to about 45%.
- ✓ India ranked seventh with \$75.7 billion in R&D spending, highlighting its growing emphasis on science, technology, startups, and long-term innovation capacity.

➤ World's most affordable city for International students

- ✓ Delhi has been ranked 1st globally as the world's most affordable city for international students.
- ✓ The ranking is based on a joint report by Knight Frank, Deloitte India, and QS.
- ✓ The report is titled "India's 155 Million Student Mandate" and was released on Wednesday.
- ✓ Mumbai secured the 11th position, while Bengaluru ranked 15th globally.
- ✓ The ranking forms part of the QS Best Student Cities 2026 assessment.
- ✓ A total of 150 cities worldwide were evaluated in the ranking.

AWARDS & HONOURS

➤ Global Teacher Prize 2026

- ✓ Indian educator and social activist Rouble Nagi won the Global Teacher Prize 2026 at the World Government Summit held in Dubai.
- ✓ She received a cash award of USD 1 million, making it one of the highest-value awards in the education sector globally. The award is presented by

GEMS Education and was handed over by Sheikh Hamdan bin Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum.

- ✓ Rouble Nagi was honoured for her grassroots education work through the Rouble Nagi Art Foundation, focusing on children from slum and marginalised communities.
- ✓ She has established more than 800 learning centres across India, supporting children who are out of school as well as school-going children.
- ✓ Her unique “Living Walls” learning model uses educational murals painted on walls to teach literacy, mathematics, science, and history.

SPORTS

➤ Asian Rifle/Pistol Championship 2026

- ✓ Asian Rifle/Pistol Championship 2026 is being held in New Delhi, where India continued its dominance in shooting events.
- ✓ World champion Samrat Rana and World Cup finalist Suruchi Singh won the silver medal in the 10m air pistol mixed team event.
- ✓ The silver medal performance helped India take its gold tally to 10 medals after two days of competition.
- ✓ Olympian Elavenil Valarivan won gold in the 10m Air Rifle women's event, defeating Japan's Misaki Nobata, at the Asian Rifle/Pistol Championship held at the Dr Karni Singh Shooting Range, New Delhi.
- ✓ In the 10m Air Rifle junior women's final, Shambhavi Kshirsagar won gold after breaking the Asian Junior Finals record with a score of 253.7

