



EVERYDAY CURRENT AFFAIRS – JANUARY 09, 2026

NATIONAL

- **India's First Fully Paperless District Court**
 - ✓ Chief Justice of India (CJI) Surya Kant virtually inaugurated India's first fully paperless district court system in Kalpetta, Wayanad, Kerala, marking the district judiciary's complete transition to digital functioning.
 - ✓ The digital platform was developed in-house by the Kerala High Court (HC) and incorporates Artificial Intelligence (AI)-based judicial assistance tools.
 - ✓ In-house AI generates structured case summaries, enables interactive Questions and Answers (Q&A), supports digital annotations, and accurately transcribes depositions and judicial dictations via voice-to-text.
 - ✓ The system reduces clerical delays, repeated court visits, costs, and storage requirements while speeding up communication of orders.
- **India Launches e-Production Investment Business Visa (e-B-4) for Chinese Nationals**
 - ✓ India introduced a new electronic business visa category e-B-4 Visa for Chinese nationals to facilitate structured and legitimate business engagement.
 - ✓ The move aims to simplify business travel, support production and investment-related activities, and gradually normalise India-China people-to-people exchanges.
 - ✓ The e-B-4 Visa can be applied entirely online, without visiting the embassy.
 - ✓ It is specifically meant for production, investment, technical and industrial business activities, not for general commercial visits.
 - ✓ Processing Time: Around 45–50 days.

- ✓ Maximum Stay: Up to 6 months in India.

CONFERENCES/ MEETINGS/ SUMMITS

- The conference of Chief Electoral Officers held by the Election Commission in New Delhi
- ✓ A conference of Chief Electoral Officers (CEOs) was held by the Election Commission of India (ECI) in New Delhi.
- ✓ The meeting was organised in preparation for the India International Conference on Democracy and Election Management (IICDEM) 2026.
- ✓ The upcoming IICDEM 2026 is scheduled to be held from January 21 to January 23 at Bharat Mandapam, New Delhi.
- ✓ The conference was addressed by Chief Election Commissioner Gyanesh Kumar along with Election Commissioners Dr. Sukhbir Singh Sandhu and Dr. Vivek Joshi.
- ✓ The participants were briefed on the structure, objectives and operational roles related to IICDEM 2026.
- ✓ Discussions were held on 36 thematic groups, which will be led by CEOs during the global conference.
- ✓ The themes cover all aspects of election management and aim to develop a comprehensive knowledge base.

- The second edition of the Viksit Bharat Young Leaders Dialogue 2026
- ✓ Will be held in Bharat Mandapam, New Delhi until 12th January.
- ✓ More than 2,500 young people will take part in the dialogue. They will come from across India and from other countries.
- ✓ ISRO astronaut Group Captain Subhanshu Shukla, Group Captain Prasanth Nair, Indian women's cricket team captain Harmanpreet Kaur, Pullela Gopichand, Leander Paes, Palki Sharma and Kaivalya Vohra are participated.

DEFENCE

- Indian Navy to Establish New Naval Base
- ✓ Indian Navy (IN) initiated the establishment of a new naval base (detachment) at Haldia, West Bengal (WB), to strengthen its operational

presence, maritime surveillance, and rapid response capabilities in the Bay of Bengal (BOB) amid evolving regional security dynamics.

- ✓ The detachment aims to strengthen India's maritime security in the BOB by enhancing surveillance, coastal defence, rapid response, and protection of sea lanes amid rising extra-regional naval activity.
- ✓ The facility will primarily support small, high-speed warships such as Fast Interceptor Crafts (FICs) and New Water Jet Fast Attack Crafts (NWJFACs), aligned with Defence Acquisition Council (DAC)-cleared procurement to boost coastal security.

RANKINGS

➤ ICJS 2.0 National Rankings

- ✓ ICJS 2.0 is an upgraded version that promotes real-time data sharing, enables "One Data, One Entry" principle, makes investigations faster, more transparent, and evidence-based, and allows tracking of cases from First Information Report (FIR) to conviction digitally.
- ✓ Uttarakhand Police ranked first with a score of 93.46 in the second edition of the national Inter-Operable Criminal Justice System (ICJS) 2.0 rankings, released by the National Crime Records Bureau (NCRB), under the Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA).
- ✓ The Uttarakhand Police demonstrated excellence in digital policing and crime data management, integrating district-level systems with the national ICJS platform, and training officers for effective use of ICJS.
- ✓ Haryana Police (93.41) secured second place, followed by Assam 93.16.

OBITUARY

➤ Ecologist & Conservationist Madhav Gadgil Passed Away

- ✓ Ecologist, Scholar, and Conservationist Madhav Dhananjaya Gadgil passed away at the age of 83 in Pune, Maharashtra. He was born on April 24, 1942 in Poona, Bombay Province, British India.
- ✓ Madhav Gadgil, recognized as the father of modern Indian ecology, was a distinguished Indian ecologist, academic, author and environmental conservationist known for his pioneering contributions to ecological science and policy.

- ✓ He was honoured with the Padma Shri, India's fourth-highest civilian award, in 1981 in the field of Civil Service and the Padma Bhushan in 2006 in the field of Science and Engineering.

IMPORTANT DAYS

- **UNGA Declares 2026 as International Year for Rangelands and Pastoralists**
- ✓ United Nations General Assembly (UNGA) declared 2026 as the International Year of Rangelands and Pastoralists (IYRP), at its 76th session held in New York, the United States of America (USA).
- ✓ Aims to share pastoralist knowledge, encourage innovation, build partnerships, and support policies for sustainable rangelands and livelihoods.
- ✓ Rangelands which cover nearly 50% of the Earth's land surface, supporting more than 2 billion people and over 50% of the world's livestock.