



EVERYDAY CURRENT AFFAIRS – DECEMBER 24, 2025

TAMILNADU

- **Conservation Initiative for Smooth-Coated Otters in Cauvery Delta**
- ✓ The Tamil Nadu Government launched a special conservation initiative to protect the smooth-coated otter, a Vulnerable species found in the Cauvery river delta, reflecting rising concern over declining freshwater ecosystems.
- ✓ The programme focuses on studying otter population dynamics, behavioural patterns, habitat improvement, and reducing human-wildlife conflict, especially with local fishing communities.
- ✓ The initiative was announced during a Tamil Nadu Legislative Assembly session on endangered species protection and will cover parts of Thanjavur, Tiruvarur, and Cuddalore districts.
- ✓ The project received administrative approval of ₹20 lakh, with ₹10 lakh allocated for the financial year 2025-26, and is planned for a one-year duration.

NATIONAL

- **National Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribe Hub Scheme**
- ✓ The National Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribe Hub is a flagship scheme of the Ministry of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises, implemented by the National Small Industries Corporation Limited, a Government of India enterprise.

- ✓ The scheme focuses on capacity building, entrepreneurship promotion, financial support, skill development, and market access for Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribe entrepreneurs.
- ✓ A key feature of the scheme is its support for public procurement, where Ministries, Departments, and Central Public Sector Enterprises are mandated to procure at least four percent of their total purchases from Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribe owned enterprises.

OBITUARY

➤ India Loses a Literary Giant: Vinod Kumar Shukla

- ✓ The Hindi literary world mourns the loss of Vinod Kumar Shukla, who passed away at 88 in Raipur, Chhattisgarh.
- ✓ A celebrated novelist, poet, and short story writer, he was known for his simple yet profound writing that explored ordinary lives, human emotions, and dignity.
- ✓ Author of works like Deewar Mein Ek Khidki and Naukar Ki Kameez, he received the Jnanpith and Sahitya Akademi Awards, leaving a lasting legacy of sensitive, minimalist literature.

STATE

➤ BlueBird Block-2 Satellite

- ✓ ISRO launched the BlueBird Block-2 communication satellite on December 24, 2025, using its heavy-lift LVM-3 'Baahubali' rocket from Sriharikota.
- ✓ The satellite, developed by AST SpaceMobile, will provide direct broadband connectivity to ordinary smartphones worldwide without special devices.
- ✓ This mission marks a milestone in global mobile connectivity, strengthens India's commercial space capabilities, and highlights ISRO's growing role in launching advanced, heavy payloads for international partners.

DEFENCE

➤ First Pollution Control Vessel 'Samudra Pratap'

- ✓ The Indian Coast Guard inducted its first Pollution Control Vessel Samudra Pratap, built indigenously at Goa Shipyard Limited, marking a major step in maritime environmental protection.
- ✓ The vessel features advanced pollution response, firefighting, security systems, and a Dynamic Positioning System, with over 60% indigenous components supporting Atmanirbhar Bharat.
- ✓ It will strengthen marine pollution control, search and rescue, maritime law enforcement, and protection of India's Exclusive Economic Zone.

IMPORTANT DAYS

➤ National Consumer Rights Day - December 24

- ✓ National Consumer Rights Day 2025 is observed on 24 December to create awareness about the rights and protection of consumers in India.
- ✓ The theme for 2025 is "Efficient and Speedy Disposal through Digital Justice", highlighting India's focus on technology-enabled, accessible, and timely consumer grievance redressal mechanisms.

