



CURRENT AFFAIRS OF JANUARY 2026

Awards

The Mozambican rights activist and humanitarian who has been selected for the Indira Gandhi Prize for Peace, Disarmament and Development for 2025 by the Indira Gandhi Memorial Trust – **Ms. Graca Machel**

Persons

The Deputy Chief Minister of Maharashtra who passed away in an air crash on his flight aboard Learjet 45 aircraft of M/s VSR Ventures Pvt. Ltd from Mumbai to Baramati – **Shri Ajit Pawar**

The former BBC journalist, knighted in 2002 and Padma Bhushan recipient who passed away on 25 January 2026 – **Sir William Mark Tully**

The renowned ecologist and founder of the Centre of Ecological Sciences, recipient of Volvo Environment Prize and Padma Shri, who passed away on 07 January 2026 – **Shri Madhav Gadgil**

The former member of Lok Sabha, Rajya Sabha and sports administrator who passed away on 06 January 2026 – **Shri Suresh Kalmadi**

Places

The Indian State which has become the first in the country to declare a microbe Bacillus subtilis as its State Microbe – **Kerala**

The European nation which has adopted Euro as its currency and has become the 21st member of the Eurozone – **Bulgaria**

Defence

The Indian Air Force pilot and the first Indian to visit International Space Station who has been conferred the Ashoka Chakra – **Group Captain Subhanshu Shukla**

The 17th edition of trilateral coast guard exercise conducted at Male, Maldives from 17 to 19 January 2026 was named – **Exercise DOSTI**

The operation under which the United States of America launched military strikes on 03 January 2026 against Venezuela and captured its President Nicolas Maduro was codenamed – **Operation Absolute Resolve**

The year 2026 has been declared by the Indian Army as the year of – **Networking and Data Centricity**

Sports

The Olympic medallist Indian badminton player who has announced retirement from the sport – **Ms. Saina Nehwal**

The team which has won the 2025-26 edition of Vijay Hazare Trophy defeating Saurashtra by 38 runs in the finals – **Vidarbha**

The chess player from Delhi who has become the 92nd person from India to be conferred the Grandmaster norm by FIDE – **Aaryan Varshney**

Miscellaneous

The two sites which have been included as wetlands of international importance in Ramsar sites list, under the global Ramsar convention – **Patna Bird Sanctuary (Etah district of Uttar Pradesh) and Chhari-Dhand (Kutch district of Gujarat)**

The stations between which India's first Vande Bharat sleeper train flagged off recently has been proposed to be run – **Howrah and Guwahati**

The rank of India in the Henley Passport Index 2026, the list being topped by Singapore (1), Japan and South Korea (2) – **80**

The mascot launched by UIDAI, a new resident-facing communication companion to simplify public understanding of Aadhaar services, is named – **UDAI**

The year 2026 has been declared by the United Nations Organisation as the International Year for – **Rangelands and Pastoralists**

Republic Day 2026 - Highlights

Chief Guest for Republic Day Parade: President of the European Council **Mr Antonio Costa** and President of the European Commission **Ursula von der Leyen**

Theme of the parade: **150 years of Vande Mataram**

A series of paintings created by **Shri Tejendra Kumar Mitra** in 1923, illustrating the verses of 'Vande Mataram' and published in the 'Bande Mataram Album' (1923), displayed as view-cutters along Kartavya Path during RDP 2026.

Total 18 Marching Contingents and 13 bands took part in the RDC-2026. The flypast showcased Rafale, Su-30, P8i, C-295, Mig-29, Apache, LCH, ALH, Mi-17 in different formations.

Republic Day Awards 2026

Best Marching Contingent among 3 Services - **Indian Navy**

Best Marching Contingent among CAPFs/other auxiliary forces - **Delhi Police Marching Contingent**

Top three tableaux (States/UTs)

1st - Maharashtra (Ganeshotsav: A Symbol of Aatmanirbharta)

2nd - Jammu & Kashmir (Handicrafts and Folk Dances of Jammu and Kashmir)

3rd - Kerala (Water Metro and 100% Digital Literacy: Aatmanirbar Kerala for Aatmanirbhar Bharat)

Best Tableau from Central Ministries/Departments: Ministry of Culture (Vande Mataram - The Soul Cry of a Nation)

Special Prize:

Central Public Works Department (Vande Mataram - Commemoration of 150 Years)

Vande Mataram: The Eternal Resonance of India Dance Group

Popular Choice Awards based on online poll

Best Marching Contingent among Services - **Assam Regiment**

Best Marching Contingent among CAPFs/other auxiliary Forces - **CRPF Marching Contingent**

Top three tableau (States/UTs)

1st - Gujarat (Mantra of Swadeshi - Self-Reliance - Freedom: Vande Mataram)

2nd – Uttar Pradesh (Culture of Bundelkhand)

3rd - Rajasthan (Golden Touch of the Desert: Bikaner Gold Art (Usta Art))

Best tableau from Central Ministries/Departments - Dept. of School Education and Literacy (National Education Policy 2020: Rocketing Indian School Education on the Path to Viksit Bharat)

Recent GI Tags

- Podnuru Khadi - Andhra Pradesh
- Woraiyur Cotton Sari - Tamil Nadu
- Kavindapadi Nattu Sakkarai (Jaggery powder) - Tamil Nadu
- Namakkal Makkal Pathirangal (soapstone cookware) - Tamil Nadu
- Thooyamalli Rice variety - Tamil Nadu
- Ambasamudram Wooden toys - Tamil Nadu

Important Days of January

World Braille Day: 04 January 2026 Designated by: United Nations General Assembly First Observed in: 2019
International Day of Education: 24 January 2026 Designated by: United Nations General Assembly First Observed in: 2019
International Day of Clean Energy: 26 January 2026 Designated by: United Nations General Assembly First Observed in: 2024
International Day of Commemoration in memory of the victims of the Holocaust: 27 January 2026 Designated by: United Nations General Assembly First Observed in: 2006
World Leprosy Day: 25 January 2026 (Last Sunday of January) Designated by: World Health Organisation Theme: Beat Leprosy, End Stigma, and Advocate for Mental Well-Being Note: India, it is observed on 30 January coinciding with the death anniversary of Mahatma Gandhi.

- **83rd Golden Globe Awards**
 - Awarded by: Hollywood Foreign Press Association (HFPA).
 - Ceremony held on: January 11, 2026
 - Best Motion Picture (Drama): **Hamnet** directed by Chloe Zhao
 - Best Motion Picture (Musical or Comedy): **One Battle After Another** directed by Paul Thomas Anderson
 - Best Actor (Drama): **Wagner Moura** for The Secret Agent

- Best Actress (Drama): **Jessie Buckley** for Hamnet
- Best Director: **Paul Thomas Anderson** for One Battle After Another
- Multiple Wins: **One Battle After Another** 4 awards
- Most nominations were received for: **One Battle After Another** (9 nominations)

Padma Awards 2026

Padma Vibhushan

1. Art: Shri Dharmendra Singh Deol (Posthumous)
2. Art: Ms. N Rajam
3. Literature and Education: Shri P Narayanan
4. Public Affairs: Shri K T Thomas
5. Public Affairs: Shri V S Achuthanandhan (Posthumous)

Padma Bhushan

1. Art: Ms. Alka Yagnik
2. Art: Shri Mammooty
3. Art: Shri Piyush Pandey (Posthumous)
4. Art: Shri Shatavadhani R Ganesh
5. Medicine: Shri Kallipatti Ramasamy Palaniswamy
6. Medicine: Dr. Nori Dattatreyyudu
7. Public Affairs: Shri Bhagat Singh Koshyari
8. Public Affairs: Shri Shibu Soren (Posthumous)
9. Public Affairs: Shri V K Malhotra (Posthumous)
10. Public Affairs: Shri Vellappally Natesan
11. Social Work: Shri S K M Maeilanandhan
12. Sports: Shri Vijay Amritraj
13. Trade and Industry: Shri Uday Kotak

Padma Shri

Category: Art

1. Shri Anil Kumar Rastogi
2. Shri Arvind Vaidya
3. Shri Bharat Singh Bharti
4. Shri Bhikya Ladakya Dhinda
5. Shri Bishwa Bandhu (Posthumous)
6. Shri Chiranji Lal Yadav
7. Ms. Deepika Reddy
8. Shri Dharmiklal Chunilal Pandya

9. Shri Gadde Babu Rajendra Prasad
10. Shri Gafruddin Mewati Jogi
11. Shri Garimella Balakrishna Prasad (Posthumous)
12. Ms. Gayatri Balasubramanian and Ms. Ranjani Balasubramanian (Duo)
13. Shri Hari Madhab Mukhopadhyay (Posthumous)
14. Shri Haricharan Saikia
15. Shri Jyotish Debnath
16. Ms. Kalamandalam Vimala Menon
17. Shri Khem Raj Sundriyal
18. Shri Kumar Bose
19. Prof. (Dr.) Lars-Christian Koch
20. Shri Madhavan Ranganathan
21. Shri Maganti Murali Mohan
22. Shri Mir Hajibhai Kasambhai
23. Shri Nuruddin Ahmed
24. Shri Othuvaar Thiruthani Swaminathan
25. Ms. Pokhila Lekthepi
26. Shri Prosenjit Chatterjee
27. Shri R Krishnan (Posthumous)
28. Shri Raghuveer Tukaram Khedkar
29. Shri Rajastapathi Kaliappa Goundar
30. Shri Sangyusang S Pongener
31. Shri Sarat Kumar Patra
32. Shri Satish Shah (Posthumous)
33. Shri Simanchal Patro
34. Shri Taga Ram Bheel
35. Shri Tarun Bhattacharya
36. Shri Thiruvaarur Bakthavathsalam
37. Ms. Tripti Mukherjee
38. Shri Yumnam Jatra Singh (Posthumous)

Category: Literature and Education

1. Shri Asok Kumar Haldar
2. Shri Charan Hembram
3. Shri Gambir Singh Yonzone
4. Shri Kailash Chandra Pant
5. Ms. Liudmila Viktorovna Khokhlova
6. Shri Mahendra Kumar Mishra
7. Shri Mahendra Nath Roy
8. Shri Mamidala Jagadesh Kumar

9. Ms. Mangala Kapoor
10. Shri Naresh Chandra Dev Varma
11. Dr. Prabhakar Basavprabhu Kore
12. Shri Rabilal Tudu
13. Shri Ratilal Borisagar
14. Prof. Shafi Shauq
15. Shri Shashi Shekhar Vempati
16. Shri Vempaty Kutumba Sastry
17. Ms. Sivasankari

Category: Medicine

1. Ms. Armida Fernandez
2. Shri Guduru Venkat Rao
3. Shri H V Hande
4. Shri Kewal Krishan Thakral
5. Dr. Padma Gurmet
6. Shri Palkonda Vijay Anand Reddy
7. Shri Prateek Sharma
8. Dr. Punniamurthy Natesan
9. Shri Rajendra Prasad
10. Shri Ramchandra Godbole and Ms. Suneeta Godbole (Duo)
11. Shri Saroj Mandal
12. Shri Shyam Sundar
13. Dr. Suresh Hanagavadi

Category: Others

1. Shri Jogesh Deuri (Agriculture)
2. Shri Raghupat Singh (Posthumous) (Agriculture)
3. Shri Shrirang Devaba Lad (Agriculture)
4. Shri Rama Reddy Mamidi (Posthumous) (Animal Husbandry)
5. Shri Buddha Rashmi Mani (Archaeology)
6. Shri Narayan Vyas (Archaeology)
7. Shri Ramamurthy Sreedher (Radio Broadcasting)
8. Sant Niranjana Dass (Spiritualism)

Category: Public Affairs

1. Shri Kabindra Purkayastha (Posthumous)

Category: Science and Engineering

1. Shri A E Muthunayagam

2. Shri Ashok Kumar Singh
3. Shri Chandramouli Gaddamanugu
4. Shri Gopal Ji Trivedi
5. Shri Juzer Vasi
6. Shri K Ramasamy
7. Shri Krishnamurty Balasubramanian
8. Shri Kumarasamy Thangaraj
9. Shri Prem Lal Gautam
10. Ms. Shubha Venkatesha Iyengar
11. Shri Veezhinathan Kamakoti

Category: Social Work

1. Shri SKM Maeilanandhan
2. Shri Anke Gowda M.
3. Shri Brij Lal Bhat
4. Dr. Budhri Tati
5. Shri Hally War
6. Shri Inderjit Singh Sidhu
7. Shri Janardan Bapurao Bothe
8. Ms. Kollakal Devaki Amma G
9. Shri Mohan Nagar
10. Shri Nilesh Vinodchandra Mandlewala
11. Ms. S G Susheelamma
12. Swami Brahmdev Ji Maharaj
13. Shri Techu Gubin

Category: Sports

1. Shri Baldev Singh
2. Shri Bhagwandas Raikwar
3. Ms. Harmanpreet Kaur Bhullar
4. Shri K Pajanivel
5. Shri Praveen Kumar
6. Shri Rohit Sharma
7. Ms. Savita Punia
8. Shri Vladimer Mestvirishvili (Posthumous)

Category: Trade and Industry

1. Shri Ashok Khade
2. Shri Satyanarayan Nuwal
3. Shri T T Jagannathan (Posthumous)