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29
Jan
2026

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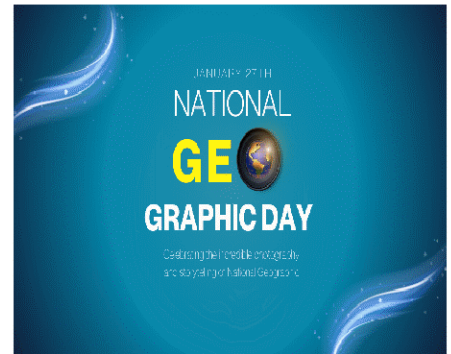
Current Affairs Related to 29 January 2026

- ◆ **India's clean energy transition** has received a significant boost, as the world's largest green ammonia project is being established in Kakinada, Andhra Pradesh. Developed by AM Green, this project will involve an investment of approximately \$10 billion. Its aim is to establish India as a global exporter of green ammonia, support climate goals, and strengthen energy security. Andhra Pradesh will host the world's largest green ammonia project in Kakinada.
- ◆ **India's labor market witnessed encouraging trends at the end of 2025.** According to the latest monthly data, the female labor force participation rate and the workforce participation rate reached their highest levels of the year in December 2025, while the overall unemployment rate remained broadly stable. These figures indicate a gradual improvement in employment conditions amidst sustained economic activity, particularly in rural areas. According to the Periodic Labour Force Survey monthly bulletin released for December 2025, the female labor force participation rate and the worker population ratio reached their highest levels of the year.
- ◆ **India's growth story is attracting global attention.** In the last six months, the country has received \$51 billion in Foreign Direct Investment, reflecting investor confidence in its economy. This surge is linked to the government's continued emphasis on startups, innovation, and manufacturing, which are rapidly transforming India's economic and industrial landscape. According to the Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade, India received \$51 billion in FDI in the last six months, demonstrating strong global confidence amidst a push for startups and manufacturing.
- ◆ **The World Economic Forum's Global Risks Report 2026 presents a worrying picture** of the coming decade. According to the report, the world is entering an era of competition, where rivalry between countries is not limited to the military sphere but is also intensifying through trade restrictions, protectionist policies, technology controls, and information warfare. This shift is creating a global environment where shocks spread rapidly, international cooperation is becoming more difficult, and societies are becoming more vulnerable to instability.
- ◆ **India has achieved a major milestone in the infrastructure sector.** Public sector company GAIL Limited has completed a unique natural gas pipeline project in Maharashtra. This 694-kilometer-long Mumbai-Nagpur natural gas pipeline has been laid almost entirely along an expressway in a corridor just 3 meters wide. This is the country's first such project, demonstrating that transportation corridors can also be used as utility corridors under integrated planning.
- ◆ **India's postal network has achieved a major milestone in its digital transformation.** For the first time, the Department of Posts has successfully delivered an online order booked through the Open Network for Digital Commerce. This achievement showcases India Post's evolving role beyond traditional postal services and underscores its growing importance in strengthening India's digital commerce and logistics ecosystem.
- ◆ **Kerala has quietly achieved a major milestone in India's electric mobility journey.** In 2025, Kerala recorded the highest share of personal four-wheeler electric vehicle adoption among major EV states. Thanks to timely policies, rapidly expanding charging infrastructure, and strong middle-class participation, Kerala has surpassed many larger and more industrialized states in EV penetration. In 2025, Kerala recorded the highest share of personal four-wheeler EV adoption among the top EV-selling states.
- ◆ **The year 2026 is set to be a pivotal year for global space exploration.** India and the United States are preparing for two significant human spaceflight missions. While India's Gaganyaan mission will test indigenous human spaceflight systems, NASA's Artemis-II mission will take humans beyond the Moon for the first time in over five decades and set the stage for future space missions.
- ◆ **India and Pakistan have continued an important diplomatic tradition related to nuclear security.** The two countries exchanged lists of their respective nuclear installations and facilities through official diplomatic channels. This step reflects an established confidence-building mechanism aimed at reducing risks and maintaining strategic stability in South Asia.

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National & International Current Affairs

- 1. When is National Geographic Day celebrated every year?**
(A) 25 January (B) 26 January
(C) 27 January (D) 28 January
(C) National Geographic Day is celebrated every year on January 27th across the country. It is a day to honor the National Geographic magazine, which has been continuously published for over a century. National Geographic is something we take for granted, which is not surprising considering it has been around for over 100 years.
- 2. When will the 9th International Spice Conference recently be held in Kochi?**
(A) January 25-28, 2026 (B) February 5-9, 2026
(C) February 23-26, 2026 (D) March 1-4, 2026
(C) The ninth edition of the International Spice Conference will be held in Kochi from February 23 to 26, 2026. This conference is being organized by the All India Spices Exporters Forum. The four-day event will be held on the theme "Spice 360: Ready for the Future." Policymakers, industrialists, researchers, and innovators from around the world will participate in the discussions.
- 3. In which month will the India Electricity Summit 2026 recently be held?**
(A) February 2026 (B) March 2026
(C) May 2026 (D) June 2026
(B) India is poised to host a major global event in the energy sector. With the announcement of the India Electricity Summit 2026, the country will host a four-day conference-cum-exhibition focused on clean energy transition, resilient power systems, and global collaboration. This summit reflects India's journey from energy scarcity to energy abundance and its growing leadership role in the global energy landscape.
- 4. Which bank recently announced a major reform in its grievance redressal framework to improve customer experience in the financial system?**
(A) RBI (B) SBI
(C) ICICI Bank (D) HDFC Bank
(A) The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has announced a major reform in its grievance redressal framework to improve customer experience in the financial system. Under this, the RBI will now establish a centralized center for handling complaints under the Integrated Ombudsman Scheme. This new system will ensure faster, more transparent, and accessible grievance redressal for consumers across the country.
- 5. Who recently became the Goodwill Ambassador for the Bajaj Pune Grand Tour 2026?**
(A) Mahendra Singh Dhoni (B) Virat Kohli
(C) Sachin Tendulkar (D) Rohit Sharma
(A) India is about to take a historic step on the global professional cycling stage. Through the Pune Grand Tour 2026, India will host an international-level professional road cycling race for the first time. Making this prestigious event even more special, former Indian cricket captain M.S. Dhoni has been appointed as its Goodwill Ambassador.



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6. Where will India's first sovereign AI park be established recently?

- (A) Telangana (B) Tamil Nadu
(C) Karnataka (D) Odisha

(B) The Tamil Nadu government has signed a landmark agreement with Sarvam AI to establish India's first full-stack sovereign Artificial Intelligence park. With an initial investment of ₹10,000 crore, this project is one of the country's most ambitious state-led AI initiatives, aiming to build trustworthy and domestically controlled AI systems.



7. Which state has recently been at the forefront of personal electric vehicle adoption?

- (A) Kerala (B) Gujarat
(C) Maharashtra (D) Rajasthan

(A) Kerala has recently quietly achieved a major milestone in India's electric mobility journey. In 2025, Kerala recorded the highest share of personal four-wheeler electric vehicle adoption among the major EV states. Thanks to timely policies, rapidly growing charging infrastructure, and strong middle-class participation, Kerala has surpassed many larger and more industrialized states in EV penetration.



8. Which country has the US recently invited to join the Pax Silica initiative?

- (A) Russia (B) Italy
(C) India (D) Japan

(C) Recently, the US Ambassador to India, Sergio Gor, invited India to join the US-led strategic initiative, Pax Silica, which will include minerals essential for advancing manufacturing. This initiative focuses on securing and strengthening global supply chains related to silicon advanced manufacturing and artificial intelligence.



9. Recently, what percentage is India's nominal GDP growth expected to increase to in the financial year 2027?

- (A) 3% (B) 5%
(C) 7% (D) 11%

(D) India's nominal GDP growth is projected to reach approximately 11% in the financial year 2027, while real GDP growth is expected to be 7.2%. According to a report by SBI Mutual Fund, this improvement is likely due to domestic credit-driven consumption and continued policy support.



10. Recently, how many new projects did the central government approve under the Electronics Components Manufacturing Scheme?

- (A) 5 (B) 9
(C) 16 (D) 22

(D) Under the third tranche of the Electronics Components Manufacturing Scheme, the central government approved 22 new proposals with an estimated investment of ₹41,863 crore. These approvals were given for manufacturing in eleven targeted sectors, including mobile manufacturing, telecommunications, consumer electronics, strategic electronics, automotive, and IT hardware. These approved projects are expected to generate production worth approximately 2.58 lakh crore.



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