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English Medium

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**Ashish Namdev**  
Director

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Address : C-145, Sec 01, Behind City Center Mall,  
Near Axis Juice, Devendra Nagar, Raipur - 492004

**Contact : 7415334338, 9165040534**

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## Current Affairs Related to 30 January 2026

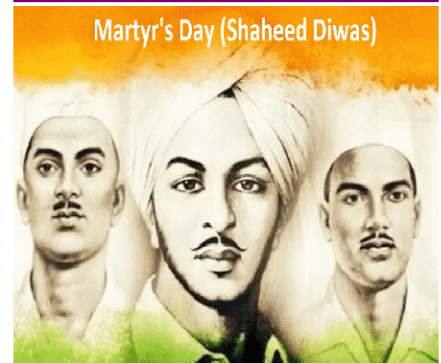
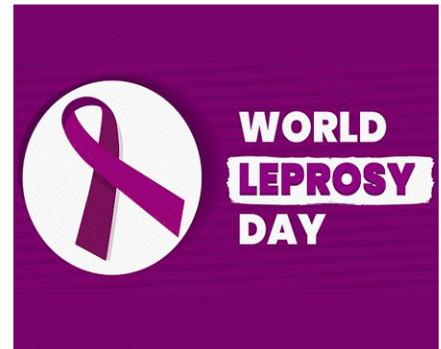
- ◆ **To promote traditional handicrafts, PM Vishwakarma Haat 2026 is being organized at Delhi Haat.** PM Vishwakarma Haat 2026 is being organized by the Ministry of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises at Delhi Haat, INA, New Delhi from January 18 to 31. The exhibition will be inaugurated by the Union Minister of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises, Jitan Ram Manjhi, in the presence of Minister of State Shobha Karandlaje. This event has been conceived as a special platform to promote India's traditional crafts and craftsmanship under the PM Vishwakarma Yojana.
- ◆ **Senior IPS officer Rakesh Agarwal has been appointed as the Director General of the National Investigation Agency by the Central Government.** This appointment has been approved by the Appointments Committee of the Cabinet. Agarwal, a 1994 batch Indian Police Service officer of the Himachal Pradesh cadre, is currently the Special Director General in the anti-terrorism agency. He is also holding the additional charge of Director General of NIA. His tenure as Director General of NIA will be till August 31, 2028, which is his date of retirement.
- ◆ **A comprehensive Mediclaim AYUSH insurance has been launched for Central Government Health Scheme beneficiaries.** This scheme has been launched by the Department of Financial Services. This policy covers cashless treatment and modern medical procedures. This policy is exclusively available for CGHS beneficiaries, whose family can have a maximum of six members. It provides indemnity-based coverage for hospitalization within India, with sum insured options of Rs. 10 lakh or Rs. 20 lakh available.
- ◆ **The Ministry of Coal has signed Coal Mine Development and Production Agreements with Damodar Valley Corporation.** These agreements have been signed for three commercial coal blocks, Dhulia Uttar, Mandakini B and Pirpainti Barahat. These coal blocks were successfully auctioned in the 13th round of commercial coal mining auctions. All three coal blocks have been fully explored, and their combined cumulative maximum production capacity is 49 million tonnes per year.
- ◆ **The Digital India Bhashini division of the Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology and the Government of Madhya Pradesh signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU).** This MoU formalizes cooperation on multilingual digital governance and enables the integration of Bhashini's language technologies into the state's digital platforms. This integration includes translation APIs and AI-powered language tools, which will help in providing public services in multiple Indian languages. Bhashini will support voice-first AI solutions in Madhya Pradesh.
- ◆ **Mitchell Starc and Laura Wolvaardt received the ICC Player of the Month award for December 2025.** They were awarded for their outstanding performances in Australia's home Ashes series win. This is the first time Mitchell Starc has received the ICC Men's Player of the Month award. He ended a two-year wait for an Australian player to win this award, the last being Pat Cummins in December 2025.
- ◆ **India's first Vande Bharat sleeper train was inaugurated by Prime Minister Narendra Modi at Malda railway station in West Bengal.** This train will connect Howrah and Guwahati. The Prime Minister also virtually flagged off the Guwahati-Howrah Vande Bharat sleeper service. The Vande Bharat sleeper train is fully air-conditioned and designed to provide an experience similar to air travel. The Vande Bharat sleeper train has 16 modern coaches with a total capacity of 823 passengers. The Howrah-Guwahati route is one of the most important rail corridors in the country. The Vande Bharat sleeper train will connect major pilgrimage sites like Kalighat Temple and Kamakhya Devi Temple.
- ◆ **Toby Kiers was awarded the Tyler Prize for uncovering hidden fungal networks.** The Tyler Prize is often called the Nobel Prize for the environment, recognizing outstanding environmental achievements. Vast underground fungal networks have been shown to act as a nutrient exchange system between plants and their roots, influencing the Earth's climate. These mycorrhizal networks absorb approximately 13.12 billion tons of carbon dioxide annually, helping to mitigate global emissions.

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## National & International Current Affairs

- 1. When is World Leprosy Day celebrated every year?**  
(A) 28 January (B) 29 January  
(C) 30 January (D) 31 January  
**(C)** World Leprosy Day is celebrated every year on January 30 to focus on the goal of zero cases of leprosy-related disabilities in children. As we know, disability does not happen overnight but after a long period of undiagnosed illness. The main objective was to raise awareness about leprosy and educate people about this ancient disease, which is now easily curable.
- 2. When is Martyrs' Day celebrated every year?**  
(A) 26 January (B) 28 January  
(C) 29 January (D) 30 January  
**(D)** Martyrs' Day is celebrated every year on January 30 to commemorate the sacrifices of Mahatma Gandhi and three Indian revolutionaries. On January 30, 1948, the Father of the Nation was assassinated. And on March 23, three heroes of the country, Bhagat Singh, Shivaram Rajguru, and Sukhdev Thapar, were hanged by the British.
- 3. Where has the MSME Ministry recently approved a new Technology Centre?**  
(A) Telangana (B) Kerala  
(C) Himachal Pradesh (D) Rajasthan  
**(C)** The Government of India has approved the establishment of two MSME Technology Centres in Himachal Pradesh. These centers will be established in Pandoga in Una district and Parwanoo in Solan district. Each center will be developed at a cost of approximately 10 crore. This initiative is expected to strengthen industrial development, skill training, and employment opportunities in the state.
- 4. Where has an AI-powered thermal drone surveillance system recently been inaugurated to prevent poaching?**  
(A) Kerala (B) Assam  
(C) Gujarat (D) Maharashtra  
**(B)** Recently, an AI-powered thermal drone surveillance system is being used in Kaziranga National Park to prevent the poaching of rhinos and other wildlife. This technology has been revolutionizing wildlife conservation in Kaziranga since 2017, primarily protecting one-horned rhinos from poachers, especially during floods when the rhinos move to higher ground.
- 5. Which state has recently launched the Ame Padhiba Ama Bhasare scheme?**  
(A) Odisha (B) Punjab  
(C) Haryana (D) Telangana  
**(A)** The Odisha government recently officially launched the 'Ame Padhiba Ama Bhasare' scheme. Under the National Education Policy, it aims to promote early childhood education in tribal and regional languages. These initiatives aim to ensure empowerment through education, equality in society, and a safe environment.



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6. Which country recently received a €90 billion loan from the European Union?

- (A) Ukraine (B) Poland  
(C) Italy (D) None of the above

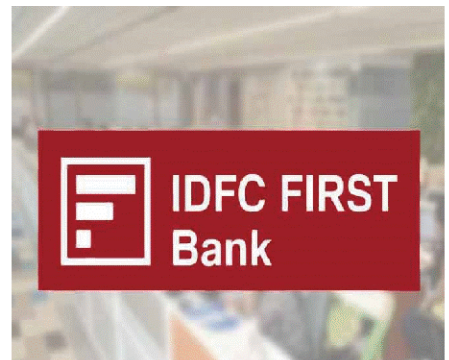
(A) Recently, the European Union agreed to provide a €90 billion loan to Ukraine to help it against Russia. This money will be disbursed to Ukraine gradually and will be subject to certain conditions. Three EU member states, Hungary, Slovakia, and the Czech Republic, have decided not to participate in this initiative.



7. Which bank recently launched a global savings plan for non-residents in GIFT City?

- (A) ICICI Bank (B) HDFC Bank  
(C) IDFC First Bank (D) Axis Bank

(C) Recently, IDFC First Bank launched IDFC First Global Savings for Non-Resident Indians in US Dollars and Euros. This foreign currency account is offered through GIFT City in Gujarat and is designed for customers who want to hold, save, and transfer funds in foreign currency without risks.



8. Which IIT researchers recently developed an AI system called Artificial Intelligence Lab Assistant?

- (A) IIT Mumbai (B) IIT Kanpur  
(C) IIT Bengaluru (D) IIT Delhi

(D) Recently, researchers at the Indian Institute of Technology Delhi developed an AI system called AILA, or Artificial Intelligence Lab Assistant. This system is capable of conducting real scientific experiments like a scientist. It has a simple chat interface. This system was developed by IIT Delhi in collaboration with scientists from Denmark and Germany.



9. Who was recently appointed as the Chief Justice of the Patna High Court?

- (A) Justice Soumen Sen (B) Justice Sangam Kumar Sahoo  
(C) Justice Revathi Prashant (D) None of the above

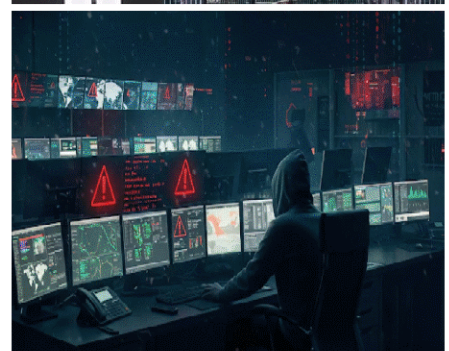
(B) Recently, Sangam Kumar Sahoo took oath as the new Chief Justice of the Patna High Court. He was administered the oath of office by Governor Arif Mohammad Khan. Justice Sahu is known for his expertise in criminal law. Justice Sangam Kumar Sahu took oath as the 47th Chief Justice of the Patna High Court.



10. Which state has recently constituted a committee to deal with cyber attacks on energy infrastructure??

- (A) Gujarat (B) Kerala  
(C) Punjab (D) Karnataka

(A) With the increasing use of digital technologies such as smart meters, smart grids, and automated control systems, the energy infrastructure of the power sector has become more vulnerable to cyber threats. Recognizing this risk, the Gujarat government has taken a significant step to strengthen cybersecurity in the energy sector. The state has constituted special committees to review preparedness, improve systems, and ensure the long-term security of critical power infrastructure.



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