

Weekly Current Affairs

February 2026 – Week 1

(02, 03, 04, 05, 06, 07 February 2026)

Exam Revision Notes

APPSC • AP DSC • AP TET • AP Police SI & Constable Exams

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About This Weekly Digest

This weekly current affairs compilation is a **revision digest** prepared from the daily current affairs published on ReadingRoomz during **Week 1 of February 2026 (02, 03, 04, 05, 06, 07 February 2026)**. It is structured for **quick revision and MCQ-ready facts**.

For complete topic-wise explanations, refer to our daily current affairs posts linked at the end — each day's update is covered in detail to strengthen your exam preparation.

1. International Current Affairs

BRICS Centre for Industrial Competencies (BCIC)

India recently joined the BRICS Centre for Industrial Competencies (BCIC). BCIC is launched in partnership with the United Nations Industrial Development Organisation (UNIDO). It acts as a one-stop centre providing integrated support services to manufacturing companies and MSMEs across BRICS nations.

First-ever mummified cheetah remains discovered

Recently, Scientists have discovered seven naturally mummified cheetahs and skeletal remains of 54 cheetahs inside caves in Saudi Arabia.

New START treaty

New START (New Strategic Arms Reduction Treaty) — the last remaining bilateral nuclear arms-control treaty between the U.S. and Russia expired on 05 February 2026, ending its legally binding ceilings and verification regime.

2. National Current Affairs

Kerala to start South India's First Statewide RRTS

Kerala has granted in-principle approval for a 583-km Regional Rapid Transit System (RRTS) corridor to improve high-speed intercity travel across the State. The route covered in this RRTS will be from Thiruvananthapuram to Kasaragod covering a total distance of 583 km. Total estimated cost of this project is ₹1,92,780 crore expecting to complete in 12 years.

SabhaSaar – AI Tool

The Ministry of Panchayati Raj launched SabhaSaar, an AI-enabled voice-to-text meeting summarisation tool, on 14 August 2025 to strengthen digital governance at the grassroots level.

Chief Minister of Manipur

President's Rule imposed due to prolonged ethnic violence between Meitei and Kuki-Zo communities. After Yumnam Khemchand Singh was sworn in as Chief Minister of Manipur this one year Presidential rule came to an end.

First State to Ban Mobile Phones in School

The Himachal Pradesh government has announced a statewide ban on the use of mobile phones by students in schools, effective March 1, 2026. The decision applies to both government and private schools across the State and aims to improve the academic environment, discipline, and overall well-being of students.

Adampur Airport Renamed as Shri Guru Ravidas Maharaj Ji Airport

- The government renamed Adampur Airport in Punjab to honour Guru Ravidass.
- Guru Ravidass was a Bhakti movement saint who preached equality, social justice, and opposed caste discrimination.

Bharat Taxi

Country's first cooperative-based taxi service, 'Bharat Taxi', was launched by the Union Home and Cooperation Minister, Amit Shah. The initiative is a flagship effort of the Ministry of Cooperation, aligned with the Prime Minister's vision of empowering workers in the unorganised and gig economy through an ownership-rights model.

3. Andhra Pradesh Current Affairs

Megalithic Dolmen Burials Discovered at Pedda Anupu

- A distinctive cluster of megalithic burials has been discovered at Pedda Anupu in Palnadu district, Andhra Pradesh.
- Archaeologists identified rare dolmens with deliberately sloping capstones, indicating a locally evolved burial style.
- Dolmens are stone burial chambers made of large vertical slabs supporting a capstone, typically associated with Iron Age–Early Historic South India (c. 1200 BCE–300 CE).
- The sloping capstone design at Pedda Anupu is unusual and may represent regional architectural innovation.

Chittoor Sets Guinness Record with 5,555 E-Cycles Distribution

- Chittoor district entered the Guinness World Records by distributing 5,555 electric cycles within 24 hours in the Kuppam Assembly constituency.
- This is a major push towards sustainable and low-carbon transport.

APAAR & SAMARTH for Higher Education

- At a workshop in Vijayawada, the Andhra Pradesh State Council of Higher Education (APSCHE) highlighted platforms like APAAR and SAMARTH.

- APAAR (Automated Permanent Academic Account Registry) - Unique lifelong academic ID for each student, stores marksheets, credits, certificates digitally.
- SAMARTH (Smart Automated Management of Academic Resources for Transforming Higher Education) - Digital ERP platform for universities managing admissions, exams, results, finance, HR.

Union Budget 2026 Allocation for Andhra Pradesh

- Andhra Pradesh is identified as one of four mineral-rich States for Rare Earth Corridors.
- Two major high-speed rail corridors benefiting AP: Hyderabad – Bengaluru, Hyderabad – Chennai.
- Key stations: Kurnool, Dhone, Guntakal, Anantapur, Dharmavaram, Hindupur, Tadipatri, Yerraguntla, Kadapa, Rajampet, Renigunta.
- Google hyperscale data centre in Visakhapatnam announced.
- Bird-watching trails at Pulicat Lake and Ecotourism trail at Araku Valley.
- Project Allocations: Polavaram (₹3,320 cr), Rural Roads (₹500.99 cr), Amaravati (₹432.09 cr), Roads & Bridges (₹350 cr), Climate Resilient Farming (₹155.32 cr).

Bharat Parv 2026 - Andhra Pradesh Day

- Organised by the Ministry of Tourism at Red Fort, New Delhi under the theme 'Ek Bharat, Shreshtha Bharat'.
- Andhra Pradesh Day featured a grand Kuchipudi classical dance performance by 46 artists.
- Showcased tourism, food, and handloom displays from the state.

Pilloo AI

Andhra Pradesh Chief Minister launched Pilloo AI, a next-generation voice-based billing and accounting system. Target users are Small and Medium Businesses (SMEs).

British-Era Irrigation Locks

Andhra Pradesh plans to open British-era irrigation locks in the Godavari Delta for tourism development. Initiative led by District Tourism Promotion Council of Dr. B. R. Ambedkar Konaseema district. Locks built in the 1850s (British period).

New Semiconductor Facility in Andhra Pradesh

India is accelerating its semiconductor ecosystem under the 'Semicon India Programme', aligned with the vision of Atmanirbhar Bharat and Make in India, Make for the World. The Government has launched the programme with a ₹76,000 crore outlay to strengthen domestic semiconductor and display manufacturing.

AI4AP Police

The Director-General of Police launched the AI4AP Police project at the Andhra Pradesh Police Headquarters to modernize policing through Artificial Intelligence.

Van Dhan Vikas Kendras (VDVKs)

The Ministry of Tribal Affairs, through Tribal Cooperative Marketing Development Federation of India Limited (TRIFED), has strengthened tribal livelihoods in Andhra Pradesh by sanctioning 488 Van Dhan Vikas Kendras (VDVKs) under Pradhan Mantri Janjatiya Vikas Mission (PMJVM) and PM-JANMAN schemes.

4. Polity & Governance

Supreme Court on Menstrual Hygiene Management (MHM) in Schools

- The Supreme Court ruled that the right to menstrual health and access to MHM in schools is an integral part of Article 21 of the Constitution.
- Lack of MHM facilities leads to stigma, absenteeism, unsafe practices, and violates privacy, bodily autonomy, and right to education.
- The Supreme Court directed States and UTs to ensure: Functional gender-segregated toilets, Free oxo-biodegradable sanitary napkins (preferably through vending machines), Establishment of 'MHM corners'.

UGC Equity Rules and Article 15

- The UGC introduced the Promotion of Equity in Higher Education Institutions Regulations, 2026 to address caste-based discrimination.
- Currently under review by the Supreme Court, with some petitioners arguing it leads to 'reverse discrimination'.

- Constitutional basis: Article 15(1) prohibits discrimination on grounds of caste, Article 15(2) ensures equal access to public institutions.
- The current acting Chairman of UGC is Dr. Vineet Joshi.

Budget Allocation for Census 2027

- Union Budget 2026–27 allocated ₹6,000 crore for Population Census 2027.
- Total MHA Budget increased by 9.44% from ₹2,33,210 crore to ₹2,55,233.53 crore.
- ₹300 crore allocated for Vibrant Villages Programme (Phase II).

Acting Director General Police

The Supreme Court of India has flagged a growing trend among States of appointing 'Acting' Directors-General of Police (DGPs) instead of regular DGPs with a fixed tenure, calling it a violation of its landmark 2006 judgment in the Prakash Singh case. In the Prakash Singh case (2006), the Supreme Court invoked its extraordinary powers under Article 142 of the Constitution to ensure meaningful police reforms across the country.

5. Economy & Development

SBI Launches CHAKRA Centre to Finance Sunrise Sectors

- State Bank of India launched CHAKRA – Centre of Excellence (CoE) to strengthen financing for sunrise sectors.
- Sunrise sectors may attract capital investment of over ₹100 lakh crore by 2030.
- Sunrise sectors include semiconductors, Electric Vehicles, renewable energy, agro-processing, and healthcare.

Green Steel

- Green Steel is produced using low-carbon or near-zero carbon technologies by replacing coal-based processes with clean energy sources like green hydrogen, renewable electricity, and recycled scrap.
- The steel sector accounts for ~12% of India's total carbon emissions.
- India plans to expand production from 125 MT to 400+ MT by 2050.
- Production methods: Hydrogen-Based Direct Reduction (H-DRI), Electric Arc Furnace (EAF), Renewable Energy Integration, Carbon Capture.

Rare Earth Corridors to Reduce Import Dependence

- India announced creation of Rare Earth Corridors in mineral-rich States: Odisha, Kerala, Andhra Pradesh, and Tamil Nadu.
- India's imports increased from \$14.1 million (2014) to \$17.5 million (2024); 45% imports are from China.
- Rare Earth Elements (REEs) consist of 17 metallic elements: 15 Lanthanides + Scandium + Yttrium.
- Classified into Light Rare Earths (LREEs) and Heavy Rare Earths (HREEs).

Seven High-Speed Rail Corridors Approved

- Union Budget announced seven high-speed rail corridors spanning 4,000 km with a total outlay of ₹16 lakh crore.
- Corridors: Mumbai–Pune, Pune–Hyderabad, Hyderabad–Bengaluru, Hyderabad–Chennai, Chennai–Bengaluru, Delhi–Varanasi, Varanasi–Siliguri.

₹20,000 Crore Allocated for Carbon Capture (CCUS)

- The Union Budget earmarked ₹20,000 crore for Carbon Capture, Utilisation and Storage (CCUS) technologies towards India's net-zero target (2070).
- CCUS involves capturing CO₂ emissions from industries, either reusing CO₂ in products or permanently storing it underground.

Union Budget 2026 Allocation for Neighbouring Countries

- No funds allocated for Chabahar Port in Iran (previous year: ₹400 crore) amid U.S. tariff warnings.
- Allocations: Bangladesh ₹60 cr (reduced), Bhutan ₹2,288.55 cr (increased), Myanmar ₹300 cr (reduced), Sri Lanka ₹400 cr (increased), Nepal ₹800 cr (increased).

16th Finance Commission Grants to Urban Local Governments

The Finance Commission of India in its 16th Finance Commission Report has recommended ₹3.5 lakh crore allocation for Urban Local Governments (ULGs) for the next five years. The 16th Finance Commission granted ₹7.9 lakh crore in total to the local governments.

Eligible cities from Andhra Pradesh under the Special Infrastructure component of Urban Local Body Grants

Vijayawada and Visakhapatnam are the two eligible cities from Andhra Pradesh under the special infrastructure component of Urban Local Body grants.

16th Finance Commission recommended 41% tax devolution

The 16th Finance Commission has retained the vertical tax devolution rate at 41%, keeping the States' share of the divisible tax pool unchanged. The divisible pool excludes cesses and surcharges. The centre has increasingly relied on cess & surcharges, which are non-sharable with States. As a result, even though the rate remains 41%, the actual money transferred to States reduces.

Defence Budget is the highest among all Ministries

Ministry of Defence allocation: ₹7.85 lakh crore. Highest among all Ministries. 15.19% increase over FY 2025–26.

Capital Goods Sector

Union Government capital outlay for Capital Goods Sector is ₹11.21 lakh crore in FY26 (BE). ₹10,000 crore allocated for the Container Manufacturing Scheme.

6. Science & Technology

Biopharma SHAKTI

- Union Budget 2026 launched Biopharma SHAKTI with ₹10,000 crore outlay over five years.
- Target: Capture 5% of the global biopharma market.
- Biopharma refers to medicines developed using living organisms or biological systems (vaccines, biosimilars, monoclonal antibodies, gene & cell therapies).

PRIYA Trial Links Vitamin B12 to Long-Term Health in Babies

- The Pune Rural Intervention in Young Adolescents (PRIYA) Trial linked vitamin B12 supplementation during adolescence to improved long-term health outcomes in babies.
- India has a high prevalence of B12 deficiency, especially among vegetarians.

- B12 deficiency during pregnancy causes neural tube defects, poor foetal growth, higher risk of insulin resistance & obesity.

DRDO Successfully tested Solid Fuel Ducted Ramjet (SFDR) missile technology

- The DRDO successfully conducted the flight demonstration of Solid Fuel Ducted Ramjet (SFDR) technology. With this achievement, our country joined an elite group of nations having SFDR technology, which is crucial for developing long-range air-to-air missiles.
- Solid Fuel is the mixture of Ammonium Perchlorate (oxidizer) + Aluminium powder (fuel) + HTPB rubber (binder)

Affordable Dipstick Test to Track Antimicrobial Resistance (AMR) in Sewage

Scientists from Translational Health Science and Technology Institute (THSTI), Faridabad have developed a low-cost dipstick-based diagnostic assay to detect antimicrobial resistance (AMR) genes in sewage. Cost of this Dipstick is around ₹500 per test much cheaper than Shotgun sequencing (₹9000). AMR testing helps detect drug-resistant microbes early, guides correct treatment, and prevents the spread of dangerous infections in the community. Testing in sewage/wastewater shows resistance trends in entire populations.

7. Environment

Lakshya: Zero Dumpsite – India's Mission

- The Union Government launched 'Lakshya: Zero Dumpsites' to scientifically eliminate old garbage mountains under Swachh Bharat Mission.
- Dumpsite Remediation Accelerator Programme (DRAP) introduced in November 2025 by the Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs.
- Current status: 2,479 dumpsites identified, ~25 crore metric tonnes of legacy waste, 62% waste already processed.
- Biomining Process separates waste into: inert material (road construction), recyclables, RDF (fuel), biodegradable (compost), rejects (landfill).

Patna Bird Sanctuary and Chhari-Dhand Added to Ramsar Sites

- Patna Bird Sanctuary (Etah, UP) and Chhari-Dhand (Kutch, Gujarat) included in Ramsar sites list.
- As of January 2026, India has 98 Ramsar Sites covering 13,60,719 hectares.
- Highest number of Ramsar sites in Tamil Nadu; Andhra Pradesh has one (Kolleru Lake).

El Nino May Develop After July – IMD Warns

- India may witness El Nino conditions after July 2026, according to IMD.
- El Nino is frequently associated with weak monsoon rainfall; 6 out of 10 El Nino years result in below-normal rainfall.
- El Nino is abnormal warming of sea surface temperatures in the central and eastern Pacific Ocean.

Pir Panjal Range

Recently, some parties demanded a separate divisional status for the Pir Panjal Region. This Pir Panjal Range region is a mountainous region between Jammu and Kashmir Valley, mainly includes Rajouri and Poonch districts. This region is often said to be less developed compared to other districts.

8. Schemes

SHE Marts & Girls' Hostels for Women Empowerment

- Union Budget 2026 introduced major initiatives for women's education and entrepreneurship.
- Girls' Hostels: One per district for safe accommodation, beneficial for science, technology, laboratory-intensive courses.
- SHE Marts (Self-Help Entrepreneur Marts): Community-owned retail outlets run by women SHGs, helps women transition from credit-linked livelihoods to enterprise ownership.

NAMASTE Scheme

The Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment in convergence with the Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs have launched National Action for Mechanised Sanitation Ecosystem (NAMASTE) scheme in July 2023 to ensure safety and dignity of sanitation workers. The focus is on prevention of hazardous cleaning and promotion of safe cleaning practices through training.

The Union Government has released the first nationwide enumeration data of waste-pickers under the NAMASTE scheme. The data is saying that 84% Waste-Pickers from SC, ST, OBC Groups.

PRITHVI Scheme

The Ministry of Earth Sciences is implementing the PRITHVI (Prithvi Vigyan) Scheme from 2021–2026 with a total outlay of ₹4,797 crore to strengthen India's weather, climate, ocean, cryosphere, and geoscience services. The key feature of the PRITHVI scheme is to address all the five components of the earth system namely atmosphere, hydrosphere, geosphere, cryosphere and biosphere to improve the understanding of the Earth System Sciences and to provide reliable services for the country.

9. Defence & Security

Yantra India Limited Gets 'Miniratna Category-I' Status

- The government granted 'Miniratna Category-I' status to Yantra India Limited (YIL).
- YIL is a Defence Public Sector Undertaking formed after corporatisation of Ordnance Factory Board in October 2021.
- Functions under Department of Defence Production.

Exercise KHANJAR 2026

The 13th edition of the India–Kyrgyzstan Joint Special Forces Exercise KHANJAR commenced from 04 to 17 February 2026 in Assam. Exercise KHANJAR is an annual bilateral military exercise conducted alternately between India and Kyrgyzstan.

Agni-III Missile Test

India successfully test-fired the Intermediate Range Ballistic Missile (IRBM) Agni-III on February 6, 2026, from the Integrated Test Range (ITR), Chandipur, Odisha. Agni-III is a two-stage, solid-fuelled, indigenously developed ballistic missile with a strike range of 3,000–3,500 km. It is capable of carrying a payload of up to 1,500 kg, making it a crucial component of India's credible minimum nuclear deterrence.

10. Sports

Australian Open 2026

- The first Grand Slam of the tennis calendar concluded in Melbourne.
- Carlos Alcaraz defeated Djokovic to win the Men's singles title.
- Elena Rybakina clinched the Women's singles title.

PSA Bronze Squash Title

Anahat Singh won the PSA Bronze-level Squash on Fire Open title.

ICC Men's Under-19 Cricket World Cup

India won the ICC Men's Under-19 Cricket World Cup title for the sixth time, defeating England by 100 runs in the final. India is the most successful team in U19 World Cup history. Vaibhav Suryavanshi won the Man of the Match in the final and Man of the Series Awards. This U-19 World Cup 2026 was hosted by Zimbabwe and Namibia.

11. Person in News

Maharashtra's First Woman Deputy Chief Minister

- Sunetra Pawar, Rajya Sabha MP and wife of late Ajit Pawar, is set to become the first woman Deputy Chief Minister of Maharashtra.
- The decision follows the demise of Ajit Pawar in an air crash at Baramati.
- The NCP Legislature Party will elect her as the new leader.

Costa Rica – Presidential Election 2026

Costa Rica elected Laura Fernandez as the President in the 2026 elections.

Sociologist Andre Beteille (1934–2026) passes away

Renowned Indian sociologist Andre Beteille, one of India's most respected social science scholars, passed away. His famous book is Caste, Class and Power. He was awarded with Padma Bhushan in 2005.

12. Awards and Honours

Grammy Awards 2026

- Album of the year - 'Debi Tirar Mas Fotos' (by Bad Bunny)
- Song of the Year: Billie Eilish – Wildflower
- Record of the Year: Kendrick Lamar & SZA – Luther
- Best New Artist: Olivia Dean
- Pop Vocal Album: Lady Gaga – Mayhem
- Country Duo/Group: Shaboozey
- Music Film: Music by John Williams (Steven Spielberg's first Grammy)

IIFT Tops Times B-School Ranking 2026

- Indian Institute of Foreign Trade (IIFT) secured Rank 1 in Times B-School Ranking 2026.
- Functions as an autonomous institution under the Ministry of Commerce and Industry.
- Campuses at Delhi, Kolkata, Kakinada, GIFT City; planning first offshore campus in Dubai.

Toppers' Strategy for Current Affairs

Rewrite this Quick Revision Table in your current affairs notebook. One table per week means just 52 tables = complete one-year current affairs recap before Prelims. This is how toppers revise an entire year of current affairs using just a few pages.

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