

Weekly Current Affairs

February 2026 – Week 3

(16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21 February 2026)

Exam Revision Notes

APPSC • AP DSC • AP TET • AP Police SI

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LETTER TO ASPIRANTS

Dear Aspirants,

Greetings from ReadingRoomz!

Another week has passed, and with it, countless developments in the world of national, state, economy, science, and governance all of which matter for your APPSC journey. Preparing for Group-1, Group-2, DSC and SI exams is not just about reading facts; it is about developing a disciplined habit of daily learning, weekly revision, monthly revision, and smart practice.

Through this Weekly Current Affairs PDF, our goal is simple:

- To give you exam-oriented coverage of all important topics.
- To save your time with structured summaries & MCQs.
- To help you connect static GK with dynamic events.

How to use this PDF effectively:

1. Start with the Week-at-a-Glance section for a quick overview.
2. Read each topic carefully, highlight key facts.
3. Revise once again before attempting the consolidated MCQs & Answer Key.

Remember, consistency is your greatest weapon. Reading 5–10 pages daily is far better than cramming 100 pages before the exam.

We at ReadingRoomz believe that every aspirant has the potential to succeed if they combine hard work with the right material and smart strategy. Trust the process, keep revising, and never lose hope.

Wishing you success in your APPSC journey. Stay focused, stay motivated, and remember *every small step you take today brings you closer to your dream tomorrow.*

With warm regards,

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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 3 of February 2026 (16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, February 2026). It is structured for **quick revision and MCQ-ready facts**.

Note: For complete topic-wise explanations, refer to our daily current affairs posts linked at the end.

1. International Current Affairs

India-France Special Global Strategic Partnership

During the visit of French President Emmanuel Macron to India (17–19 February 2026) for the AI Impact Summit 2026, India and France decided to elevate their bilateral ties to a “Special Global Strategic Partnership.”

Key Highlights

- India–France Year of Innovation 2026: Launched to boost innovation cooperation.
- Procurement of 26 Rafale-Marine fighter jets.
- Tata–Airbus H125 helicopter final assembly line inaugurated at Vemagal, Karnataka.

The Prime Minister Narendra Modi announced the establishment of a National Centre of Excellence (NCoE) for Skilling in Aeronautics and Defence at the National Skill Training Institute (NSTI), Kanpur in collaboration with France under the PM-SETU scheme of the Ministry of Skill Development & Entrepreneurship (MSDE). The announcement was made during the launch of the India–France Year of Innovation.

Geneva to Host AI Impact Summit 2027

Switzerland’s President Guy Parmelin announced that the AI Impact Summit 2027 will be held in Geneva, Switzerland. The 2028 AI Impact Summit will be hosted by the United Arab Emirates (UAE).

2. National Current Affairs

First Emergency Landing Facility (ELF) of the Northeast

The first emergency landing facility (ELF) of the Northeast was inaugurated on the Moran Bypass of the National Highway 127 in Assam's Dibrugarh.

What is an ELF?

An Emergency Landing Facility is an "alternative runway" designed on a national highway system.

Kumar Bhaskar Varma Setu

The Prime Minister of India recently inaugurated the Kumar Bhaskar Varma Setu across the Brahmaputra River in Guwahati, Assam. It was built at an estimated cost of ₹3,030 crore. The bridge is named after Kumar Bhaskar Varman who was a famous ruler of the ancient Kamrupa Kingdom from the seventh century.

Country's First Underwater Road-cum-Rail Tunnel in Assam

The Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs (CCEA), chaired by Prime Minister Narendra Modi, has approved the construction of a 4-lane access-controlled greenfield corridor from Gohpur (NH-15) to Numaligarh (NH-715) in Assam at a cost of ₹18,662 crore under the EPC mode.

CBDC-Based Public Distribution System (PDS) Launched in Gujarat

Union Home Minister Amit Shah launched a Central Bank Digital Currency (CBDC)-based Public Distribution System (PDS) in Gandhinagar, Gujarat, marking a major step in the digital transformation of food grain distribution.

Centenary Celebration of OI Chiki Script

The President of India, Droupadi Murmu, inaugurated the centenary celebrations of the OI Chiki script in New Delhi on February 16, 2026. The event was organised by the Ministry of Culture.

About OI Chiki Script

- Invented in 1925 by Pandit Raghunath Murmu.
- Specifically developed for the Santhali language.

Great Nicobar Island mega-infrastructure project

The National Green Tribunal (NGT) has cleared the ₹92,000-crore Great Nicobar Island mega-infrastructure project, considering its strategic, defence and national importance. This project includes a transshipment port, airport, power plant and township.

India's First 'Bee Corridors' on National Highways

The National Highways Authority of India (NHAI) has launched a first-of-its-kind 'Bee Corridor' initiative to promote pollinator conservation and ecological sustainability along National Highways.

First GI-Tagged Salem Sago Consignment Exported to Canada

The Agricultural and Processed Food Products Export Development Authority (APEDA) facilitated the first direct export of GI-tagged Salem Sago from Tamil Nadu to Canada.

About Salem Sago

- Derived from tapioca roots
- Tamil Nadu is the largest producer of tapioca sago in India
- Salem is the hub of India's sago and starch industry

MANAV Framework

At the India AI Impact Summit 2026 held in New Delhi, Prime Minister Narendra Modi presented India's human-centric roadmap for artificial intelligence through the M.A.N.A.V. framework. India positioned itself as a global leader in responsible AI, emphasising that AI must advance human dignity, ethics, inclusivity and national sovereignty.

What is MANAV?

MANAV is India's 5-pillar vision for AI.

- M – Moral & Ethical Systems
- A – Accountable Governance
- N – National Sovereignty
- A – Accessible & Inclusive AI
- V – Valid & Legitimate Systems (Trust & Safety)

3. Andhra Pradesh Current Affairs

Andhra Pradesh Budget 2026–27

The Andhra Pradesh Budget 2026–27, presented by Finance Minister Payyavula Keshav, has a total outlay of ₹3,32,205 crore, focusing on inclusive growth, welfare expansion, infrastructure and human capital development.

Key Highlights:

- Revenue Expenditure: ₹2,56,142 crore
- Capital Expenditure: ₹48,697 crore
- Highest Allocation: School Education – over ₹32,300 crore (largest share)

Andhra Pradesh Agriculture Minister K. Atchannaidu presented the Agriculture & Allied Sectors Budget 2026–27 in the State Legislative Assembly with a total outlay of ₹53,753 crore.

Commemorative Postage Stamps on Puppets of India

The Department of Posts released a set of 8 commemorative postage stamps on “Puppets of India” on 13 February 2026.

Puppetry Forms Featured on the Stamps:

- Kathputli – Rajasthan
- Yakshagana Sutrada Gombeyatta – Karnataka
- Daanger Putul – West Bengal
- Kathi Kundhei – Odisha
- Benir Putul – West Bengal
- Pavakathakali – Kerala
- Ravanachhaya – Odisha
- Tolu Bommalatta – Andhra Pradesh

Tamsa River Rejuvenation under Namami Gange

The Tamsa River, an important tributary of the Ganga flowing through Ambedkar Nagar, Ayodhya, and Azamgarh (Uttar Pradesh), has been successfully rejuvenated under the Namami Gange Programme through a community-led model.

₹100 Crore Allocation for ‘Mana Mitra’ WhatsApp Governance

The Andhra Pradesh Government has strengthened its digital governance agenda by allocating ₹100 crore to the Real Time Governance Society (RTGS) in the 2026–27 Budget for the expansion of ‘Mana Mitra’ WhatsApp Governance.

4. Economy Current Affairs

Urban Challenge Fund (UCF)

The Union Cabinet has approved the launch of the Urban Challenge Fund (UCF) with a Central assistance of ₹1 lakh crore to promote transformative urban infrastructure projects. The scheme will operate from FY 2025–26 to 2030–31 (extendable till 2033–34) and aims to develop resilient, inclusive and climate-responsive cities.

Hyderabad–Panaji Economic Corridor

The Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs (CCEA), chaired by the Prime Minister has approved the widening of National Highway-167 from Gudebellur to Mahabubnagar in Telangana. This stretch is a part of the Hyderabad–Panaji Economic Corridor. The total estimated cost of the project is ₹3,175.08 crore.

Creative Economy

India is positioning the creative economy including media & entertainment, AVGC-XR (Animation, VFX, Gaming, Comics, Extended Reality), digital content, and live events as a major driver of economic growth, employment, and global influence.

Economic Significance

- India's Media & Entertainment sector valued at ₹2.5 trillion (2024)
- Projected to reach ₹3.06 trillion by 2027.

Khelo India Mission Launched in Union Budget 2026–27

The Union Budget 2026–27 announced the launch of the Khelo India Mission, a long-term mission-mode framework aimed at transforming India's sports ecosystem over the next decade.

Key Budget Allocations

- ₹4,479.88 crore – Highest-ever allocation for the Ministry of Youth Affairs & Sports
- ₹924.35 crore – For the Khelo India programme
- ₹500 crore – Dedicated sports goods manufacturing initiative

6. Science & Technology

Bio-based Chemicals & Enzymes

Bio-based chemicals are industrial chemicals produced from biological feedstocks such as sugarcane, corn, starch, and biomass residues through fermentation or enzymatic processes. Enzymes are biological catalysts used in industries like detergents, food processing, textiles, pharmaceuticals, and biomanufacturing, and they help reduce energy consumption and emissions by operating at lower temperatures and pressures.

District Cooling System and Urban Climate Solution

- District cooling is a centralised air-conditioning system that supplies chilled water from a single large plant to multiple buildings through insulated underground pipelines.
- It functions like a public utility where buildings receive “cooling as a service” instead of installing individual cooling units.

Visakhapatnam–Bhogapuram Coastal Corridor (VBCC)

The proposed 55–60 km Visakhapatnam–Bhogapuram Coastal Corridor (VBCC) is a major infrastructure project aimed at improving connectivity between Visakhapatnam and the upcoming Bhogapuram International Greenfield Airport, which is expected to become operational by June 2026.

VoicERA – Open-Source Voice AI Stack

The Ministry of Electronics & IT (MeitY) launched VoicERA, an open-source end-to-end Voice AI stack, at the India AI Impact Summit 2026. It has been developed by the Digital India BHASHINI Division (DIBD) under the Digital India Corporation (DIC) in collaboration with EkStep Foundation, IIIT Bengaluru and AI4Bharat.

New Cathode Material Developed for High-Performance Zinc-Ion Batteries

Scientists from the Centre for Nano and Soft Matter Sciences (CeNS), Bengaluru, have developed a novel cathode material that significantly improves the performance of aqueous zinc-ion batteries (AZIBs).

7. Environment

Study on Indus and Ganga Basin

A recent study by researchers from IIT Gandhinagar reveals contrasting hydrological trends in India's two major river basins.

Key Findings:

- The Indus basin streamflow was increased by 8% (1980-2021). This rise is mainly due to higher precipitation formed due to western disturbances and monsoon variability.
- The Ganga basin streamflow declined by 17% during the same period and the major cause of this is the excessive groundwater extraction for irrigation.

8. Schemes

PM RAHAT scheme

The Government of India has launched the PM RAHAT (Road Accident Victim Hospitalization and Assured Treatment) Scheme to provide cashless treatment up to ₹1.5 lakh per victim for 7 days following a road accident.

'Bharat VISTAAR' Scheme

Union Minister for Agriculture & Farmers' Welfare Shivraj Singh Chouhan launched the AI-powered 'Bharat VISTAAR' Scheme (Phase 1) in Jaipur, Rajasthan. The initiative aims to provide technology-driven, real-time agricultural advisory services to farmers through mobile phones.

Vibrant Villages Programme-II (VVP-II)

The Union Home Minister and Minister of Cooperation, Amit Shah, will launch the Vibrant Villages Programme-II (VVP-II) at Nathanpur village in Cachar district, Assam (20 February 2026).

Key Features

- This is a Central Sector Scheme
- The budget allocation for Vibrant Villages Programme II is ₹6,839 crore
- Period of implementation: Up to FY 2028-29
- Scheme Coverage: 15 States and 2 Union Territories

9. Summits and Conferences

Nvidia & OpenAI Partner with Indian Firms and Institutes at AI Impact Summit

- Nvidia partnered with Yotta (Data centre infrastructure), Larsen & Toubro and E2E networks.
- OpenAI partnered with leading institutions such as IIT Delhi, IIM Ahmedabad, AIIMS New Delhi, Manipal Academy, University of Petroleum & Energy , and Pearl academy.
- OpenAI also partnered with these Ed-tech companies such as PhysicsWallah, upGrad and HCL GUVI

Tata Group–OpenAI Strategic Partnership for Agentic AI

The Tata Group and OpenAI announced a multi-dimensional strategic partnership during the India AI Impact Summit 2026 in New Delhi. Under this agreement, OpenAI will become the first to use Tata's HyperVault AI data infrastructure, which has an initial capacity of 100 MW, with a future expansion potential of 1 gigawatt (GW) — about 0.2% of India's installed power capacity.

India Joins Pax Silica Coalition at India AI Impact Summit 2026

India formally joined the Pax Silica coalition during the India AI Impact Summit 2026, marking a major step in strengthening strategic technology and semiconductor supply-chain cooperation with the United States.

What is Pax Silica?

- A coalition of trusted democratic nations
- Aims to secure the global “silicon stack”
 - Critical minerals
 - Semiconductor fabrication (fabs)
 - AI systems
 - Data-centre infrastructure

10. Awards and Honours

A.K. Ramanujan Prize for Translation

Two academic works from West Bengal Sipra Mukherjee and Mrinmoy Pramanick won the A.K. Ramanujan Prize for their English translation of Dalit poet Kalyani Thakur Charal's selected works titled "I Belong to Nowhere." She translated the two literary works into English.

India Sets Guinness World Record for AI Responsibility Pledges

Our country created a Guinness World Record at the India AI Impact Summit 2026 for receiving the highest number of pledges for an AI responsibility campaign within 24 hours. A total of 2,50,946 valid pledges were recorded between 16 and 17 February 2026, far exceeding the initial target of 5,000. The campaign was conducted under the IndiaAI Mission in collaboration with Intel India.

11. Books

The Sage who Reimagined Hinduism – Book released

The Vice-President of India, C. P. Radhakrishnan, released the book "The Sage who Reimagined Hinduism: The Life, Lessons and Legacy of Sree Narayana Guru" authored by Dr. Shashi Tharoor.

12. Person in News

- Prime Minister of Croatia: Andrej Plenkovic
- Prime Minister of Bhutan: Tshering Tobgay
- Prime Minister of the Republic of Kazakhstan: Olzhas Bektenov
- Prime Minister of Finland: Petteri Orpo
- President of Republic of Serbia: Aleksandar Vucic
- President of Estonia: Alar Karis