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DAILY CURRENT AFFAIRS

11th&12thFebruary 2026

OBJECTIVE

HEADLINES

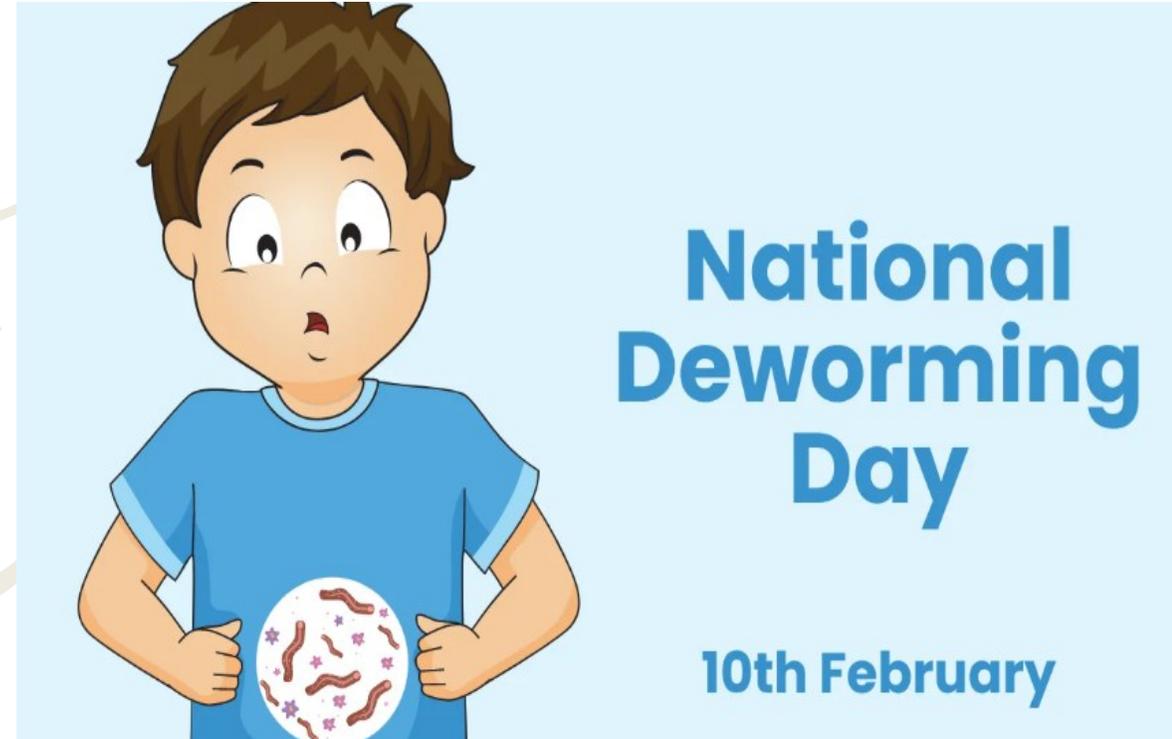
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National Deworming Day 2026 – February 10

- National Deworming Day (NDD), led by the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare (MoHFW), is observed annually across India on 10 February and 10 August to protect children aged 1–19 years from intestinal worm infections, also known as Soil-Transmitted Helminths (STH).
- February 10, 2026 marks the 12th observance of NDD, followed by Mop-up Day (MUD) on 17 February to cover children who missed the initial dose.



Background:

- **Launch:** NDD is a flagship programme of the MoHFW, launched in February 2015 under the National Health Mission (NHM).
- **First Observance:** The first-ever NDD was observed on 10 February 2015.

Expansion: Initially launched in selected states and Union Territories (UTs) covering nearly 9 crore children, NDD was later scaled up into a nationwide biannual programme implemented across all states and UT of India.

Medication: Albendazole and Mebendazole tablets, approved by the World Health Organization (WHO), are used as safe and effective treatments for intestinal worm infections.

➤ Children aged 1–2 years receive 200 milligram (mg), while children 2–19 years receive 400 mg.

➤ **Alignment:** The initiative aligns with the **Krimi Mukta Bharat Abhiyan** (Worm-Free India).

About Ministry of Health and Family Welfare (MoHFW):

➤ Union Minister– **Jagat Prakash Nadda** (Rajya Sabha – Gujarat)

➤ Minister of State (MoS)- **Anupriya Patel**(Constituency- Mirzapur, Uttar Pradesh, UP); **Jadhav Prataprao Ganpatrao** (Constituency- Buldhana, Maharashtra)

India Named “Country of the Year” at BIOFACH 2026, Highlighting Organic Leadership

- India has achieved a major global recognition in sustainable agriculture by being designated the Country of the Year at BIOFACH 2026, the world’s leading trade fair for organic products.
- The event will be held from 10 to 13 February 2026 at Nuremberg, Germany.
- This honour places India at the centre of the global organic movement and reflects its growing strength as a reliable supplier of high-quality organic food products.
- India’s participation will be led by APEDA with a large-scale and high-impact presence.



BIOFACH 2026:

- BIOFACH Germany is globally recognized as the most influential exhibition dedicated exclusively to organic food and agriculture.
- Buyers, policymakers, certification bodies, and organic producers from across the world participate in the event.
- Being named Country of the Year at BIOFACH 2026 gives India unmatched visibility and strategic advantage in global organic markets.

- It allows India to shape conversations around sustainability, traceability, and environmentally responsible agriculture at a global level.

APEDA's Role in India's BIOFACH 2026 Participation:

- India's participation at BIOFACH 2026 is being organized by Agricultural and Processed Food Products Export Development Authority under the Ministry of Commerce and Industry.
- APEDA has been participating in BIOFACH for more than a decade.
- However, the 2026 edition marks a significant scale-up, reflecting the rapid growth of India's organic exports and rising global demand for Indian organic products.
- India's pavilion will showcase a diverse range of organic agricultural and value-added products.
- These include organic rice, oilseeds, pulses, herbs, spices, cashew, ginger, turmeric, large cardamom, cinnamon, mango puree, and essential oils.
- The display highlights India's ability to supply both raw organic produce and processed organic foods, strengthening its image as a complete organic value-chain partner.

IPC Signs Three MoUs with GSPC, QCI, HITES to Strengthen Drug Safety and Quality

➤ On February 9, 2026, The Indian Pharmacopoeia Commission (IPC), an autonomous body under the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare (MoHFW), Government of India (GoI), signed three Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with Goa State Pharmacy Council (GSPC), Quality Council of India (QCI), and HLL Infra Tech Services Limited (HITES), to strengthen drug safety, improve medicine quality, and build professional capacity across India.

MoUs Signed:

- **GSPC:** The MoU aims to strengthen pharmacovigilance by enhancing post-marketing drug safety monitoring, promoting the rational use of medicines through improved training and capacity building of pharmacists.
- **QCI:** The MoU focuses on promoting healthcare quality and public awareness on medicine safety through joint training programmes, workshops, and capacity-building initiatives.
- **HITES:** The MoU aims to build capacity and provide infrastructure support for quality assurance and training initiatives by leveraging HITES' expertise in project management and infrastructure services to implement quality improvements.



Services Defeat Kerala to Clinch 8th Santosh Trophy Title 2025-26 in Assam

- On 8 February 2026, Services Football Team clinched their eighth Santosh Trophy title 2025-26 by defeating Kerala Football Team 1–0 in extra time in the 79th National Football Championship final at Dhakuakhana Football Stadium, Assam.
- The tournament was held from 15 December 2025 to 8 February 2026.



About Santosh Trophy 2025–26:

- **Organiser:** The Santosh Trophy, founded in 1941 and organised by the All India Football Federation (AIFF), is India's premier senior national football championship.
- **Teams Participated:** A total of 38 teams participated in the tournament with the 12 teams in the Final Round divided into two groups of six each.
- **Services Composition:** The team is managed by the Services Sports Control Board (SSCB) and consists of players serving in the Indian Army (IA), Indian Navy (IN), and Indian Air Force (IAF).
- **Winning Goal:** Abhishek Pawar scored the decisive goal in the 109th minute to seal the title for Services.
- **Prize:** Services earned Rs. 5 lakh as winners and Kerala received Rs. 3 lakh as runners-up.

India, Greece Signed Joint Declaration of Intent to Boost Defence Industrial Cooperation

- In February 2026, the Government of India (GoI) and the Government of Greece signed a Joint Declaration of Intent aimed at strengthening the defence industrial cooperation between the two countries.
- The agreement was signed following the bilateral meeting held between the Defence Ministers of India and Greece at the Maneskshaw Centre in New Delhi (Delhi).
Key Details of Declaration of Intent:



- **Key Objective:** This newly signed declaration will pave the way to develop a 5-year roadmap to expand collaboration between India's Aatmanirbhar Bharat (Self-Reliance) initiative and Greece's Hellenic defence reforms under Agenda 2030.
- **Signatories:** The declaration was signed by Union Minister Rajnath Singh, Ministry of Defence (MoD) on behalf of the GoI and Nikolaos-Georgios Dendias, Minister of the National Defence of the Hellenic Republic.

- Other Key Highlights of Bilateral Meeting:
- Bilateral Military Cooperation Plan: During the bilateral meeting, both countries exchanged the Bilateral Military Cooperation Plan for 2026 which outlines future military engagements between the armed forces of both countries.
- Key Announcement: Also, the Government of Greece announced the deployment of a Greek International Liaison Officer at the Information Fusion Centre-Indian Ocean Region (IFC-IOR) in Gurugram, Haryana, aimed at enhancing maritime cooperation between seafaring countries.

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Network Readiness Index 2025: USA Tops; India Ranks 45th

- In February 2026, the Portulans Institute published the 2025 Network Readiness Index (NRI 2025), titled “**AI Governance in a Global Context: Policy and Regulatory Approaches**”, in which India climbed four places to secure the 45th position out of 127 economies with a score of 54.43 out of 100.
- Among lower-middle-income economies, India ranked 2nd, behind Vietnam (40th).
- The United States of America (USA) retained 1st place globally with a score of 79.13, marking its fourth consecutive year at the top, followed by Finland (2nd, 75.82) and Singapore (3rd, 75.46).



Key Findings of NRI 2025:

- **Income Distribution:** The 2025 rankings comprise 52 high-income, 34 upper-middle-income, 32 lower-middle-income, and 9 low-income economies.

- **Top 10:** Denmark secured 4th place (75.14), followed by Sweden (5th, 75.09), the Netherlands (6th, 75.08), and Germany (7th, 74.12). The United Kingdom ranked 8th (73.85), Switzerland placed 9th (73.63), and the Republic of Korea rounded out the top ten at 10th (72.38).
- **Top 25:** Among the top 25 countries, Europe is represented by 17 nations, East and Southeast Asia by 4, North America includes 2 economies and Oceania is represented by 2.
- China's ranking fell by 7 spots to 24th, but still remains the only middle-income economy in the NRI's top 25.
- **Pillar Toppers:** In the 2025 edition, the USA, Switzerland, and the Netherlands recorded the highest scores in the **Technology** pillar.
- The USA also led the **People** pillar, followed by the Republic of Korea and Israel.
- Northern European economies continued to feature prominently in **Governance**, with Denmark, Norway, and the Netherlands occupying the top positions.
- The **Impact** pillar was led by Finland, followed closely by Ireland and Denmark.

RBI approves Vijay Anandh as new MD and CEO of City Union Bank

- In February 2026, the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) approved the appointment of **R. Vijay Anandh** as the new Managing Director (MD) and Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of the City Union Bank Limited (CUB), recognised as one of India's oldest private sector banks, for a period of 3 years.
- Following the RBI's approval, the appointment is further subject to final ratification by the bank's shareholders.
- **Appointment Effective From:** His Appointment will take effect from May 01, 2026, along with remuneration of Rs 2.50 crore per annum.
- **Succeeds:** Anandh will succeed Dr. N. Kamakodi who has been serving as MD and CEO of the private bank since May 2011.



Indian Cricketer Shikhar Dhawan Appointed as Brand Ambassador of Inaugural Delhi Khel Mahakumbh

- On February 9, 2026, former Indian cricketer and Arjuna Awardee **Shikhar Dhawan** was appointed as the brand ambassador of the inaugural **Delhi Khel Mahakumbh** by the Government of Delhi.
- About Delhi Khel Mahakumbh:
- **Overview:** The event will be held on February 13, 2026, in 16 locations across all 12 districts of Delhi.
- It is a large-scale grassroots sports festival launched by the Directorate of Education and Sports, Government of Delhi to strengthen sports participation at grassroots level.



- Sports Included: The event includes games such as basketball, football, athletics, kabaddi, wrestling, squash, and volleyball.
- About Shikhar Dhawan:
- He represented India across all formats, scoring over 6,700 One Day International (**ODI**) runs with 17 centuries and 39 fifties, more than 2,300 Test runs with a highest score of 190, and 1,759 runs in 68 Twenty-20 International (**T20I**). He was also the top scorer in the 2013 ICC Champions Trophy, playing a key role in India's title victory.
- In 2018, he received the Arjuna Award for his outstanding performance in cricket.

ISRO Identifies Mons Mouton-4 as Lander Site for Chandrayaan-4

Mission

- In February 2026, the Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) identified Mons Mouton-4 (MM-4), a designated landing site in the Mons Mouton region near the Moon's south pole, as the prospective touchdown zone for the Chandrayaan-4 mission, marking a key step toward India's first lunar sample-return mission.

About the Landing Site MM-4:

- **Coordinates:** The MM-4 site lies at approximately 84.289° (degree) south latitude and 32.808° east longitude within a geologically significant mountainous terrain.
- **Data Analysis:** Researchers at the Space Applications Centre (SAC) evaluated high-resolution multi-view datasets from the Orbiter High Resolution Camera (OHRC) onboard Chandrayaan-2 to assess hazards, slopes, and landing safety.



Breaking Barriers: Thanya Nathan Tops Civil Judge Exam, Redefines Judicial Inclusion

- Kerala is on the verge of creating history in its judicial system. In a powerful example of inclusion and determination, Thanya Nathan, a young lawyer with visual impairment, has topped the Civil Judge (Junior Division) examination merit list among candidates with benchmark disabilities.
- Her achievement goes beyond personal success. It reflects India's evolving approach towards an inclusive judiciary, where merit, not disability, defines capability.
- Thanya Nathan is a 24-year-old lawyer from Kannur district, Kerala. Born blind, she grew up in Mangad and completed her schooling in both specialised and mainstream institutions.
- Her academic journey was marked by consistent excellence.



- By securing the top rank among candidates with benchmark disabilities in the Kerala High Court Civil Judge (Junior Division) examination, she is set to become Kerala's first visually challenged woman judge, a landmark moment for judicial diversity in India.
- A crucial enabler of Thanya's success was a landmark 2025 ruling by the Supreme Court of India, which held that disability alone cannot disqualify a candidate from judicial service.
- The judgment stated that no person can be denied an opportunity solely due to disability, urging states to adopt inclusive recruitment policies.
- This ruling has become a turning point for judicial inclusion nationwide.

Rajasthan Becomes Largest Wool Producer in India

- In February 2026, Rajasthan became the largest wool producer in India with 16,013.50 thousand kilograms (kg), accounting for nearly 47.5% of national output.
- As per government data, Jammu and Kashmir (J&K) secured second place with 7,770 thousand kg, followed by Karnataka (3rd rank) (6,472 thousand kg).

About India's Wool Production:

- **Overview:** The ranking is derived from the Basic Animal Husbandry Statistics (BAHS) 2024–25, which reports that India has the second-largest sheep population in the world, with about **77.4 million** sheep, and is also a major global wool producer, ranking ninth worldwide in total wool output.



- The total wool production in Financial Year 2023-24 (FY24) was about **33.69 million kg**.
- **Sheep Contribution:** Most of the wool production comes from ewes, contributing about 71.13%, rams and wethers account for around 14.54% and lambs contribute approximately 14.33% of the total wool output.
- **Wool Grades:** India mainly produces three grades of wool. It includes:
 - Carpet-grade wool accounting for 85% of total production and used for carpets and rugs
 - Apparel-grade wool making up around 5% for clothing
 - Coarser-grade wool contributes about 10%, used for rough blankets and mats.

About Rajasthan:

- Chief Minister (CM) – Bhajan Lal Sharma
- **Governor** – Haribhau Kisanrao Bagde
- **Capital** – Jaipur
- Tiger Reserve (TR) – Sariska TR, Mukundara TR

Himachal Pradesh Launches 'Padhai with AI' Initiative

- Chief Minister Sukhvinder Singh Sukhu launched 'Padhai with AI' at Barthin in Bilaspur district, Himachal Pradesh.
- The initiative focuses on integrating Artificial Intelligence into public education, especially for competitive and government exam aspirants.
- Padhai with AI' is a district-level digital education programme developed for students of Bilaspur district.
- The platform uses AI-based tools to provide structured learning content, exam-oriented material, and personalised academic support.
- The programme aims to bridge learning gaps for students who lack access to quality coaching, particularly in rural and semi-urban areas.
- The initiative ensures equal access to education, allowing students to learn anytime and anywhere through a fully digital ecosystem.
- Continuous academic counselling is a key feature, helping students improve subject understanding and adopt effective preparation strategies.



- The platform reduces dependence on expensive private coaching institutes, promoting inclusive education.
- The programme has been implemented by the Bilaspur district administration with institutional support from NTPC.
- Deputy Commissioner Rahul Kumar stated that the initiative brings technology-driven education facilities directly to students.
- The launch event was attended by Rajesh Dharmani and senior officials, highlighting collaboration between the state government, district administration, and public sector organisations.
- The initiative reflects the state government's commitment to modernising public education through innovation, technology, and inclusivity.
- The use of Artificial Intelligence in education enables personalised learning, adaptive content delivery, performance tracking, and data-driven guidance.
- 'Padhai with AI' strengthens AI-led education delivery and supports outcome-oriented, inclusive learning aligned with future workforce needs.