

(12th February 2026)

International

Kosovo Parliament clears Albin Kurti-led government.

Kosovo's Parliament has approved a new government headed by Prime Minister Albin Kurti, ending a year-long political impasse.

Kurti's Cabinet won 66 votes in the 120-member Assembly, shortly after Parliament convened following December's snap elections.

His Self-Determination party emerged as the largest with 57 seats and formed an alliance with ethnic minority groups. Kosovo has faced prolonged political uncertainty amid unresolved tensions with Serbia since declaring independence in 2008.

European Parliament clears €90 billion support package for Ukraine.

The European Parliament has approved a €90 billion loan package to support Ukraine during 2026–27, as the conflict with Russia enters its fifth year.

The package includes €30 billion for macro-financial and budgetary support under the EU's Ukraine Facility and €60 billion to boost defence capabilities.

The funds will help procure critical military equipment, largely from European and Ukrainian industries. President Volodymyr Zelensky welcomed the decision.

Important Days

International Day of Women and Girls in Science: 11th February.

International Day of Women and Girls in Science is observed annually on 11 February to encourage equal participation of women in STEM fields.

Declared by the United Nations, the day addresses persistent gender gaps in science and research leadership.

The 2026 theme emphasizes integrating AI, social science, STEM and finance to build inclusive futures. The observance highlights the role of gender-balanced science in driving innovation, sustainable development and economic growth worldwide.

Science and Technology

INSA, CSIR-NIScPR sign MoU to strengthen science policy research.

The Indian National Science Academy and CSIR–National Institute of Science Communication and Policy Research signed an MoU in New Delhi to enhance collaboration in science communication and evidence-based science, technology and innovation policy research.

The partnership aims to promote joint studies, publications, capacity building and stakeholder engagement, supporting robust and future-ready policymaking in India's evolving science and innovation ecosystem.

National

Industrial Relations Code Amendment Bill tabled in Lok Sabha.

To prevent future legal ambiguities over laws subsumed by the Industrial Relations Code, 2020, the government introduced the Industrial Relations Code (Amendment) Bill, 2026 in the Lok Sabha.

Union Labour and Employment Minister Mansukh Mandaviya presented the Bill during Zero Hour.

It seeks to clarify the continuity of provisions after replacing the Trade Unions Act, 1926, the Industrial Employment (Standing Orders) Act, 1946 and the Industrial Disputes Act, 1947.

National Productivity Week begins with focus on MSME growth.

The National Productivity Council will celebrate its 68th Foundation Day on 12 February 2026 and observe National Productivity Week till 18 February across India.

The theme, "Clusters as Growth Engine: Maximizing Productivity in MSMEs," underscores the role of cluster-based development in boosting competitiveness and sustainable industrialization.

Nationwide seminars and workshops will be organized through NPC's regional directorates, with support from government bodies, industry associations and academic institutions.

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CBI, I4C hold national meet on combating cyber-enabled frauds.

The CBI and the Indian Cyber Crime Coordination Centre concluded a two-day national conference in New Delhi focused on tackling cyber-enabled frauds and dismantling their support networks. Discussions covered regulatory reforms, use of artificial intelligence and global cooperation. Participants also highlighted threats like cyber slavery, overseas scam recruitment and the role of digital platforms, stressing faster data sharing, preventive measures and stronger inter-agency coordination.

India to host Global AI Impact Summit in New Delhi.

India will host the five-day India AI Impact Summit in New Delhi starting on the 16th of this month.

The event will bring together governments, industry leaders, researchers, startups and citizens from across the world to promote inclusive and responsible AI.

Seven thematic working groups will present proposals on AI commons, trusted tools and shared infrastructure, while an AI Impact Expo will showcase real-world applications across key sectors.

NBA releases ₹6.09 crore to strengthen grassroots biodiversity governance.

The National Biodiversity Authority has released ₹6.09 crore to State Biodiversity Boards and Union Territory Biodiversity Councils in 2025–26 to strengthen decentralized biodiversity governance.

The assistance focuses on improving the functionality of Biodiversity Management Committees, enhancing the quality of People's Biodiversity Registers and accelerating Access and Benefit Sharing mechanisms.

Provided under the Biological Diversity (Amendment) Act, 2023, the support reinforces conservation, sustainable use and equitable benefit sharing at the grassroots level.

Centre issues fresh guidelines on rendering of 'Vande Mataram'.

The Union Government has issued detailed guidelines on the observance of the National Song Vande Mataram.

The Home Ministry clarified that whenever the National Song and National Anthem are performed together, the full six-stanza official version of Vande Mataram must be rendered first.

It will be played during key state occasions, including Presidential and Governorial events, flag ceremonies and national addresses, with attendees required to stand at attention.

DRDO, CSIR join hands for research on extreme environment technologies.

The Defence Research and Development Organization has signed an agreement with the Council of Scientific and Industrial Research to strengthen collaboration in research, technology development and resource sharing.

The partnership aims to enhance human sustenance and performance in extreme environments.

It will focus on developing technologies for high-altitude survival, restoring human performance, off-grid energy solutions and effective waste management in difficult and remote terrains.

Balaghat chosen as pilot district under world's largest grain storage plan.

Balaghat district in Madhya Pradesh has been selected as the pilot district under the world's largest grain storage plan in the cooperative sector.

A 500 MT godown has been constructed at a PACS in Parswada and inaugurated by the Prime Minister in February 2024. Implemented through convergence of central schemes, the plan promotes decentralized storage, reduces post-harvest losses, lowers transport costs and helps farmers avoid distress sales.

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Ayushman Sahakar Scheme to boost cooperative healthcare.

The National Cooperative Development Corporation has launched the Ayushman Sahakar Scheme to promote affordable and inclusive healthcare through cooperative societies.

Aligned with the National Health Policy, the scheme provides financial assistance to cooperatives engaged in hospitals, healthcare, AYUSH and health education after detailed appraisal.

Eligible cooperatives can access term or investment loans for infrastructure, services and digital health initiatives, strengthening community ownership and sustainable healthcare delivery.

Holy Buddha relics return to India after historic Sri Lanka exposition.

The sacred relics of Lord Buddha are being escorted back to India after their first-ever international exposition in Sri Lanka, led by a high-level Indian delegation.

Over one million devotees paid homage during the seven-day exposition at Colombo's Gangaramaya Temple. Inaugurated by Sri Lanka's President, the event strengthened India-Sri Lanka spiritual ties and reaffirmed India's role as a custodian of global Buddhist heritage.

IAF to showcase combat readiness in Exercise Vayushakti-26.

The Indian Air Force will demonstrate its combat prowess during Exercise Vayushakti-26 at the Pokhran Air-to-Ground Range, Jaisalmer, on 27 February 2026.

The exercise will showcase full-spectrum air operations, including fighter, transport and helicopter platforms, advanced weapon systems and day-to-night missions. It will also highlight humanitarian assistance roles and the success of Operation Sindoor, underlining the IAF's capability in air dominance and indigenous defence strength.

VOC Port sets green benchmark with IGBC platinum rating.

V.O. Chidambaranar Port Authority has become India's first Major Port to receive the IGBC platinum rating for its administration building.

Operating on 100% renewable energy, the building features solar power, water-efficient systems and inclusive design.

The port has also earned Shunya and Shunya Plus certifications from the Bureau of Energy Efficiency, reinforcing its leadership in sustainable, energy-efficient and environmentally responsible port infrastructure aligned with national green initiatives.

Business and Economy

India's outward FDI slips to \$3.42 billion in January 2026.

India's outward foreign direct investment stood at \$3.42 billion in January 2026, marginally lower than \$3.44 billion a year ago and down from \$4.07 billion in December 2025, RBI data showed.

Equity commitments moderated, while overseas loans rose year-on-year. Guarantees also increased slightly.

Major investments included InterGlobe Aviation's infusion into its GIFT City subsidiary and Kiri Industries' equity investment in Claronex Holdings.

Sports

Meghalaya unveils homestay boost ahead of National Games 2027.

Meghalaya Chief Minister Conrad K. Sangma announced a 70% subsidy scheme to promote homestays as sports hostels ahead of the National Games 2027.

The initiative aims to address accommodation needs while creating local livelihoods.

The Chief Minister also highlighted major infrastructure upgrades and reiterated tourism's role in Meghalaya's long-term economic transformation.