

PRABHA IAS IPS COACHING ACADEMY



DAILY DOSE

CURRENT AFFAIRS – 20/02/2026

1. Nandhaur Wildlife Sanctuary:

Recent - the Uttarakhand Forest Department has officially documented the presence of smooth-coated otters in the Nandhaur Wildlife Sanctuary for the first time.

It is located in the state of Uttarakhand.

It is situated in Terai Arc Landscape, it forms part of Shivalik Elephant Reserve.

It connects Corbett and Rajaji landscape in the west with Pilibhit-Dudwa along with Terai area of Nepal in the East.

It is flanked by River Gola in the west and River Sharda in the east and intersected by River Nandhaur

The Nandhaur River flows east to west in the northern area and then turns south to cut the landscape into two before disappearing in the Tarai area.

2. Vibrant Villages Programme-II:

Recent - The Union Home Minister will launch the Vibrant Villages Programme-II in the Cachar district of Assam.

It is a Central Sector Scheme (100% Centre funding).

It is designed to ensure comprehensive and sustainable development of border villages through a saturation-based and convergence-driven approach.

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To create better living conditions and adequate livelihood opportunities to ensure prosperous and safe borders, control trans-border crime and assimilate the border population with the nation.

It is implemented in the States/UTs of Arunachal Pradesh, Assam, Bihar, Gujarat, J&K. Ladakh, Manipur, Meghalaya, Mizoram, Nagaland, Punjab, Rajasthan, Sikkim, Tripura, Uttarakhand, Uttar Pradesh and West Bengal.

It excludes the Northern border already covered under VVP-I.

3. Indian Sandalwood:

Recent - According to a recent report by the sandalwood development committee (SDC) set up by the Union Government, globally, the estimated annual demand for sandalwood stands at 5,000 to 6,000 tonnes.

Santalum album L. (Santalaceae) commonly known as Indian Sandalwood is one of the oldest and precious sources of natural fragrance.

It is known by the name "Chandan" and "Srigandha" in India.

Sandalwood grows better in slight alkaline condition soil PH Range between 6.7. to 7.5.

It thrives in hot and humid climates.

4. Spinosaurus mirabilis:

Recent - A new meat-eating dinosaur species, *Spinosaurus mirabilis*, was recently discovered in the Sahara Desert.

It is a new meat-eating dinosaur, belonging to 'Spinosaurus' species.

The dinosaur's fossils were uncovered in the remote fossil area of Jengueb in Niger, deep in the central Sahara.

It existed nearly 95 million years ago.

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It likely lived in a forested inland habitat dissected by rivers.

With this new finding, mirabilis becomes the second known species of Spinosaurus.

The remains of first known species – Spinosaurus aegyptiacus – were discovered in 1915 from fossils excavated in Egypt.

5. CJ-1000 Missile:

Recent - China recently showcased the CJ-1000, a land-based scramjet-powered hypersonic missile, during a military parade in Beijing.

It is a road-mobile hypersonic cruise missile developed by China.

It is the world's first and so far only operational land-based scramjet-powered hypersonic missile.

CJ-1000 is mounted on a highly mobile 10-wheel diesel-electric hybrid transporter-erector-launcher.

It is estimated to have a range of at least 2,500 km.