

# Daily Current Affairs

Date : 17 February, 2026



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## RAJASTHAN



### Current Education Scenario in Rajasthan

#### Why in News?

- According to the Economic Survey 2025-26, the education landscape in the state has undergone significant changes, while the provisions of the Rajasthan Budget 2026-27, underline a strong and balanced vision for quality, employment-oriented, and innovation-based education.



#### Key Points:

##### As per Economic Survey 2025-26:

##### Gross Enrolment Ratio in Rajasthan (in percentage)

- Definition:** Gross enrolment in a particular level of schooling, regardless of age, expressed as a percentage of the population of the official age group corresponding to a given level of schooling in a given school year.

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Year	Primary (1-5)	Upper Primary (6-8)	Initial (1-8)	Secondary (9-10)	Higher Secondary (11-12)
2023-24	95.1	90.9	93.6	80.2	62.0
2024-25	88.3	92.1	89.7	82.2	66.1

- **Source:** UDISE+ Report 2023-24 and 2024-25, Ministry of Education, Government of India.

## Dropout Rate in Rajasthan (in percent)

- **Definition:** The proportion of students in a group enrolled in a given level in a given school year who are not enrolled in any class in the following school year.

Year	Primary (grades 1-5)	Upper Primary (Classes 6-8)	Secondary (grades 9-10)
2023-24	7.6	6.8	11.1
2024-25	3.6	3.6	7.7

- **Source:** UDISE+ Report 2023-24 and 2024-25, Ministry of Education, Government of India.

## Student-Teacher Ratio (STR) in Rajasthan

- **Definition:** Student-teacher ratio (STR) is the average number of students per teacher in a given school year.

## Student-teacher ratio (number of students/teacher) in Rajasthan

Year	Primary (1-5)	Upper Primary (6-8)	Secondary (9-10)	Higher Secondary (11-12)
2023-24	20	12	11	15
2024-25	18	12	11	15

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- **Source:** UDISE+ Report 2023–24 and 2024–25, Ministry of Education, Government of India.

## Key education provisions in the Rajasthan Budget 2026–27:

- Launch of the 'RAJ PAHAL (Portable Access for Holistic and Assisted Learning)' and 'School on Wheels' programs for children from nomadic and semi-nomadic communities, such as Gadia Lohar, Banjara, and the working class.
- Launch of the 'School to Work' program for vocational education in every district.
- Establishment of AI-based personalized learning labs in 1,000 schools across the state.
- Space galleries in Jaipur and Jodhpur to promote interest in science and technology subjects.
- 400 schools will be upgraded to CM-RISE (Rajasthan Innovative Schools of Excellence) schools in a phased manner.
- **DBT and e-vouchers:** Announcement of DBT (Direct Benefit Transfer) and e-vouchers to make schemes like distribution of tablets/laptops, bicycles and uniforms for students timely and more transparent.

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## ✂ NEWS IN SHORTS ⚡

S. No.	News
1.	<p><b>Maa Katyayani Devi Cattle Fair – 2026 (Sayla, Jalore)</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Recently, Animal Husbandry and Dairy Minister Zoraram Kumawat inaugurated the 'Maa Katyayani Devi Cattle Fair – 2026' in Sayla, Jalore district.</li><li><b>Organizer:</b> Jalore District Administration and Animal Husbandry Department, Rajasthan.</li><li><b>Fair to be held:</b> February 15 to 19, 2026 (Inauguration: Falgun Krishna Trayadeshi).</li></ul>
2.	<p><b>Five New 'My FM' Stations in Rajasthan</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Recently, Chief Minister Bhajan Lal Sharma inaugurated five new 'My FM' stations from Jaipur.</li><li><b>5 Locations:</b> Pali, Bhilwara, Sri Ganganagar, Alwar, and Sikar.</li></ul>
3.	<p><b>Shri Brahma Savitri Veda Vidyapeeth Ashram (Silver Jubilee Celebration)</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>In the year 2026, Shri Brahma Savitri Veda Vidyapeeth Ashram is celebrating its Silver Jubilee.</li><li>Shri Brahma Savitri Veda Vidyapeeth Ashram is a Vedic educational institution and ashram located in Tirtharaj Pushkar (Ajmer).</li><li>It was established in the year 2001, under the inspiration of Swami Govind Dev Giri Ji Maharaj to promote Vedic science and Indian culture.</li></ul>

## 4. **"Vision 2047 - Mining and Minerals Perspective" - International Symposium**

- Recently, the Rajasthan Chapter of the Mining Engineers Association of India organized an international symposium on the theme "Vision 2047 - Mining and Minerals Perspective."
- **Venue:** Jaipur.

## 5. **Krishi Vigyan Mela, Jodhpur – 2026**

- **Event:** February 14, 2026
- **Organized by:** Agricultural University, Jodhpur, under the joint aegis of NABARD, IFFCO, and the Department of Agriculture.
- **Theme of the fair:** "Developed Agriculture in the Desert: Self-Reliant India."
- The fair included agricultural startups, displays of modern agricultural equipment, technical information to increase income through value addition of various crops, seed, fertilizer, and pesticide product displays, Ayurvedic products, agricultural machinery, and other agricultural materials.

## 6. **Krishna Nagar – Two Bronze Medals at the Paralympic Badminton World Championships**

- Jaipur-based para-badminton player Krishna Nagar won two bronze medals at the BWF Para Badminton World Championships 2026, held in Manama, Bahrain.
- **Men's Singles SH6:** Krishna won a bronze medal in the individual category.
- **Mixed Doubles SH6:** Nithya Sri won a bronze medal with Sumathi Sivan.

7.

## Rajasthan's Second Lion Safari - Udaipur

- Punjab Governor Gulabchand Kataria inaugurated the state's second Lion Safari in Udaipur.
- This Lion Safari is located in Udaipur's Sajjangarh Biological Park (at the foothills of the Sajjangarh Sanctuary).
- The Asiatic lion 'Samrat' and lioness 'Sunayana' have been introduced to this safari.
- **Note:** Rajasthan's first Lion Safari is located in Nahargarh, Jaipur.

8.

## Idana Mata Temple in the News

- Spontaneous fire recently erupted at the Idana Mata Temple (Maharani of Mewal) located in Salumber district.
- Idana Mata Temple, also known as the "Maharani of Mewal," is a famous Shaktipeeth located in Bambora village in Salumber district. This temple is renowned throughout India for its miraculous fire bath, where the idol of the Goddess spontaneously bathes in fire.
- During this fire bath, the sarees, ornaments, and other items offered to the Goddess are burned to ashes, but the idol and her jewelry remain safe.

9.

## Remains of a 3.2 billion-year-old rock formation on the banks of the Kothari River

- Recently, remains of approximately 3.2 billion-year-old rock formations were discovered on the banks of the Kothari River. This ancient rock formation is located on the banks of the Kothari River in Chittorgarh district.
- According to geologists, these rocks are only 1.4 billion years younger than the Earth's total age, making them among the oldest rocks in North India.
- A team of researchers from IIT Bombay and geologist Dr. Kamalkant Sharma collected samples of the mineral 'Zircon' and had them tested in a lab at Guangzhou University in China.

10.

## All India Civil Services Kabaddi Men's and Women's Championships

- The All India Civil Services (AICS) Kabaddi Men's and Women's Championships - 2025-26, were held in Chandigarh from February 9 to 14, 2026.
- **Organized by:** The Sports Department of the Chandigarh Administration under the aegis of the Central Civil Services Cultural and Sports Board (CCSCSB).
- **Rajasthan's Performance:** The Rajasthan Civil Services women's kabaddi team defeated Punjab to win the gold medal.

11.

## Khwahish Sharma - Bronze Medal at the Asian Shooting Championships 2026

- Recently, Khwahish Sharma, a resident of Fatehpur Shekhawati (Sikar), won the bronze medal at the Asian Shooting Championships 2026 held at the Karni Singh Shooting Range in New Delhi.
- Earlier, Khwahish Sharma, representing Lovely Professional University, won the silver medal in the 50m rifle event at the Khelo India University Games (2025).



### Dam Repair and Improvement Project (DRIP)

#### Why in News?

- The International Dam Safety Conference (ICDS 2026) was organized at the Indian Institute of Science (IISc), Bengaluru, under the Dam Repair and Improvement Project (DRIP) Phase II and Phase III.

#### Key Points:

#### Dam Repair and Improvement Project (DRIP)

- **Objective:** To enhance the safety of selected dams in participating states and strengthen the dam safety management system in India.
- **Implementing Agency:** Central Water Commission (CWC) through the Department of Water Resources, River Development and Ganga Rejuvenation.
- **Funding Mechanism (External Agency: Stakeholder):**
  - o Special Category States: 80:20
  - o General Category States: 70:30
- **Plan Period:** 2021 to 2031 (DRIP Phase II and Phase III)
  - o DRIP Phase I was implemented between 2012 and 2021.

## Geography and Geology

### Twin Tube Road-cum-Rail Tunnel Project

#### Why in News?

- The Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs (CCEA) has approved the country's first underwater twin tube road-cum-rail tunnel project.
- **Objective:** To enhance infrastructure connectivity in Northeast India.

#### Key Points:

##### About the Project

- The project will be located under the Brahmaputra River in Assam and will be developed on EPC mode.
  - o In the Engineering, Procurement and Construction (EPC) model, the government assigns the responsibility of project design, material sourcing, and construction to a contractor.
- Total project length: 33.7 km.
- **Key Features:**
  - o A four-lane, access-controlled greenfield connectivity project.
  - o Construction of a 15.79 km-long twin tube tunnel under the Brahmaputra River.
  - o Connects Gohpur on NH-15 to Numaligarh on NH-715 in Assam.

##### Brahmaputra River

- It originates from the Chemayungdung Glacier near Mapam Lake in Tibet at an altitude of about 5,300 metres.
- Known as the Yarlung Tsangpo in Tibet, the Siang/Dihang in Arunachal Pradesh, and the Jamuna in Bangladesh.

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- Countries it flows through: China (Tibet Autonomous Region), India, and Bangladesh.

## Indian states it flows through:

- Arunachal Pradesh
- Assam
- Its drainage basin also includes Nagaland, Meghalaya, West Bengal, and Sikkim.

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## Key features of the Brahmaputra River:

- **Length** – approximately 2,900 km
- **Highest flow:** It is one of the world's highest-flowing river basins, contributing significantly to the Ganga-Brahmaputra water system.
- **World's deepest canyon:** It passes through the Yarlung Tsangpo Grand Canyon, one of the deepest canyons globally.
- **Highly braided river course:** In Assam, heavy siltation and low slopes create many variable river courses.
- **Delta formation:** It joins the Ganga River in Bangladesh, to form the world's largest delta.

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## Kamala Hydroelectric Project

### Why in News?

- The Expert Appraisal Committee (EAC) of the Union Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change (MoEFCC) has recommended approval for the construction of the Kamala Hydroelectric Project in Arunachal Pradesh.

### Key Points:

#### Kamala Hydroelectric Project

- This is a multipurpose project. Its main objectives are power generation and flood control.
- The project has been proposed by the National Hydroelectric Power Corporation Limited (NHPC).
- **Location:** Proposed on the Kamala River. The project is proposed in the Lower Subansiri district of Arunachal Pradesh.
  - o The Kamala River is a major right-bank tributary of the Subansiri River.
  - o The Subansiri River later joins the Brahmaputra River.
- **Total installed capacity: 1800 MW**

## Economic Developments

### Renewable Energy: NITI Aayog

#### Why in News?

- According to NITI Aayog, renewable energy will dominate India's electricity grid by 2070.
- According to NITI Aayog, India's electricity mix could undergo a decisive shift from a reliance on coal to a reliance on renewable energy by 2070.

**नवीकरणीय ऊर्जा को बढ़ावा देने के लिए प्रमुख सरकारी योजनाएं**

1 राष्ट्रीय हरित हाइड्रोजन मिशन

2 पीएम कुसुम

3 पीएम सूर्य घर मुफ्त बिजली योजना

4 पीएलआई योजना: उच्च दक्षता वाले सौर पीवी मॉड्यूल पर आधारित राष्ट्रीय कार्यक्रम

5 हरित ऊर्जा कॉरिडोर (जीईसी)

6 मानव संसाधन विकास

7 नवीकरणीय ऊर्जा प्रमाणपत्र (आरईसी) तंत्र

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## Key Points:

- Coal remains the backbone of India's electricity landscape, providing reliable, low-cost baseload power.
- Under the current policy scenario, the share of renewable energy in electricity generation could increase from around 20% in 2024-25 to over 80% by 2070.
- Under the same scenario, the share of coal in electricity generation could decline sharply to 6-10 percent by 2070.
- As coal's role declines, nuclear power is expected to gradually expand, increasing its share from around 3% currently to 5-8% by 2070.

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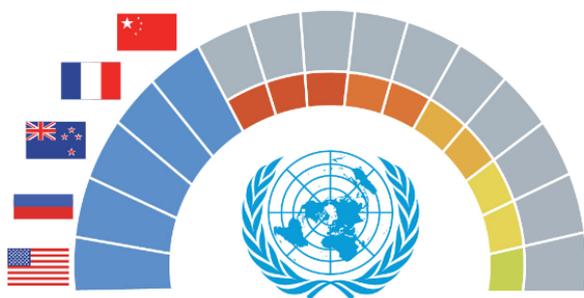
## INTERNATIONAL

### G4 Group

#### Why in News?

- The G4 Group has once again reiterated its call for comprehensive reform and expansion of the United Nations Security Council (UNSC).

### संयुक्त राष्ट्र सुरक्षा परिषद (UNSC)



#### स्थायी सदस्य, वीटो अधिकार (5)

- चीन, फ्रांस, रूस, यूनाइटेड किंगडम और संयुक्त राज्य अमेरिका
- अस्थायी सदस्य (10), दो वर्षों का कार्यकाल
- अफ्रीका (3)
- एशिया (2)
- लैटिन अमेरिका (2)
- पश्चिमी यूरोप व अन्य देश (2)
- पूर्वी यूरोप (1)

#### प्रत्येक सदस्य के पास एक वोट होता है।

यह संयुक्त राष्ट्र की एकमात्र संस्था है, जो ऐसे निर्णय ले सकती है, जिसे सभी सदस्य देशों को मानना अनिवार्य होता है।

#### Key Points:

#### G4 Group

- Member countries:** India, Brazil, Germany, and Japan.
- Main demand:** Reform and expand membership in both permanent and non-permanent categories of the UN Security Council.
- Objective:** Make the UNSC more representative, democratic, and in line with current geopolitical realities.
- Support:** Give greater representation to developing regions such as Africa, Latin America, and Asia.