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Monthly Compilation ★★★★★

CURRENT AFFAIRS

OCTOBER 2026

Complete Monthly Compilation



Topics Covered

1. Punjab Corner
2. Cover Stories: Nobel, Asian Games, RBI MPC
3. National Affairs & Schemes
4. States in News
5. International Affairs
6. Economy, Business & Banking
7. Defence & Security
8. Science, Technology & Environment
9. Appointments
10. Awards, Honours & Books
11. Sports & Asian Para Games 2026
12. Rankings, Important Days & Obituaries
13. Static GK: Ramsar, Nobel, RBI, Defence, Organisations, Heritage

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Thank you for downloading this magazine. It is prepared by **Gurpreet Singh** (Punjab Police Sub-Inspector, Rank 2, 713/800) and the House of Aspirants team, only with the news that matters for Punjab Police, PSSSB, PPSC and other competitive exams.

📖 How to use this magazine

- Read the **Punjab Corner** and **Cover Stories** first - Punjab exams ask these most.
- Every topic has **Why in News**, **Key Facts** and an **Exam Point**. Revise the Exam Points twice.
- Each section ends with a **Revision Box** - use it the night before the exam.
- After reading, attempt the **October 2026 MCQ quizzes** on houseofaspirants.in to test yourself.

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1. Punjab Corner

Sukhna Wetland (Chandigarh) becomes a Ramsar Site

Why in News?

Union Environment Minister **Bhupender Yadav** announced **Sukhna Wetland** (Chandigarh) and **Sauj Jheel** (Mainpuri, Uttar Pradesh) as India's newest Ramsar Sites on **15 October 2026**.

Key Facts

- India's total Ramsar Sites: **103**
- Sukhna is a **man-made urban reservoir**, built in **1958**, designed by architect **Le Corbusier**
- Located at the foothills of the **Shivalik Hills** (Outer Himalayas); lies on the **Central Asian Flyway**
- Key species: Common Pochard, Pallas's Fish Eagle, Black Pond Turtle
- Sauj Jheel: freshwater lake in the **Ganga floodplains**, near **Saman Bird Sanctuary**; over **30,000 waterbirds**; an Important Bird & Biodiversity Area (IBA) of BirdLife International; key species **Sarus Crane**, Greater Spotted Eagle

Sukhna vs Sauj Jheel

Feature	Sukhna Wetland	Sauj Jheel
Location	Chandigarh (UT)	Mainpuri, Uttar Pradesh
Type	Man-made reservoir (1958)	Natural freshwater lake
Key bird	Common Pochard	Sarus Crane

📌 Exam Point

- Ramsar Convention signed in **1971** at Ramsar (Iran); India joined in **1982** (first sites: Chilika & Keoladeo).
- India's Ramsar count now **103**; new: Sukhna (Chandigarh) & Sauj Jheel (UP).

Punjab launches SANGAT Mental Health Clubs

Why in News?

The Punjab Government launched **SANGAT Mental Health Clubs** in **40 colleges** at **Plaksha University, Mohali**.

Key Facts

- Partner: **Aditya Birla Education Trust**
- Launched under Punjab's anti-drug campaign **'Yudh Nashean Virudh'**
- **14 hours** of Youth Mental Health First Aid training to **25 students per college**

📌 Exam Point

- SANGAT clubs → Punjab → 'Yudh Nashean Virudh' → Plaksha University, Mohali.

SEBI's 'Samajh Se Investing Simple' launched at Panjab University

Why in News?

SEBI launched the nationwide investor-awareness campaign **"Samajh Se Investing Simple"** on **5 October 2026** at **Panjab University, Chandigarh**.

Key Facts

- Run under SEBI's **Project Jagrook**; unveiled by SEBI Chairman **Tuhin Kanta Pandey**
- Launched during **World Investor Week 2026** (5–11 October), theme **"Technology and Digital Finance"**
- Demat accounts: **23.8 crore**; unique individual investors: **15.1 crore**; mutual fund AUM: **Rs 87 lakh crore**

📌 Exam Point

- Samajh Se Investing Simple → SEBI → Project Jagrook → Panjab University, Chandigarh.

📝 At a Glance (Revision Box)

New Ramsar Sites	Sukhna (Chandigarh), Sauj Jheel (UP); total 103
SANGAT Mental Health Clubs	40 colleges; launched at Plaksha University, Mohali
SEBI campaign	'Samajh Se Investing Simple', Panjab University, 5 Oct

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2. Cover Stories of the Month

Nobel Prizes 2026

Why in News?

The 2026 Nobel Prize winners were announced between **5 and 12 October 2026**.

Category	Winner(s)	For
Physiology/Medicine	Karl Deisseroth, Peter Hegemann, Georg Nagel	Discovery of channelrhodopsins and development of **optogenetics**
Physics	Francis Halzen	**IceCube Neutrino Observatory** and discovery of high-energy astrophysical neutrinos
Chemistry	Henri B. Kagan (France), Kenso Soai (Japan)	Non-linear effects and **asymmetric autocatalysis** in organic synthesis
Literature	Anne Carson (Canada)	Bold and inventive contemporary literary work (poet)
Peace	Navanethem 'Navi' Pillay (South Africa)	Peace, human rights and international law
Economic Sciences	Robert E. Hall, Michael Woodford	Microeconomic foundations of macroeconomic stabilisation

Nobel Prize - Static Facts	
Fact	**Detail**
Founded through	Alfred Nobel's will (1895)
First awarded	1901
Economics prize	Added 1968, first awarded 1969 (not an original category)
Prize money	12 million Swedish kronor (about US$1.2 million)
Ceremony	10 December (Nobel's death anniversary)
Peace Prize awarded by	Norwegian Nobel Committee, **Oslo** (others in Stockholm)

Key Facts

- Navi Pillay is a South African jurist of **Indian Tamil origin**; she served as a judge of the **International Criminal Court (2008–14)**

📌 Exam Point

- Peace Prize 2026 → Navi Pillay; Literature → Anne Carson (Canadian poet).
- Physics 2026 → Francis Halzen (IceCube Neutrino Observatory).

Asian Games 2026: India's best-ever finish in Aichi-Nagoya

Why in News?

India concluded the **20th Asian Games** at **Aichi-Nagoya, Japan** with **85 medals** and finished **4th** in the medal tally.

Key Facts

- India: **21 Gold, 27 Silver, 37 Bronze = 85 medals**; finished ahead of Uzbekistan (70 medals)
- Top medal-winning sports: **Athletics 24** (1-9-14), **Shooting 15** (3-8-4), **Archery 9** (5-2-2), Boxing 6, Wrestling 6
- Men's hockey team made its **first successful Asian Games title defence** and qualified for **LA 2028 Olympics**
- Women's hockey won its **second Asian Games gold** (first in 1982)

Rank	Country	Gold	Total
1	China	169	341
2	Japan	83	269
3	South Korea	39	150
4	**India**	**21**	**85**
5	Uzbekistan	21	70

India's Star Gold Medallists	
Athlete / Team	**Event**
Kumkum Mohod	Women's individual recurve (Archery)
Lovlina Borgohain	Women's 75 kg (Boxing)
Aman Sehrawat	Men's 57 kg (Wrestling)
Sujeet Kalkal	Men's 65 kg (Wrestling)
Neeru Dhanda	Women's trap (Shooting)
Pranavi Urs	Women's individual (Golf)
Kiran, Prachi, Poovamma Machettira, Vithya Ramraj	Women's 4×400 m relay - India's **only athletics gold**
Team India	Men's & women's cricket, men's & women's hockey, men's & women's kabaddi

- **Vithya Ramraj** (bronze, women's 400 m hurdles) broke **P.T. Usha's 1984 national record**

📌 Exam Point

- Asian Games 2026 → India 4th, 85 medals (21-27-37); China topped with 341 medals.
- India's highest medal-winning sport → Athletics (24).

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RBI MPC hikes Repo Rate to 5.50%

Why in News?

The RBI's Monetary Policy Committee raised the repo rate by **25 basis points** at its **63rd meeting (5–7 October 2026)**.

Rate	New level
Repo Rate	**5.50%**
Standing Deposit Facility (SDF)	5.25%
Marginal Standing Facility (MSF)	5.75%
Bank Rate	5.75%

Key Facts

- Chairperson: RBI Governor **Sanjay Malhotra**; decision was **unanimous**
- Policy stance: **'Calibrated Tightening'**
- Reasons: CPI inflation rose to **4.8% (August 2026)**, core inflation 4.2%, high food & fuel prices, deficient monsoon/El Niño risk, West Asia uncertainty
- Projections for FY2026-27: **GDP growth 7.1%**, **CPI inflation 5.2%**
- Next MPC meeting: **2–4 December 2026**

MPC - Static Facts	
Fact	**Detail**
Members	6 (3 from RBI + 3 nominated by Government)
Inflation target	4% CPI with tolerance band of ±2% (2%–6%)
Legal basis	Section 45ZB, RBI Act, 1934 (amended 2016)

📌 Exam Point

- Repo rate Oct 2026 → 5.50% (+25 bps); stance → Calibrated Tightening.
- 25 basis points = 0.25 percentage point.

Global Hunger Index 2026: India ranked 100th

Why in News?

The **Global Hunger Index (GHI) 2026** was released with the theme **"No Security Without Food Security"**.

Key Facts

- India: **100th of 122** countries, score **24.1** - **'Serious'** category
- Pakistan: 106th (score 25.5)
- Global score: **18.1** ('Moderate'); up from 17.6 in 2018
- India's child wasting: about **19% - highest in the world**; child stunting **29.3%**
- Published by **Welthungerhilfe (Germany)**, **IFHV** (Institute for International Law of Peace and Armed Conflict) and **Helvetas**

- Score scale **0–100** (lower = better)
- About **645 million** people are hungry; hunger worsened in **32 countries** since 2018; **57 countries** may fail to reach low hunger by 2030
- Worst: Somalia (122), DR Congo (121), Chad (120)

GHI - 4 Indicators	
Indicator	**Meaning**
Undernourishment	Share of population with insufficient calorie intake
Child stunting	Low height for age (under 5) - chronic undernutrition
Child wasting	Low weight for height (under 5) - acute undernutrition
Child mortality	Deaths of children under 5

📌 **Exam Point**

- GHI 2026 → India 100/122, score 24.1 (Serious); theme "No Security Without Food Security".

New Governors appointed in six States

Why in News?

President **Droupadi Murmu** appointed Governors in six States (Rashtrapati Bhavan communiqué, **12 October 2026**) - 4 new appointments and 2 transfers.

State	Governor	Status
Odisha	Braj Mohan Ram	New
Karnataka	Dr. Sudha Yadav	New
Uttarakhand	Dr. Dhal Singh Bisen	New
Sikkim	Dushyant Gautam	New
Keralam	Om Prakash Mathur	Transferred from Sikkim
Tamil Nadu	Rajendra Vishwanath Arlekar	Transferred from Keralam

Governor - Constitutional Articles (Part VI)	
Article	**Provision**
153	Governor for each State (one person can be Governor of 2+ States)
155	Appointed by the President
156	Term of 5 years; holds office during President's pleasure
157	Must be an Indian citizen, at least 35 years old
159	Oath administered by Chief Justice of the High Court
161	Pardoning power

163	Council of Ministers to aid and advise the Governor
200	Assent to State Bills

📌 **Exam Point**

- Governor appointed under **Article 155**; minimum age **35** (Art. 157).
- New Tamil Nadu Governor → R.V. Arlekar; new Keralam Governor → Om Prakash Mathur.

India–New Zealand FTA comes into force

Why in News?

The **India–New Zealand Free Trade Agreement** came into effect on **20 October 2026**. On 19 October, the two countries signed a **Memorandum of Cooperation on customs**.

Key Facts

- Signed by CBIC Chairman **Vivek Chaturvedi** and NZ Customs Chief **Christine Stevenson**
- Supports electronic **Rules of Origin data exchange**, digital customs cooperation and preferential tariff benefits under the FTA

📌 **Exam Point**

- India–New Zealand FTA effective → 20 October 2026.

📝 **At a Glance (Revision Box)**

Nobel Peace 2026	Navi Pillay (South Africa)
Nobel Literature 2026	Anne Carson (Canada)
Nobel Physics 2026	Francis Halzen (IceCube)
Asian Games 2026	India 4th; 85 medals (21G, 27S, 37B)
RBI MPC (63rd)	Repo 5.50%; SDF 5.25%; MSF/Bank Rate 5.75%
GHI 2026	India 100th/122 (24.1, Serious)
Governor: Karnataka	Dr. Sudha Yadav
Governor: Tamil Nadu	Rajendra Vishwanath Arlekar
India–NZ FTA	In force from 20 Oct 2026

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3. National Affairs

Gujarat becomes second State to get Presidential assent for UCC

Why in News?

Gujarat became the **second State after Uttarakhand** to receive the President's assent for a **Uniform Civil Code (UCC)**.

Key Facts

- The **Gujarat Uniform Civil Code Bill, 2026** was passed by the State Assembly in **March 2026**
- UCC is mentioned in **Article 44** (Directive Principles of State Policy)

> 📌 **Exam Point**
> - First State with UCC law → Uttarakhand; second → Gujarat.

Green Energy Corridor Phase-III approved

Why in News?

The Union Cabinet chaired by PM Narendra Modi approved the **Green Energy Corridor Phase-III (GEC-III)** scheme.

Key Facts

- Aim: strengthen **Intra-State Transmission System (InSTS)** to evacuate up to **135 GW** of renewable energy
- Central Financial Support: **Rs 54,082 crore**
- Helps offset intra-state transmission charges and keeps power costs lower

> 📌 **Exam Point**
> - GEC-III → 135 GW RE evacuation; Rs 54,082 crore central support.

Five more Indian sites on UNESCO Tentative List

Why in News?

India's Permanent Delegation to UNESCO announced the inclusion of new sites in the **World Heritage Tentative List**; three more were added later in the month.

Key Facts

- After first five additions: **78** sites; after three more: **81 sites** (59 cultural, 19 natural, 3 mixed)
- Three latest sites: **Karst-Mud-Volcano Complex of Baratang** and **Andaman Subduction Volcanoes** (Andaman & Nicobar Islands), and **Sirpur Cultural and Archaeological Landscape** (Chhattisgarh)
- A site must be on the Tentative List before it can be nominated for the World Heritage List

> 📌 **Exam Point**
> - India's UNESCO Tentative List → 81 sites (59 cultural, 19 natural, 3 mixed).

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GI tags in news: Mandar, Ambaji Mohanthal and Kaladi

Why in News?

Several traditional products were in news for Geographical Indication (GI) tags.

Product	State/UT	Detail
Mandar (musical instrument)	Jharkhand	Tribal folk drum; GI application filed 24 Sept 2021
Ambaji Mohanthal Prasad	Gujarat	Sweet offering of Ambaji Temple; applied by Ambaji Temple Trust
Kaladi cheese	Jammu & Kashmir (Udhampur)	Traditional dairy product; GI on 3 Oct 2023; now ready for commercial scale-up

Key Facts

- GI tags are given under the **Geographical Indications of Goods (Registration and Protection) Act, 1999**; registry at **Chennai**
- India's first GI tag: **Darjeeling Tea (2004)**

> 📌 **Exam Point**
> - Mandar → Jharkhand; Mohanthal → Ambaji, Gujarat; Kaladi → Udhampur (J&K).

ONGC discovers natural gas in Mahanadi Offshore Basin

Why in News?

ONGC discovered natural gas in a **deepwater exploratory well** in the **Mahanadi Offshore Basin**, off the **Konark coast of Odisha**.

Key Facts

- Programme outlay: about **Rs 84,084 crore** up to 2030–31 for offshore surveys, deepwater drilling and shared infrastructure

> 📌 **Exam Point**
> - ONGC gas find → Mahanadi Offshore Basin (off Konark, Odisha).

'Mann Ki Baat' completes 12 years

Why in News?

PM Narendra Modi's monthly radio programme **'Mann Ki Baat'** completed **12 years**.

Key Facts

- First episode broadcast on **3 October 2014**, on **Vijayadashami**
- Broadcast on All India Radio (Akashvani)

> 📌 **Exam Point**
> - Mann Ki Baat began → 2014 (Vijayadashami).

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Union Cabinet congratulates PM Modi on 25 years as head of government

Why in News?

The Union Cabinet passed a resolution congratulating **PM Narendra Modi** on completing **25 years as head of government**.

Key Facts

- Became **Chief Minister of Gujarat in 2001**; became **Prime Minister in 2014**

> 📌 **Exam Point**
> - PM Modi → CM Gujarat (2001) → PM (2014) → 25 years as head of government (2026).

PM GatiShakti National Master Plan completes five years

Why in News?

The **PM GatiShakti National Master Plan** for multi-modal connectivity completed **five years** on **13 October 2026**.

Key Facts

- Launched on **13 October 2021** to plan infrastructure in an integrated way using a digital GIS platform

> 📌 **Exam Point**
> - PM GatiShakti launched → 13 October 2021.

Supreme Court asks Centre to examine 18-year age limit for social media

Why in News?

The **Supreme Court** asked the Central Government to examine whether social media platforms should be legally required to ensure users are **at least 18 years old** before creating independent accounts.

Key Facts

- Many platforms currently allow users from **13 years**, based only on self-declared age
- Petition seeks strong **age-assurance mechanisms** to protect minors

> 📌 **Exam Point**
> - SC → Centre to examine 18-year threshold for independent social media accounts.

Supreme Court: no automatic BC reservation after religious conversion

Why in News?

The **Supreme Court** ruled that people converting from **Hinduism to Islam** or another non-Hindu religion **cannot automatically claim** reservation benefits under a Backward Class caste/community status.

Key Facts

- Bench including **Justice Prashant Kumar Mishra** upheld a State Government Order of **March 2024**

📌 **Exam Point**

- Conversion does not automatically carry Backward Class reservation benefits (SC, Oct 2026).

Central Armed Police Forces (General Administration) Act, 2026 in force

Why in News?

The **CAPF (General Administration) Act, 2026** came into force on **8 October 2026** through a notification by the **Ministry of Home Affairs**.

Key Facts

- **50%** of posts at **Inspector General (IG)** rank and at least **67%** of posts at **Additional Director General (ADG)** rank are to be filled by **IPS officers on deputation**
- CAPFs include CRPF, BSF, CISF, ITBP, SSB (and Assam Rifles under MHA)

📌 **Exam Point**

- CAPF Act 2026 → in force 8 Oct 2026; IG posts 50% and ADG posts 67% for IPS.

Aadhaar: five new initiatives on 17th Aadhaar Day

Why in News?

UIDAI (under MeitY) launched **five new initiatives** at the **Aadhaar Samvaad** conference in **Kolkata** on the **17th Aadhaar Day**.

Key Facts

- Aadhaar Day marks the first Aadhaar number issued on **29 September 2010** (Tembhli village, Maharashtra)
- UIDAI also revised the **Aadhaar name-update procedure** through a new SOP (September 2026), separating minor corrections from major name changes

📌 **Exam Point**

- First Aadhaar issued → 29 September 2010.

Ladakh: 28 geographical places and features officially identified

Why in News?

The Government, with the **Survey of India**, officially identified **28 places and geographical features in Ladakh** with standard names on the official map.

Key Facts

- Initiative under the **Ministry of Science and Technology**, for accurate identification and public awareness

Railway employees get 78-day Productivity-Linked Bonus

Why in News?

The Union Cabinet approved a **78-day Productivity-Linked Bonus (PLB)** for railway employees for **FY 2025–26**.

Key Facts

- Total: **Rs 2,028 crore** for **11,40,770** employees
- Maximum bonus per employee: **Rs 17,951**

> 📌 **Exam Point**
> - Railway PLB → 78 days; maximum Rs 17,951.

BS-VII emission norms from April 2029

Why in News?

The **Ministry of Road Transport and Highways** issued a draft notification (12 October) to introduce **Bharat Stage VII (BS-VII)** emission standards for new cars and SUVs from **1 April 2029**.

Key Facts

- To be implemented in three phases over six years (April 2029 – April 2035)
- India moved directly from BS-IV to **BS-VI in April 2020**

> 📌 **Exam Point**
> - BS-VII for new cars/SUVs → from 1 April 2029.

New CAFE norms notified for passenger vehicles

Why in News?

The **Ministry of Power** notified new **Corporate Average Fuel Economy (CAFE)** norms for passenger vehicles.

Key Facts

- Effective **1 April 2027** to **31 March 2030**; apply to vehicles made or imported for sale in India
- CAFE norms are framed under the **Energy Conservation Act, 2001**; administered with the **Bureau of Energy Efficiency (BEE)**

> 📌 **Exam Point**
> - New CAFE norms → from 1 April 2027 (Ministry of Power).

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Advanced Emergency Braking Systems to be mandatory

Why in News?

The Government proposed making **Advanced Emergency Braking Systems (AEBS)** mandatory in cars.

Key Facts

- New car models: from **October 2030**; existing models: **October 2032**
- Similar requirements proposed for new trucks and buses from **January 2027**
- Aim: reduce road accidents

Telecommunications (Regulatory Sandbox) Rules, 2026

Why in News?

The Government introduced the **Telecommunications (Regulatory Sandbox) Rules, 2026**.

Key Facts

- Allows testing of new telecom technologies for up to **24 months**, extendable by 12 months at a time
- Application fee: **Rs 10,000** (non-refundable); user consent is mandatory
- Framed under the **Telecommunications Act, 2023**

Noida International Airport renamed Narendra Modi International Airport

Why in News?

The **Uttar Pradesh Cabinet** approved renaming **Noida International Airport (Jewar)** as **Narendra Modi International Airport, Noida-Jewar**.

Key Facts

- Inaugurated by PM Modi on **28 March 2026**; first flight landed on **15 June 2026** (IndiGo from Lucknow)

> 📌 **Exam Point**
> - Jewar airport → renamed Narendra Modi International Airport.

UP renames Bhadohi district as Sant Ravidas Nagar Bhadohi

Why in News?

UP Chief Minister **Yogi Adityanath** announced that **Bhadohi** district will be renamed **Sant Ravidas Nagar Bhadohi**.

Key Facts

- Announced while laying foundation stones for **112 projects** worth over Rs 1,340 crore
- Bhadohi is famous for hand-knotted **carpets** (GI-tagged Bhadohi carpet)

Lakshadweep declared 100% literate under ULLAS

Why in News?

Lakshadweep was declared a **100% literate Union Territory** under the **ULLAS** programme at a function in **Kavaratti** (capital).

Key Facts

- Survey identified **1,113 adult non-literate learners**; all cleared the Foundational Literacy and Numeracy Assessment Test (**FLNAT**)
- ULLAS = Understanding of Lifelong Learning for All in Society (New India Literacy Programme)
- Earlier fully literate under ULLAS: **Ladakh**, **Mizoram**, Goa, Tripura, Himachal Pradesh

> 📌 **Exam Point**
> - Lakshadweep → 100% literate UT under ULLAS.

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NHRC celebrates 33rd Foundation Day

Why in News?

The **National Human Rights Commission (NHRC)** celebrated its **33rd Foundation Day** on **12 October 2026** at Vigyan Bhawan, New Delhi.

Key Facts

- NHRC established on **12 October 1993** under the **Protection of Human Rights Act, 1993**
- Conferences held on the **Right to Water** and **Human Rights of Prison Inmates**; NHRC has **12 Core Groups** of experts
- Chairperson is a retired Chief Justice of India or Supreme Court judge

> 📌 **Exam Point**
> - NHRC formed → 12 October 1993 (PHRA 1993).

First BIMSTEC Home Ministers' Meeting adopts Delhi Declaration

Why in News?

The **first BIMSTEC Home Ministers' Meeting** was held in **New Delhi**, chaired by the Union Home Minister, and adopted the **Delhi Declaration**.

Key Facts

- Strongly condemned terrorism including **cross-border terrorism**; called for implementation of UNSC sanctions, especially by the **1267 Sanctions Committee**

BIMSTEC - Static Facts	
Fact	**Detail**
Full form	Bay of Bengal Initiative for Multi-Sectoral Technical and Economic Cooperation
Founded	1997 (Bangkok Declaration)
Members (7)	Bangladesh, Bhutan, India, Myanmar, Nepal, Sri Lanka, Thailand
Secretariat	Dhaka (Bangladesh)

> 📌 **Exam Point**
> - First BIMSTEC Home Ministers' Meeting → New Delhi → Delhi Declaration.

Parliamentary Committees reconstituted

Why in News?

Lok Sabha Speaker **Om Birla** reconstituted several Parliamentary Committees, including Departmentally Related Standing Committees.

Key Facts

- **Bhartruhari Mahtab** appointed Chairperson of the **Committee on Finance**
- A DRSC has **31 members**: **21 from Lok Sabha** and **10 from Rajya Sabha**

India Mobile Congress 2026

Why in News?

PM Narendra Modi was scheduled to inaugurate the **10th India Mobile Congress (IMC)** at **Yashobhoomi, New Delhi**, held **7–10 October 2026**.

Key Facts

- Theme: **"Scale Without Boundaries"**
- The **3rd International Bharat 6G Symposium 2026** was also held at Yashobhoomi, Dwarka; the Bharat 6G Alliance released a report marking one year of the **New Delhi Declaration** on 6G

> 📌 **Exam Point**
> - IMC 2026 theme → "Scale Without Boundaries".

Periodic Labour Force Survey: September 2026

Why in News?

The **National Statistics Office (NSO)** under MoSPI released the **PLFS monthly bulletin for September 2026**.

Key Facts

- Overall **Labour Force Participation Rate (LFPR)** (15+ years): **55.5%** (55.3% in Sept 2025)
- Rural LFPR: **58.0%** (58.2% in August 2026)
- PLFS method was changed from **January 2025** to give monthly and quarterly estimates

> 📌 **Exam Point**
> - LFPR Sept 2026 → 55.5%.

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Committee on sugarcane farmers headed by Ramesh Chand

Why in News?

The Union Government formed a committee headed by **Ramesh Chand** (former Member, NITI Aayog) to examine the concerns of **sugarcane farmers** and suggest measures.

Key Facts

- Formed after a meeting of Karnataka sugarcane farmer representatives with Union Minister **Pralhad Joshi**

BIS launches Silver Refinery Scheme on World Standards Day

Why in News?

The **Bureau of Indian Standards (BIS)** launched a **Silver Refinery Scheme** and **seven new Indian Standards** on **World Standards Day (14 October) 2026** in New Delhi.

Key Facts

- New standards cover textiles, clean mobility, therapeutic healthcare, robotics and building materials
- BIS is the national standards body under the **BIS Act, 2016** (Ministry of Consumer Affairs)

Ministry of Cooperation issues MSCARO 2026

Why in News?

The **Ministry of Cooperation** issued the **Multi-State Co-operative Societies (Auditor's Report) Order, 2026 (MSCARO 2026)** to improve transparency.

Key Facts

- Guided by the vision **'Sahkar se Samriddhi'** (Prosperity through Cooperation)
- Long-term aim: cover multi-state cooperatives above **Rs 50 crore** in relevant financial parameters
- Ministry of Cooperation was created in **July 2021**

Steel Industry Safety Council to be set up

Why in News?

The **Ministry of Steel** will set up the **Steel Industry Safety Council (SISC)** (apex body) and a **Steel Industry Safety Directorate** to improve safety standards and prevent accidents in the steel sector.

High-Level Committee on Demographic Changes launches portal

Why in News?

Justice Prakash Prabhakar Naolekar, Chairman of the **High-Level Committee on Demographic Changes (HLCDC)**, launched an official web portal in New Delhi to boost public participation.

NITI Aayog initiatives

Why in News?

NITI Aayog was in news for two initiatives in October 2026.

Key Facts

- **Data Centre Evaluation Framework** released by NITI Aayog's **Frontier Tech Hub** to help States plan sustainable data-centre growth
- National Workshop on **Sustainable Development Goals (SDG) Budgeting** in **Kolkata** with the West Bengal Government, under the **State Support Mission**
- NITI Aayog replaced the Planning Commission on **1 January 2015**; Chairperson is the Prime Minister

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MoSPI releases Strategy for Environmental-Economic Accounts 2026–2030

Why in News?

MoSPI released the **'Strategy for Environmental-Economic Accounts in India: 2026–2030'**, building on the earlier 2022–2026 roadmap, to strengthen environmental accounting.

Key Facts

- Annual Survey of Industries (ASI) 2024–25: **Maharashtra** recorded the highest share of manufacturing Gross Value Added; five States contributed over **54%**

> 📌 **Exam Point**
> - Highest share in manufacturing GVA (ASI 2024–25) → Maharashtra.

National Biodiversity Authority disburses ABS funds

Why in News?

The **National Biodiversity Authority (NBA)** disbursed **Rs 2.02 crore** in **Access and Benefit-Sharing (ABS)** funds to **27 States and 3 UTs**.

Key Facts

- NBA set up in **2003** under the **Biological Diversity Act, 2002**; headquarters **Chennai**

AYUSH services economy valued at US$36.92 billion

Why in News?

A study by **Research and Information System for Developing Countries (RIS)** valued India's **AYUSH services economy** at **US$36.92 billion in FY 2024–25**, with a CAGR of **16.91%** since 2022–23.

Key Facts

- Clinics and day-care centres account for over **71%** of sector revenue

India Chem 2026 in Mumbai

Why in News?

India Chem 2026 was held in **Mumbai** from **22–24 October 2026**.

Key Facts

- The Department is pursuing designation of chemicals & petrochemicals as a priority sector under the **Research, Development and Innovation (RDI) Scheme** (outlay about **Rs 1 lakh crore**)

National Destination Digital Knowledge Grid for tourism

Why in News?

The Government proposed a **National Destination Digital Knowledge Grid** to strengthen tourism infrastructure and help travellers plan trips.

Key Facts

- Domestic tourist visits rose from **1.32 billion (2014)** to **4.26 billion (2025)** - about 11% CAGR

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19th Pravasi Bharatiya Divas Convention in Kolkata

Why in News?

The **19th Pravasi Bharatiya Divas (PBD) Convention** will be held in **Kolkata** from **7–9 January 2027**, organised by MEA with the West Bengal Government.

Key Facts

- PBD is observed on **9 January** - Mahatma Gandhi returned from South Africa on 9 January **1915**
- 18th PBD was held in **Bhubaneswar** (January 2025)

> 📌 **Exam Point**
> - 19th PBD → Kolkata, 7–9 January 2027.

📝 At a Glance (Revision Box)

UCC	Gujarat 2nd State after Uttarakhand
GEC-III	135 GW; Rs 54,082 crore
UNESCO Tentative List	81 Indian sites; Baratang mud volcanoes added
New GI	Mandar (Jharkhand), Ambaji Mohanthal (Gujarat)
ONGC gas find	Mahanadi basin, off Odisha
CAPF Act 2026	In force 8 Oct; IG 50%, ADG 67% IPS deputation
BS-VII	New cars & SUVs from 1 April 2029
ULLAS	Lakshadweep declared 100% literate
BIMSTEC Home Ministers	1st meeting, New Delhi; Delhi Declaration
19th Pravasi Bharatiya Divas	Kolkata, 7–9 Jan 2027

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4. Government Schemes & Policies

MSP for Rabi crops, Marketing Season 2027–28

Why in News?

The **Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs (CCEA)**, chaired by PM Modi, approved higher **Minimum Support Prices (MSP)** for **six mandated Rabi crops** for **RMS 2027–28**.

Key Facts

- Highest increase: **Safflower (Rs 675 per quintal)**, followed by **Rapeseed & Mustard (Rs 413 per quintal)**
- MSP is recommended by the **Commission for Agricultural Costs and Prices (CACP)**

> 📌 **Exam Point**
> - Highest MSP hike (Rabi 2027–28) → Safflower, Rs 675/quintal.

National Social Assistance Programme continued till 2030–31

Why in News?

The Union Cabinet approved continuation of the **National Social Assistance Programme (NSAP)** for five years, **2026–27 to 2030–31**, with an outlay of **Rs 53,428 crore**.

Key Facts

- Disability eligibility threshold reduced from **80% to 40%**
- Minimum age for disability pension revised to include eligible persons **from birth**
- NSAP was launched on **15 August 1995** (Ministry of Rural Development)

> 📌 **Exam Point**
> - NSAP outlay → Rs 53,428 crore; disability threshold 40%.

Modified UDAN scheme

Why in News?

The **Modified UDAN** regional connectivity scheme was launched on **4 July 2026**.

Key Facts

- Outlay: **Rs 28,840 crore** (FY 2026–27 to FY 2035–36)
- Target: **100 airports** and **200 helipads**
- Original **UDAN** (Ude Desh ka Aam Nagrik) launched on **21 October 2016**; first flight **Shimla–Delhi (April 2017)**
- Air Ayodhya (Megamax Aviation) got approval to operate under **RCS-UDAN** with Cessna Grand Caravan EX aircraft

> 📌 **Exam Point**
> - Original UDAN → 21 October 2016; first flight Shimla–Delhi.

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PM E-DRIVE scheme accelerates electric mobility

Why in News?

India's shift to electric mobility gained pace under the **PM E-DRIVE** scheme (PM Electric Drive Revolution in Innovative Vehicle Enhancement).

Key Facts

- **26.59 lakh** EVs sold by June 2026 against a target of about **28.30 lakh**
- Launched in **September 2024**; implemented from **October 2024** (Ministry of Heavy Industries)

PM Dhan-Dhaanya Krishi Yojana completes one year

Why in News?

The **PM Dhan-Dhaanya Krishi Yojana (PMDDKY)** completed its first year, with all **100 identified agricultural districts** preparing District Action Plans.

Key Facts

- Six-year scheme approved in Union Budget **2025–26**
- Also: Centre sanctioned over **Rs 1,200 crore** to 10 States under the **PM Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana (PM-RKVY)**, announced by Agriculture Minister **Shivraj Singh Chouhan**

> 📌 **Exam Point**
> - PMDDKY → 100 aspirational agricultural districts; six-year scheme.

Khet Bachao Abhiyan – Rabi 2026

Why in News?

Agriculture Minister **Shivraj Singh Chouhan** launched the **Khet Bachao Abhiyan – Rabi 2026** from **Karnal, Haryana**.

Key Facts

- Duration: **22 October – 30 November 2026**; target about **one crore** participants
- Promotes soil health, balanced fertiliser use, crop diversification, PMFBY and KCC
- He also launched the upgraded **Agri Welfare Portal** (19 October) integrating **PM-KISAN, PMFBY and AgriStack**

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PM-SETU completes one year

Why in News?

The **PM Skilling and Employability Transformation through Upgraded ITIs (PM-SETU)** completed one year.

Key Facts

- Launched on **4 October 2025**; aims to turn government ITIs into modern, industry-aligned institutes
- Under the skilling initiative, **Rs 440 crore** was approved to upgrade **nine ITIs** in the **Surat and Visakhapatnam** clusters (with AM/NS India)

DDU-GKY completes 12 years

Why in News?

The **Deen Dayal Upadhyaya Grameen Kaushalya Yojana (DDU-GKY)** completed **12 years** in 2026.

Key Facts

- Skill training and placement for **rural poor youth** (Ministry of Rural Development); launched on **25 September 2014**
- India's youth population projected to reach about **345 million by 2036**

Arogya Manthan 2026: PM-JAY and ABDM anniversaries

Why in News?

Arogya Manthan 2026 marked **8 years of Ayushman Bharat PM-JAY** and **5 years of the Ayushman Bharat Digital Mission (ABDM)**.

Key Facts

- PM-JAY launched on **23 September 2018** (Ranchi) - health cover of **Rs 5 lakh per family per year**
- ABDM launched on **27 September 2021**; implemented by the **National Health Authority (NHA)**

> 📌 **Exam Point**
> - PM-JAY launched → 23 September 2018.

JOSH Teams for TB elimination

Why in News?

The Ministry of Health with the Ministry of Youth Affairs & Sports launched **JOSH Teams** (**Joint Outreach for Sustained Health**) in New Delhi to strengthen community participation against **tuberculosis**.

Key Facts

- First phase: **55 districts in 11 States**; spreads the **TB Mukt Bharat** message

India's first 3D concrete-printed rural houses

Why in News?

India's first national-level pilot of rural housing using **3D Concrete Printing** was launched in **Andhra Pradesh** under **PMAY-Gramin**.

Key Facts

- India's first 3D-printed house was built in **2021** by **IIT Madras** and start-up **Tvasta**

Viksit Bharat – G RAM G Act: 375 permissible works

Why in News?

The Ministry of Rural Development notified **375 permissible works** under the **Viksit Bharat – Guarantee for Rozgar and Ajeevika Mission (Gramin) Act, 2025 (VB–G RAM G Act)**.

Key Facts

- Livelihood-related works form **26%** of the permissible works

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National Coastal Mission 2.0

Why in News?

Guidelines for **National Coastal Mission 2.0 (NCM 2.0)** were launched in New Delhi by the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change.

Key Facts

- **Central Sector Scheme** with an approved outlay of **Rs 767 crore**; aims to strengthen coastal resilience

National PNG Drive 3.0

Why in News?

National PNG Drive 3.0 was launched to speed up **piped natural gas** adoption, from **1 October 2026 to 31 March 2027**.

Key Facts

- Goal: raise natural gas share in India's primary energy mix from about **6%** (target 15% by 2030)

RoDTEP scheme extended till 31 December 2026

Why in News?

The Government extended the **Remission of Duties and Taxes on Exported Products (RoDTEP)** scheme up to **31 December 2026**.

Key Facts

- Refunds embedded central, state and local duties/taxes on exported products (WTO-compatible)

Research, Development and Innovation (RDI) Scheme

Why in News?

The **Rs 1 lakh crore RDI Scheme** approved its **first cohort of 19 Second-Level Fund Managers (SLFMs)** on **8 October 2026**.

Key Facts

- Approved by the **Empowered Group of Secretaries (EGoS)**; 19 SLFMs = **14 Alternative Investment Funds + 5 Focused Research Organisations**
- Technology Development Board (TDB) under DST has funded several deep-tech firms under the RDI Fund (see Science section)

New discovery track in pharma (PRIP scheme)

Why in News?

The **Department of Pharmaceuticals** introduced a **new discovery track** under the **Promotion of Research and Innovation in Pharma and MedTech (PRIP)** scheme.

Key Facts

- Financial support up to **Rs 50 crore** per company, project or portfolio, for new medicines

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Shipbuilding: two credit risk insurance schemes

Why in News?

Union Minister **Sarbananda Sonowal** (Ministry of Ports, Shipping and Waterways) launched the **Shipbuilders Credit Insurance Scheme (SCIS)** and **Buyer Credit Insurance Scheme (BCSPS)**.

Key Facts

- Launched under the **Shipbuilding Development Scheme (SbDS)** at the **21st Maritime State Development Council** meeting in **Mumbai**

Financial Inclusion Saturation Campaign

Why in News?

The **Department of Financial Services** launched a nationwide **Financial Inclusion Saturation Campaign** from **21 October to 31 December 2026**.

Key Facts

- Covers about **2.70 lakh** Gram Panchayats and urban local bodies
- Promotes **PMJDY, PMJJBY, PMSBY, APY, PMFBY, KCC**, re-KYC and unclaimed asset awareness

Key Social Security Schemes	
Scheme	**Benefit**
PMJJBY	Rs 2 lakh life cover (age 18–50)
PMSBY	Rs 2 lakh accident cover (age 18–70)
APY	Pension Rs 1,000–5,000 after 60
PMJDY	Zero-balance bank account (launched 28 Aug 2014)

📝 At a Glance (Revision Box)

Rabi MSP 2027–28	Highest hike: Safflower (Rs 675/q)
NSAP	2026–31, Rs 53,428 crore; disability 40%
Modified UDAN	Rs 28,840 crore; 100 airports, 200 helipads
Saturation campaign	21 Oct–31 Dec 2026; 2.70 lakh GPs/ULBs

5. States in News

Tamil Nadu expands 'Vetri Payanam Thittam'

Why in News?

Tamil Nadu launched the expanded **Vetri Payanam Thittam** (free bus travel) for **women and transgender persons** in **Chennai** on **2 October 2026**.

Key Facts

- Around **84 lakh women** to benefit daily; over **16 lakh** one-way journeys a day
- TN CM **C. Joseph Vijay** also launched the **Tamil Nadu Semiconductor Ecosystem Scheme**; the Union Cabinet had approved **Semicon India Programme 2.0** on **15 July 2026**

West Bengal: Bhagini Nivedita Scheme

Why in News?

West Bengal CM **Suvendu Adhikari** approved the **Bhagini Nivedita Scheme** and announced **14,454** government vacancies.

Key Facts

- **Rs 50,000** over three years to unmarried women in higher education (Rs 17,000 + Rs 17,000 + Rs 16,000)
- Named after **Sister Nivedita** (Margaret Noble), disciple of Swami Vivekananda

Delhi doubles ASHA incentives; new newborn scheme

Why in News?

Delhi CM **Rekha Gupta** launched healthcare initiatives under the **'Seva Sankalp Abhiyan'**, including the **Advanced Newborn Monitoring and Optimal Lifecare Scheme**.

Key Facts

- Monthly incentive for **6,690 ASHA** workers doubled from **Rs 3,000 to Rs 6,000**
- Also launched a **Nursing Home Management System** portal

Kerala: WOMN initiative and AI dengue warning system

Why in News?

Kerala launched two notable initiatives in October 2026.

Key Facts

- **WOMN (Women On the Move & Menstrual Needs)** - sanitary napkin access in public places; launched at **KSRTC Bus Terminal, Thampanoor** (Thiruvananthapuram)
- **AI-based dengue early warning system** developed by the **Institute of Advanced Virology**, forecasting dengue at district level; about **60%** of dengue cases occur during the south-west monsoon
- MeitY launched the **IndiaAI Centre of Excellence 'CAIK'** in Thiruvananthapuram

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Gujarat restructures Porbandar Forest Division for lions in Barda

Why in News?

Gujarat restructured the **Porbandar Forest Division** to strengthen management and help rehabilitate **Asiatic lions** in the **Barda** area.

Key Facts

- Barda Wildlife Sanctuary is being developed as the **second home** for Asiatic lions after **Gir**

> 📌 **Exam Point**
> - Asiatic lion's second home in Gujarat → Barda Wildlife Sanctuary.

Ladakh in news

Why in News?

Ladakh saw several firsts and administrative changes.

Key Facts

- **India's first high-altitude wildlife safari** launched at **Uley**, with six open-back vehicles
- First Snow Leopard Population Assessment: India has about **718 snow leopards** - **Ladakh 477**, Uttarakhand 124
- **Ladakh's first Government Medical College** in **Leh** approved from session **2027–28** (103 posts)
- Ladakh Autonomous Hill Development Councils: constituencies increased from **52 to 100** (LG **Vinai Kumar Saxena**)
- PM to dedicate five projects worth **Rs 3,350 crore**, including a new terminal at **Kushok Bakula Rimpochee Airport, Leh** (Rs 640 crore, 35 lakh passengers a year)
- **IIM Jammu** to set up a satellite campus in **Leh**; Ladakh observed **Wildlife Week 2–8 October** ("Connecting Habitats, Thriving Wildlife")

> 📌 **Exam Point**
> - India's first high-altitude wildlife safari → Uley, Ladakh.

Himachal: first battery-powered solar project in Spiti

Why in News?

Himachal Pradesh CM **Sukhvinder Singh Sukhu** inaugurated the **first battery-powered solar power project in Spiti Valley**, a step towards clean energy in the high-altitude Himalayan region.

Odisha launches India's first Exhibitions Incentive Portal

Why in News?

The **Odisha Government** launched what it called **India's first dedicated Exhibitions Incentive Portal** to attract investment and promote business (MICE) tourism.

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Chhattisgarh receives Rs 43,600 crore investment proposals

Why in News?

Chhattisgarh received investment proposals worth **Rs 43,600 crore** during CM **Vishnu Deo Sai**'s visit to **Singapore**.

Key Facts

- MoU with Singapore's **ITE Education Services** for technical and vocational training
- Valency International proposed Rs 350 crore agro-processing and export hub (cashew, sesame, pulses)

Nagaland: Samaveshi Aajeevika Yojana

Why in News?

Nagaland launched the **Samaveshi Aajeevika Yojana** to support **4,000 extremely vulnerable households**, through a 3-year MoU between the **Nagaland State Rural Livelihoods Mission** and **BRAC International**, signed in **Kohima**.

Rajasthan: first State Veterinary Policy

Why in News?

Rajasthan announced plans for its **first dedicated State Veterinary Policy** focusing on livestock health, breeding and veterinary infrastructure.

Key Facts

- Under the **Mangla Pashu Bima Yojana**: over **43 lakh** animals registered; about **Rs 95 crore** paid to livestock owners
- **Jaipur** was included in **National Geographic's 'Best of the World 2027'** list; founded by **Sawai Jai Singh II in 1727**; walled city a UNESCO World Heritage Site since **2019**

Uttar Pradesh tops Mission Karmayogi

Why in News?

Uttar Pradesh secured first position in implementing **Mission Karmayogi** (civil services capacity building), followed by **Rajasthan** and **Jammu & Kashmir**.

Key Facts

- About **19.23 lakh** registered users; over 99% active participation
- Mission Karmayogi (National Programme for Civil Services Capacity Building) launched in **2020**; runs the **iGOT Karmayogi** platform

📝 At a Glance (Revision Box)

Tamil Nadu	Vetri Payanam Thittam; Semiconductor Ecosystem Scheme
West Bengal	Bhagini Nivedita Scheme (Rs 50,000)
Snow leopards	India 718; Ladakh 477
Mission Karmayogi	UP 1st, Rajasthan 2nd, J&K 3rd

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6. International Affairs

G20 Trade Ministers' Meeting in Milwaukee

Why in News?

Union Commerce Minister **Piyush Goyal** attended the **G20 Trade Ministers' Meeting** in **Milwaukee, USA**.

Key Facts

- The **USA holds the G20 Presidency in 2026**; a Joint Ministerial Statement was signed by 15 countries including India
- India held the G20 Presidency in **2023** (New Delhi Summit)

India joins EU, Australia, Brazil and Canada in platform for multilateralism

Why in News?

India, the **European Union, Australia, Brazil and Canada** launched a new platform to defend **multilateralism**, promote peace and push **reform of the UN system**.

Key Facts

- Called for more effective, representative and trusted multilateral institutions

Jaishankar visits Ghana, Côte d'Ivoire and Ethiopia

Why in News?

EAM **Dr. S. Jaishankar** made a five-day visit to **Ghana, Côte d'Ivoire and Ethiopia** (**6–10 October 2026**).

Key Facts

- The visit marked the first anniversary of the **India–EFTA TEPA**, which came into force on **1 October 2025**
- MEA also opened India's **resident diplomatic mission in Costa Rica**

India–EFTA TEPA	
Fact	**Detail**
EFTA members	Switzerland, Norway, Iceland, Liechtenstein
Signed	10 March 2024
In force	1 October 2025
Investment commitment	US$100 billion over 15 years

📌 **Exam Point**

- India–EFTA TEPA in force → 1 October 2025.

India–Mauritius tax treaty amended with Principal Purpose Test

Why in News?

The Centre notified amendments to the **India–Mauritius Double Taxation Avoidance Agreement (DTAA)** adding a **Principal Purpose Test (PPT)** to stop treaty abuse.

Key Facts

- Protocol was signed on **7 March 2024** in **Port Louis**

India and Myanmar sign QIP MoUs under Mekong-Ganga Cooperation

Why in News?

India and Myanmar signed **five MoUs** for **Quick Impact Projects (QIPs)** under the **Mekong-Ganga Cooperation (MGC)** framework (2026–27) in **Naypyitaw**.

Mekong-Ganga Cooperation	
Fact	**Detail**
Launched	2000, Vientiane (Laos)
Members (6)	India, Cambodia, Laos, Myanmar, Thailand, Vietnam

India–Singapore 2,000 MW cross-border power link

Why in News?

India and Singapore are exploring a **2,000 MW cross-border electricity interconnection** under the **ASEAN Power Grid** initiative.

70th International Whaling Commission meeting

Why in News?

India reaffirmed its commitment to whale conservation at **IWC-70** in **Hobart, Australia** (**28 September – 2 October 2026**).

Key Facts

- IWC was set up under the **International Convention for the Regulation of Whaling**, signed on **2 December 1946** in Washington, D.C.

69th Commonwealth Parliamentary Conference in Cape Town

Why in News?

The **69th Commonwealth Parliamentary Conference** was held in **Cape Town, South Africa**.

Key Facts

- Theme: "Strengthening International Law and Parliamentary Democracy in a Changing World Order: Commonwealth Leadership"
- India's delegation was led by Rajya Sabha Deputy Chairman **Harivansh Narayan Singh**
- **Canada** will host the 70th conference in **2027**

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UNEP Emissions Gap Report 2026: 'The Point of Return'

Why in News?

UNEP released its **17th Emissions Gap Report**, titled **"The Point of Return"**.

Key Facts

- Calls for global greenhouse gas cuts of **18% by 2030, 45% by 2035 and 69% by 2040**, relative to 2025 levels
- UNEP HQ: **Nairobi, Kenya**; founded **1972**

WWF Living Planet Report 2026: 73% decline in wildlife

Why in News?

WWF with the **Zoological Society of London (ZSL)** released the **Living Planet Report 2026**, titled **"The Science of Hope"**.

Key Facts

- Average size of monitored wildlife populations fell by **73% between 1970 and 2022**
- WWF HQ: **Gland, Switzerland**

UNESCO GEM Gender Report 2026

Why in News?

UNESCO released the **2026 Global Education Monitoring (GEM) Gender Report**, **"Gender Equity in Access to Education"**, around the **International Day of the Girl Child (11 October)**.

Key Facts

- Notes gains in gender parity in school enrolment; poverty, child marriage and unequal access to higher education remain challenges

WHO–UNICEF report: India has most children without school sanitation

Why in News?

The **WHO–UNICEF** Joint Monitoring Programme (JMP) report on drinking water, sanitation and hygiene in schools found that about **244 million** children worldwide had **no sanitation service** in schools in 2025.

Key Facts

- **India** accounted for about **50 million** - the **highest** of any country

UNCTAD: India attracts 5.7% of global greenfield investment

Why in News?

According to **UNCTAD**, India accounted for **5.7% of global greenfield investment** during **2020–2025**, more than double China's share.

Key Facts

- UNCTAD HQ: **Geneva**; set up in **1964**

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World Bank: India among top 10 in AI readiness

Why in News?

The **World Bank** ranked India among the **top 10 emerging-market performers in AI readiness**.

Key Facts

- Private AI investment in India more than tripled to **Rs 35,231.70 crore (US$4.1 billion)** in 2025 from Rs 10,604.40 crore in 2024
- The **World Bank Group** (President **Ajay Banga**) launched its first comprehensive **Digital Strategy** at the Global AI and Digital Summit 2026 in **Seoul** - aim: benefit **1 billion** people by 2030
- World Bank plans **US$19 billion** critical minerals financing (2026–2030)

APEDA ships frozen food from Haryana to Canada

Why in News?

APEDA flagged off a **24 MT** consignment of frozen food from **Haryana to Canada** on **1 October 2026**.

Key Facts

- India exported over **7,000 MT of makhana** products worth **US$22 million** in FY 2025–26 to 20+ countries
- India and **Canada** signed commercial agreements and aim to conclude a **CEPA** (Comprehensive Economic Partnership Agreement)
- APEDA is under the **Ministry of Commerce and Industry** (est. 1986)

Other international agreements in news

Why in News?

Some other international agreements in October 2026:

Key Facts

- **IOA** and the **Korean Sport & Olympic Committee** signed an MoU on sports cooperation during the Asian Games in Nagoya
- **NTPC** partnered with **Africa50** to develop power projects in Africa
- **Adani Power** and Bhutan's **Druk Green Power Corporation** agreed to develop the **770 MW Chamkharchhu-I** hydropower project
- **Badr Defence Cooperation MoU** signed in **Doha** by **Pakistan, Turkey, Qatar and Indonesia** ('Badr' = full moon)

📝 At a Glance (Revision Box)

Chamkharchhu-I	770 MW hydro, Bhutan (Adani Power + DGPC)

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7. Economy & Business

Retail inflation at 5.5% in September 2026

Why in News?

India's **Consumer Price Index (CPI)** inflation rose to about **5.5% in September 2026**, mainly due to food, fuel and precious metals.

Key Facts

- CPI is released by the **National Statistics Office (NSO), MoSPI**
- RBI's upper inflation tolerance limit is **6%** (target 4% ±2%)

> 📌 **Exam Point**
> - CPI inflation Sept 2026 → about 5.5%.

GDP growth forecasts for India

Why in News?

Several institutions released growth estimates for India in October 2026.

Agency / Report	India growth estimate
IMF World Economic Outlook (Oct 2026)	**7%** for FY 2026–27
UNCTAD Trade and Development Report 2026	**7.3%** in 2026
RBI MPC (Oct 2026)	**7.1%** for FY 2026–27
Ministry of Finance	**7.3%** for Q2 FY27 (July–Sept 2026)

Key Facts

- India remains the **fastest-growing major economy**
- India's total exports reached nearly **US$400 billion** in the first five months of FY27

> 📌 **Exam Point**
> - IMF WEO Oct 2026 → India 7%; UNCTAD → 7.3%.

Core industries grow 7.9% in September

Why in News?

India's **Index of Eight Core Industries** grew **7.9% (year-on-year) in September 2026**, against 5.9% in August.

Key Facts

- Driven by iron ore, electricity, coal, refinery products and cement
- Cumulative growth April–September 2026: **5.1%**
- Eight core industries (weight about **40%** in IIP): coal, crude oil, natural gas, refinery products, fertilisers, steel, cement, electricity

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📌 **Exam Point**

- Core sector Sept 2026 → 7.9%.

Trade deficit falls; current account deficit widens

Why in News?

Two important external-sector data releases came in October 2026.

Key Facts

- **Merchandise trade deficit** fell to a five-month low of **US$26.86 billion in August 2026**; exports rose **26%** to US$43.81 billion (Department of Commerce)
- **Current Account Deficit (CAD)** widened to **US$7 billion in July 2026** (US$2.8 billion in July 2025) - RBI data
- **Balance of Payments** recorded a surplus of US$20.8 billion in July 2026
- **Forex reserves** rose to **US$692.87 billion** at end-July 2026; RBI made a record net dollar purchase of **US$18.65 billion** in July
- **NRI deposit** inflows rose to **US$36.2 billion** in April–July FY27 (US$4.66 billion a year earlier)

Next-generation GST rate structure

Why in News?

The **next-generation GST** reforms aim to simplify the tax.

Key Facts

- Two standard rates: **5% and 18%**, with a special rate of **40%** for selected goods
- GST was introduced on **1 July 2017** (101st Constitutional Amendment Act, 2016); motto "One Nation, One Tax"
- **57th GST Council meeting** was held in New Delhi, chaired by FM **Nirmala Sitharaman** - under **Rule 14A** of the CGST Rules, 2017, taxpayers not passing ITC over **Rs 2.5 lakh per month** can get automatic registration
- A new **GST Standing Committee** was formed with **five permanent member States**: **Karnataka, Maharashtra, Uttar Pradesh, Gujarat, Tamil Nadu**

GST Council - Static Facts

Fact	Detail
Article	279A
Chairperson	Union Finance Minister
Voting	Centre 1/3 weight, States 2/3; decisions need 3/4 majority

30th FSDC meeting

Why in News?

FM **Nirmala Sitharaman** chaired the **30th meeting of the Financial Stability and Development Council (FSDC)** in New Delhi.

Key Facts

- Discussed financial stability, fintech, cybersecurity, asset tokenisation, GIFT-IFSC, Account Aggregators, Unified Lending Interface and unclaimed financial assets
- FSDC set up in **2010**; chaired by the Finance Minister; its **Sub-Committee is chaired by the RBI Governor**

GIFT City climbs to 37th in Global Financial Centres Index

Why in News?

GIFT City improved by **nine places** to rank **37th** in the **Global Financial Centres Index 40 (GFCI 40)**, from 46th in GFCI 39.

Key Facts

- GIFT City (Gujarat) is India's first **International Financial Services Centre (IFSC)**
- GFCI is published by **Z/Yen Group** (London) with the **China Development Institute**

> 📌 **Exam Point**
> - GFCI 40 → GIFT City 37th.

MSME credit portfolio reaches Rs 47.4 trillion

Why in News?

According to **CRIF High Mark**, the MSME credit portfolio grew **12.5%** to **Rs 47.4 trillion** as of June 2026.

Key Facts

- Small enterprises: 20.3% growth; medium enterprises: 21.3%
- India has over **73 million MSMEs**, contributing about **30% of GDP** and **44% of exports**, and employing about **60%** of the workforce (UNDP–Generali Central Insurance Innovation Challenge)

Kautilya Economic Conclave and FiMi Banking

Why in News?

Two major economic events took place in New Delhi in October 2026.

Key Facts

- **5th Kautilya Economic Conclave (KEC 2026)** - organised by the **Institute of Economic Growth (IEG)** with the Ministry of Finance
- **NPCI** unveiled **FiMi (Finance Model for India) Banking** at the **Global Fintech Fest 2026** - India's first **sovereign compact AI model** for retail banking

> 📌 **Exam Point**
> - FiMi Banking → NPCI → Global Fintech Fest 2026.

National Strategic Trade Command Centre and FTA Utilisation Cell

Why in News?

Two new trade institutions were set up by the **Department of Commerce**.

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Key Facts

- **National Strategic Trade Command Centre (NSTCC)** launched by **Piyush Goyal** at Vanijya Bhawan, New Delhi - for data-driven trade monitoring and intelligence
- **FTA Utilisation Cell** to help businesses use free trade agreements; over **99%** of India's trade value with EFTA countries now enters at zero tariff

Coal sector: 16th commercial coal mine auction

Why in News?

The **Ministry of Coal** signed agreements for six coal mines and launched the **16th round of commercial coal mine auctions**.

Key Facts

- Six mines: annual revenue about **Rs 1,984 crore**, investment Rs 1,743 crore, about **15,700 jobs**
- **Coal India** and **HURL** signed an MoU for a **coal-gasification-based urea plant** at **Sindri, Jharkhand**

📝 At a Glance (Revision Box)	
CPI Sept 2026	About 5.5%
IMF / UNCTAD forecast	7% / 7.3%
Trade deficit Aug 2026	US$26.86 bn (5-month low)
Forex reserves end-July	US$692.87 bn
GST slabs	5%, 18%; special 40%
GST Standing Committee	Karnataka, Maharashtra, UP, Gujarat, TN
GFCI 40	GIFT City 37th

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8. Banking & Finance

RBI raises daily CRR maintenance to 99%

Why in News?

The RBI raised the **minimum daily Cash Reserve Ratio (CRR) maintenance** requirement for scheduled banks from **90% to 99%**, effective from the fortnight beginning **16 October 2026**.

Key Facts

- The CRR rate itself stays at **3%**; banks must still meet the full CRR on an average daily basis over the fortnight

> 📌 **Exam Point**
> - Daily CRR maintenance → 99% (from 90%); CRR rate 3%.

RBI introduces 20% Foreign Exchange Risk Reserve

Why in News?

The RBI introduced a **20% Foreign Exchange Risk Reserve (FERR)** on specified foreign exchange derivative contracts above **US$2 million**.

Key Facts

- To be kept **in addition to CRR**, without interest, until one day after the contract ends
- RBI also opened a **special forex window** (from **12 October 2026**) to meet the daily dollar needs of **three state-run oil marketing companies**

RBI removes Paytm Payments Bank from scheduled banks list

Why in News?

The RBI excluded **Paytm Payments Bank Ltd** from the **Second Schedule** (scheduled banks list) after cancellation of its banking licence and a court-ordered winding-up.

Key Facts

- Notification dated 31 July 2026; announced on 7 October 2026
- Scheduled banks are listed in the **Second Schedule of the RBI Act, 1934**

RBL Bank to absorb Emirates NBD's Indian branches

Why in News?

The RBI approved the **amalgamation of Emirates NBD's Indian branches into RBL Bank**, effective **1 December 2026**.

Key Facts

- Merger first announced in October 2025; SEBI approval obtained for the mandatory open offer
- Emirates NBD is based in **Dubai, UAE**

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Bank of Baroda becomes second PSB to sponsor a pension fund

Why in News?

Bank of Baroda became the **second public sector bank** to enter the **pension fund** business after receiving a Certificate of Registration from **PFRDA** under **Section 27 of the PFRDA Act, 2013**.

Key Facts

- **SBI** was the first PSB (April 2008, through **SBI Pension Funds Pvt. Ltd.**)
- Bank of Baroda (HQ **Vadodara**) also launched cybersecurity mascot **'bob Cyber Veeru'** in Cybersecurity Awareness Month

> 📌 **Exam Point**
> - First PSB pension fund → SBI (2008); second → Bank of Baroda.

PFRDA launches 'NPS Central'

Why in News?

PFRDA launched **NPS Central** on **1 October 2026 (NPS Diwas)** as a unified pension services platform.

Key Facts

- Managed by **Protean eGov, KFin Technologies and CAMS** (Central Recordkeeping Agencies)
- Subscribers can log in with **mobile number, date of birth and OTP** instead of the 12-digit **PRAN**

> 📌 **Exam Point**
> - NPS Central → 1 Oct 2026 (NPS Diwas).

Small savings rates unchanged for Q3 FY27

Why in News?

The Ministry of Finance kept **small savings interest rates unchanged** for October–December 2026 - the **14th consecutive quarter** without change.

Key Facts

- **Sukanya Samriddhi Yojana (SSY)** continues to offer the highest rate: **8.2%** (21-year maturity)
- SSY was launched on **22 January 2015** under **Beti Bachao Beti Padhao**

NABKISAN lists India's first WASH social bond

Why in News?

NABKISAN Finance Ltd (a NABARD subsidiary) listed **India's first social bond for Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH)** on the **NSE** on **1 October 2026**.

Key Facts

- Raised **Rs 180 crore**; oversubscribed **1.8 times**
- **JICA** signed a **US$150 million** loan with **IIFL Home Finance** for affordable housing for low-income women (women are only ~30% of housing finance users)

📌 **Exam Point**

- First WASH social bond → NABKISAN (NABARD), NSE.

SEBI approves PRIM framework and Common Advertisement Code

Why in News?

SEBI approved several reforms in October 2026.

Key Facts

- **PRIM (Portfolio Managers Route for investing in Mutual Fund units)** - a mutual-fund-focused portfolio management route; fixed management fee capped at **1% of AUM**
- **Common Advertisement Code** for market intermediaries (celebrity endorsements) through amendment of SEBI (Intermediaries) Regulations, 2008
- Extended the IPO issue-size revision deadline to **March 2027**
- SEBI was set up in **1988** and got statutory status in **1992**; HQ **Mumbai**; Chairman **Tuhin Kanta Pandey**

NSE becomes world's sixth-largest stock exchange

Why in News?

The **National Stock Exchange (NSE)** became the **world's sixth-largest stock exchange** by market capitalisation after its shares were **listed on BSE**.

Key Facts

- NSE shares became eligible for trading on the **Metropolitan Stock Exchange (MSE)** from 24 September 2026
- **NSE IX** (GIFT City) signed an MoU with the **London Stock Exchange** for cross-border listings
- **BSE** (est. **1875**, Asia's oldest) partnered with **MMTC-PAMP** to expand **Electronic Gold Receipts (EGR)**

M1xchange first TReDS platform with CGTMSE guarantee

Why in News?

M1xchange became the first **Trade Receivables Discounting System (TReDS)** platform to implement the **CGTMSE** guarantee cover for MSE receivables.

Key Facts

- Announced in **Union Budget 2026–27**; implemented by the **Credit Guarantee Fund Trust for Micro and Small Enterprises**

RBI enables Account Aggregator interoperability

Why in News?

The RBI announced **interoperability among NBFC–Account Aggregators** (7 October 2026) to make sharing of financial data easier for customers.

Key Facts

- RBI also introduced a new **services export reporting framework** (from 1 October 2026) with a **Rs 10 lakh** per-bill threshold for simplified self-declaration

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IRDAI proposes insurance distribution overhaul

Why in News?

IRDAI released a consultation paper titled **"Recalibrating Economics of Insurance Distribution"** and proposed commission limits on credit-life and short-term products.

Key Facts

- IRDAI set up in **1999** under the IRDA Act; HQ **Hyderabad**

Windfall tax revised on diesel and ATF

Why in News?

The Ministry of Finance revised the **windfall tax (export levy)** on **diesel and ATF** from 1 October 2026.

Key Facts

- Petrol export duty kept at **Rs 0.5 per litre**

SBI wins 'World's Best Consumer Bank' award again

Why in News?

State Bank of India won **Global Finance**'s **World's Best Consumer Bank** award for the **second year in a row** and **Best Bank in India 2026**.

Key Facts

- SBI was formed in **1955** (from Imperial Bank of India); HQ **Mumbai**

Other banking & insurance news

Why in News?

Other notable financial news from October 2026:

Key Facts

- **Ageas Federal Life** launched India's **first multi-currency unit-linked insurance plan** (US dollar, euro, pound) at **GIFT City**
- **HSBC India** announced a **Rs 200 crore** financial literacy programme (2026–2030)
- **C-DAC and Bank of India** signed an MoU (22 October) to build a **quantum ecosystem** for financial innovation
- CCI approved **BNP Paribas Cardif**'s purchase of a **26% stake in IndiaFirst Life Insurance**
- **UNDP and Generali Central** launched an Insurance Innovation Challenge for MSMEs

📝 At a Glance (Revision Box)

CRR daily maintenance	90% → 99% from 16 Oct; CRR 3%
RBL–Emirates NBD	Merger effective 1 Dec 2026
BoB	2nd PSB to sponsor a pension fund
First multi-currency ULIP	Ageas Federal Life, GIFT City

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9. Defence & Security

Air Marshal Ashutosh Dixit to be 29th Chief of Air Staff

Why in News?

The Government appointed **Air Marshal Ashutosh Dixit** as the **29th Chief of the Air Staff** from **31 October 2026**.

Key Facts

- He will serve as Air Chief Marshal until about December 2028
- **Indian Air Force Day** - **8 October** (IAF formed 1932); 2026 was the **94th** IAF Day

> 📌 **Exam Point**
> - 29th Chief of Air Staff → Air Marshal Ashutosh Dixit.

Military exercises of October 2026

Why in News?

Indian forces took part in several bilateral and multilateral exercises.

Exercise	Countries	Venue / Note
AIME-2026 (2nd edition)	India–ASEAN	Subic Bay, Philippines; theme "Anchored in Trust, United at Sea"
MOUNTAIN GUARDIAN 2026	India–UAE	Foreign Training Node, Chaubatia (Uttarakhand); mountain warfare
KONKAN-26	India–UK (Navy)	Off Plymouth, UK
IBSAMAR IX	India–Brazil–South Africa (Navy)	South Africa; INS Tarkash; theme "Stronger Together Towards a Shared Future"
SIMBEX-2026 (33rd)	India–Singapore (Navy)	Visakhapatnam & Bay of Bengal, 21–26 Oct; began 1994 as Exercise Lion King
SAREX-2026 (12th)	Indian Coast Guard	Off Paradip (Odisha), 8 Oct
Jai Se Vijay	Indian Army	Rajasthan border, 29 Sept; "Mission Ready, Future Ready"

Key Facts

- SIMBEX featured **INS Nilgiri, INS Kamorta** and Singapore's **RSS Supreme**

> 📌 **Exam Point**
> - SIMBEX began in 1994 as 'Exercise Lion King'.

Fleet Support Ship-1 launched at Visakhapatnam

Why in News?

Defence Minister **Rajnath Singh** launched **Fleet Support Ship-1 (FSS-1)**, laid the keel of **FSS-5** and inaugurated upgraded facilities at **Hindustan Shipyard Ltd (HSL), Visakhapatnam** on **6 October 2026**.

Key Facts

- **43,500-tonne** ships that refuel and resupply warships at sea, boosting Navy's reach in the Indian Ocean Region

Kaveri Dry Engine completes trials in Russia

Why in News?

DRDO's **Kaveri Dry Engine (KDE)**, also called the **Kaveri Derivative Engine**, was successfully tested in Russia for the **Ghatak Unmanned Combat Aerial Vehicle**.

Key Facts

- A **non-afterburning (dry-thrust)** version of the Kaveri engine
- **HAL Koraput** delivered its **2,000th aero-engine**; a second line for **Shakti** engines will be set up; about Rs 5,000 crore proposed for **AMCA** engine capability

> 📌 **Exam Point**
> - Kaveri Dry Engine → for Ghatak UCAV.

DRDO tests Quantum Key Distribution on live military network

Why in News?

DRDO tested its **Quantum Key Distribution (QKD)** system on the live network of the **Proof & Experimental Establishment (PXE), Chandipur (Odisha)** on **14 October 2026**.

Key Facts

- Quantum Bit Error Rate (QBER) of **6%**; secure key rate about **5 kbps**
- DRDO also flight-tested an indigenous **High-Altitude Platform (HAPS)** stratospheric airship
- DRDO was set up in **1958**; HQ New Delhi

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Major defence contracts

Why in News?

The Ministry of Defence signed several contracts in October 2026.

Contract	Value	Partner
GSAT-7C communication satellite (Navy) + Varunastra heavy-weight torpedoes	Rs 4,106 crore (15 Oct)	Varunastra: Rs 1,543 crore with BDL, Hyderabad
Improved Low Level Light Weight Radar (LLLR-I) for Army	Rs 770 crore (21 Oct)	BEL, Bengaluru
BrahMos fire control systems & launchers for Navy	Rs 661.5 crore	BrahMos Aerospace

Key Facts

- **INS Ranvir** was the first warship to carry out a **vertical BrahMos launch** from a moving platform (2008)
- **HAL** and **SkyPulse Solutions IFSC** signed an MoU for deployment of **30 helicopters** worth Rs 2,491 crore

New ships and indigenous systems for Navy & Coast Guard

Why in News?

Several indigenous platforms were launched or inducted.

Key Facts

- **'Shreyas' (Yard 3040)** - Next Generation Offshore Patrol Vessel launched at **GRSE, Kolkata**
- **INS Samarthak** - first of class **Multi-Purpose Vessel**, commissioned in October 2026
- Coast Guard inducted **ALH MK-III** helicopter (CG 875) at **Ratnagiri** with **831 Squadron**
- **EyeROV** delivered two **TROUT** military-grade underwater ROVs - **India's first indigenous** ones for the Navy
- **BonV Aero** (Odisha) delivered **45 logistics UAVs** to Army's **Eastern Command**

Project Seabird Phase IIA at Karwar

Why in News?

CDS **General N.S. Raja Subramani** inaugurated residential and utility infrastructure under **Project Seabird Phase IIA** at **Naval Base Karwar, Karnataka** on 8 October 2026.

Key Facts

- Over **90%** of materials and equipment sourced domestically
- Project Seabird is set to become one of the largest naval bases in Asia

> 📌 **Exam Point**
> - CDS → Gen N.S. Raja Subramani.

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Indian Coast Guard scales Mount Mukut

Why in News?

A **17-member Indian Coast Guard** team scaled **Mount Mukut (7,045 m)** on **7 October 2026** - the first ICG flag expedition to a peak above **7,000 m**.

Key Facts

- Army Chief **Gen Dhiraj Seth** flagged in the **Indo-Argentine mountaineering expedition**; the first joint expedition climbed **Mt Aconcagua (6,962 m)** in January 2025

Defence exports reach record Rs 38,424 crore

Why in News?

Rajnath Singh presented the **SIDM Champion Awards 2026** (9 October) and noted that India's **defence exports** hit a record **Rs 38,424 crore in FY 2025–26** (over 60% growth).

Key Facts

- 8th SIDM Annual Session theme: "Sovereign Capabilities, Contested Frontiers: Accelerating India's Strategic Autonomy in an Era of Disruption"
- SIDM = Society of Indian Defence Manufacturers

Navy diplomacy: Lokayan-2026 and Training Squadron to Maldives

Why in News?

Indian Navy ships made several goodwill visits.

Key Facts

- Sail training ship **INS Sudarshini** visited **Salalah, Oman** (14–17 Oct) under **Lokayan-2026** ('Vasudhaiva Kutumbakam')
- **MAHASAGAR** = Mutual and Holistic Advancement for Security and Growth Across Regions
- **First Training Squadron** (INS Tir, INS Sujata, ICGS Sarathi) reached **Malé, Maldives** on 21 October
- **INS Ranvijay** made a port call at Salalah, Oman
- **Indo-Pacific Regional Dialogue (IPRD-2026)** - 3–5 November, Manekshaw Centre; theme "Science, Technology and Academic Cooperation in the Indo-Pacific"; organised by the **National Maritime Foundation**

> 📌 **Exam Point**
>
> - MAHASAGAR → India's maritime vision (successor of SAGAR, 2015).

Other defence news

Why in News?

Other notable defence developments:

Key Facts

- **14th India–Mongolia Joint Working Group** meeting held on 16 October 2026
- **Defence Accounts Department** celebrated its **279th Annual Day** on 1 October 2026
- **Hical Technologies** and France's **Safran** signed an MoU to make **Rafale** systems in India (CCS approved **26 Rafale Marine** jets in April 2025)
- **Embraer** to acquire **51%** in **Novavayu Aerospace** (Mahindra 49%) to offer the **C-390 Millennium** for IAF's Medium Transport Aircraft programme
- Army launched **'Bharat Rice'** for troops with a five-year MoU with **FCI**
- **GYANDEEP** Hindi library inaugurated at **Sena Bhawan** (22 October)
- **IIT Kanpur** launched a defence drone hub and the **'Greater Than Us'** campaign to raise **US$1 billion**

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📝 At a Glance (Revision Box)	
29th Chief of Air Staff	Ashutosh Dixit (from 31 Oct 2026)
AIME-2026	India–ASEAN, Subic Bay
SIMBEX-2026	33rd edition, Visakhapatnam
MOUNTAIN GUARDIAN	India–UAE, Chaubatia
Varunastra	Heavy-weight torpedo; BDL Hyderabad
Defence exports FY26	Rs 38,424 crore (record)

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10. Science, Technology & Environment

ISRO completes Gaganyaan separation tests

Why in News?

ISRO completed a series of separation tests of the **Gaganyaan Crew Module and Service Module** at the **Vikram Sarabhai Space Centre (VSSC), Thiruvananthapuram**.

Key Facts

- **Gaganyaan-1 (G1)**, the first **uncrewed** mission, is targeted for 2026 and will carry **Vyommitra**, a half-humanoid robot
- Gaganyaan aims to send Indian astronauts to **low Earth orbit (about 400 km)**

> 📌 **Exam Point**
> - Humanoid on Gaganyaan G1 → Vyommitra.

WHO prequalifies CERVAVAC HPV vaccine

Why in News?

The **WHO** granted **prequalification** to **CERVAVAC**, India's first indigenous **quadrivalent HPV vaccine**, developed by the **Serum Institute of India** (Pune).

Key Facts

- Gender-neutral; for girls and boys aged **9–26 years**
- HPV vaccine protects against **cervical cancer**

> 📌 **Exam Point**
> - CERVAVAC → Serum Institute → WHO prequalification.

TAPAS-1: India's first commercial CubeSat thermal payload

Why in News?

Ahmedabad start-up **SatLeo Labs** developed **TAPAS-1** (Thermal Access Platform for Analytics & Solutions) - India's first dedicated **commercial CubeSat thermal payload**.

Key Facts

- Launched on **2 October 2026** aboard **SpaceX's Falcon 9** (Transporter-18 rideshare)
- Hyderabad's **TakeMe2Space** plans **India's first networked orbital data centre** mission on Falcon 9 in **2028**
- Hyderabad's **EON Space Labs** got a patent for the indigenous **MIRA** miniaturised space telescope
- **Skyroot Aerospace** signed with US firm **Reflect Orbital** for two launches on **Vikram** rockets; Skyroot was the first Indian private firm to launch a rocket (**Vikram-S, November 2022**)

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India's first offshore wind farm prototype off Thoothukudi

Why in News?

India plans its **first offshore wind farm prototype** off the coast of **Thoothukudi, Tamil Nadu**.

Key Facts

- Estimated cost **Rs 77 crore**; being tendered by **Indian Port Rail & Ropeway Corporation Ltd (IPRCL)**
- **Dhamra Port (Odisha)**, run by APSEZ, shifted its entire electricity use to **renewable power** from August 2026
- **Tata Power** tied up with Norway's **Ocean Sun** to bring membrane-based **floating solar** to India (Mulshi reservoir)

Kigali Amendment and energy-efficient cooling

Why in News?

India's need for **energy-efficient cooling** was highlighted.

Key Facts

- The **Kigali Amendment (2016)** to the **Montreal Protocol** aims to phase down **hydrofluorocarbons (HFCs)**
- The **Montreal Protocol (1987)** originally targeted CFCs and other **ozone-depleting substances**
- India ratified the Kigali Amendment in **2021**; **India Cooling Action Plan** launched in **2019**
- **UNEP Cool Coalition** launched the inaugural **Cool Leaders Award**

> 📌 **Exam Point**
> - Kigali Amendment → HFC phase-down (2016); Montreal Protocol → 1987.

Three new centipede species discovered

Why in News?

Researchers from the **Zoological Survey of India (ZSI)** and **Malabar Christian College, Kozhikode** discovered **three new centipede species** in **Kerala and Karnataka**.

Key Facts

- Species: **Rhysida quadrispinosa, Rhysida coorgensis, Rhysida neyyarensis**
- India now has **23** known Rhysida species
- ZSI was set up in **1916**; HQ **Kolkata**

NFR saves 255 elephants using AI

Why in News?

Northeast Frontier Railway saved **255 elephants** from train collisions (October 2024 – September 2026) using an **AI-based Intrusion Detection System (IDS)**, speed limits, patrolling and the **'Plan Bee'** system.

Key Facts

- 'Plan Bee' plays the buzzing sound of honey bees to keep elephants away from tracks
- NFR HQ: **Maligaon, Guwahati**

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IMD launches Cyclone Warning Decision Support System

Why in News?

The **India Meteorological Department (IMD)** under the **Ministry of Earth Sciences** launched a **Cyclone Warning and Marine Weather Decision Support System (DSS)** - a web-based GIS platform.

Key Facts

- IMD said the September 2026 Bay of Bengal system was a **deep depression**, not a cyclonic storm (crossed near Kalingapatnam)
- IMD was set up in **1875**

India's semiconductor and quantum push

Why in News?

Several projects strengthened chips and quantum tech.

Key Facts

- **Samsung Semiconductor India Research** and **IISc** launched a **Quantum Research Laboratory** in Bengaluru
- **National Quantum Mission** - launched **2023**; outlay **Rs 6,003.65 crore** (2023–24 to 2030–31)
- TDB support under the RDI Fund: **BigEndian Semiconductors** (Rs 130 crore, AI chip 'Project VeerAI'), **QNu Labs** (Rs 150 crore, quantum-secure tech), **ideaForge** (Rs 151 crore, YETI heavy-lift UAV), **Peptris** (Rs 86 crore, AI drug discovery), Multi Nano Sense (Rs 37.51 crore), Panacea Medical (indigenous **32-slice CT scanner**)
- **Dixon Technologies** and Taiwan's **Gemtek** formed a JV for telecom products

Digital India BHASHINI initiatives

Why in News?

BHASHINI (Digital India Bhashini Division under MeitY) had several initiatives in October 2026.

Key Facts

- **'CAG-BHASHINI Anuvaad'** - AI-powered audit document translation with the **CAG**, launched on the 74th Hindi Diwas
- **Sourashtra** Text-to-Speech models developed with IISc (Sourashtra: Indo-Aryan language spoken in Tamil Nadu)
- **BHASHINI Rajyam** workshop in **Imphal, Manipur**; real-time translation at **NCGG Mussoorie**
- **MeitY** selected **CoRover.ai** to build an agentic AI platform for government services (first on **DigiLocker**)

Health research: sickle cell tool and Ayurveda

Why in News?

Health science developments in October 2026:

Key Facts

- **CSIR-CCMB** (Hyderabad) developed an **India-specific severity score for Sickle Cell Disease**
- Vice-President **C.P. Radhakrishnan** inaugurated **KAUMARACON-2026** (Ayurvedic paediatrics) at the **All India Institute of Ayurveda**, New Delhi

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- **NCISM** Chairperson **Prof. Maneesha Kothekar** introduced **CCRAS SPARK 5.0** and **CCRAS Ayurshodh 2026**
- India approved rollover of a **Rs 3,000 crore (Rs 30 billion)** currency swap for the **Maldives**

Other science news

Why in News?

Other science and technology news:

Key Facts

- **University of Kerala** researchers identified **melanterite and gypsum** in Chile's **Atacama Desert** and **Tiruchirappalli** badlands as **Martian analogue** minerals
- **ARIES (Nainital), PRL (Ahmedabad), IIT Delhi and IIT Roorkee** studied the Sun's **microwave polar brightening** using NASA's SDO data
- **IIT Ropar** launched **'AVNI – Grow with Nature'**, an AI-based agricultural learning platform
- **8th India–UK Science and Innovation Council** co-chaired by **Dr. Jitendra Singh** and **Jonathan Reynolds**
- **INSPIRE-MANAK** - 62 young innovators honoured at the **12th NLEPC**; India's start-ups grew from 350–400 (2014) to about **2.5 lakh**
- **UGC** gave a Letter of Intent to the **University of Colorado Denver** for a campus in **Hyderabad**
- **IIT Ropar** is Punjab's premier technical institute (established 2008)

📝 At a Glance (Revision Box)

Gaganyaan G1	Uncrewed; carries Vyommitra
CERVAVAC	India's first indigenous qHPV vaccine (SII)
Kigali Amendment	2016; phases down HFCs
National Quantum Mission	2023; Rs 6,003.65 crore

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11. Appointments & Resignations

Important appointments of October 2026

Why in News?

Key appointments in October 2026:

Person	Appointment
Air Marshal Ashutosh Dixit	**29th Chief of Air Staff** (from 31 Oct 2026)
Bimal N. Patel	Judge, **International Tribunal for the Law of the Sea (ITLOS)**, Hamburg; 9-year term 2026–2035
Prakash Rajpurohit	**Deputy Election Commissioner** (till 8 April 2030), replacing Sanjay Kumar
Narendra Bhooshan	**Environment Secretary** (MoEFCC) from 1 Oct 2026; succeeded Leena Nandan
Sunil Kumar	Next **ONGC Chairman** (3 years from on/after 7 Dec 2026); first ONGC chief elevated from Executive Director rank
Anup Kumar Saha	MD & CEO, **Kotak Mahindra Bank** (3 years from 1 Jan 2027)
Sudhakar Malli	**Executive Director, RBI** (from 1 Oct 2026)
Dilip Asbe (MD & CEO, NPCI)	Independent director on **SWIFT**'s 15-member Supervisory Board
Justice Ranjana Prakash Desai	Chairperson, **Press Council of India** (13 journalist members nominated)
Dhirendra Ojha	Principal DG, **PIB** - re-employed for one year (till 30 Sept 2027)
Anup Bagchi	MD & CEO, **HDFC Bank** (from 27 Oct 2026)
Anca-Maria Verma	**IIMSAM** Ambassador-at-Large for India (2026–2031)
Edward Rukidi Kijanangoma	**13th King (Omukama) of Tooro Kingdom**, Uganda

Key Facts

- Three **High Court Chief Justices** were appointed as **Supreme Court judges**
- ITLOS was set up under **UNCLOS (1982)**; HQ **Hamburg, Germany**; it has **21 judges**

> 📌 **Exam Point**
> - ITLOS judge → Bimal N. Patel (2026–2035).

📝 At a Glance (Revision Box)	
ITLOS judge	Bimal N. Patel
Deputy Election Commissioner	Prakash Rajpurohit
ONGC Chairman (next)	Sunil Kumar

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12. Awards, Honours & Books

Mahesh Kakde wins Ramanujan Prize 2026

Why in News?

Professor **Mahesh Kakde** of the **Indian Institute of Science (IISc)** received the **Ramanujan Prize 2026** for contributions to **algebraic number theory**.

Key Facts

- Prize money: **US$10,000**
- Indian theoretical physicist **Ashoke Sen** became the **first Indian physicist** to receive the **Oskar Klein Medal** (Stockholm University); lecture "Gravity from Strings and Strings from Gravity" on 22 October 2026

Sunil Bharti Mittal conferred France's Legion of Honour

Why in News?

Sunil Bharti Mittal, Founder and Chairman of **Bharti Enterprises**, was conferred **Chevalier de la Légion d'honneur** (Knight of the Legion of Honour) by French President **Emmanuel Macron**.

Key Facts

- France's **highest civilian honour**; instituted by **Napoleon Bonaparte in 1802**

> 📌 **Exam Point**
> - Legion of Honour → France → instituted 1802 by Napoleon.

Usha Mangeshkar: first Bharat Ratna Dr Bhupen Hazarika National Award

Why in News?

The **Assam Government** selected playback singer **Usha Mangeshkar** as the **first recipient** of the **Bharat Ratna Dr Bhupen Hazarika National Award**.

Key Facts

- Carries **Rs 10 lakh** and a citation; to be given **once every three years**
- Bhupen Hazarika received the **Bharat Ratna in 2019** (posthumously)

Lionel Messi wins Princess of Asturias Award for Sports 2026

Why in News?

Argentine footballer **Lionel Messi** received the **2026 Princess of Asturias Award for Sports** from **Princess Leonor** in **Oviedo, Spain** on **23 October 2026**.

Ustad Bismillah Khan Yuva Puraskar

Why in News?

Union Culture Minister **Gajendra Singh Shekhawat** was to confer the **Ustad Bismillah Khan Yuva Puraskar 2024 and 2025** on **106 young artists**.

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Key Facts

- Instituted by **Sangeet Natak Akademi** in **2006**; for performing artists **up to 40 years**
- Carries **Rs 25,000**, a tamrapatra and an angavastram

Other awards

Why in News?

Other awards and honours of October 2026:

Key Facts

- **Israel's Presidential Award for Civilian Heroism** (President **Isaac Herzog**) to Indian pilot **Captain Smit Machchhar** (flydubai), who saved **174** passengers and crew
- **Young Wildlife Photographer of the Year 2026** - **Oscar Whitfield** (14, British, lives in Zimbabwe) for "Labour of Love" (dung beetle); by the **Natural History Museum, London**
- **28th Charles Correa Gold Medal 2026** - Kochi-based architecture student; theme "Equitability through Design"; instituted **1998**
- **Ameena Nazreen A S** won US$500 at the **Global Youth Institute 2026** (Des Moines, USA), held with the **Norman E. Borlaug International Dialogue**; theme "Before Hunger Wins"
- **SBI** - Global Finance's World's Best Consumer Bank (2nd year)

Books & Authors

Why in News?

New book released in October 2026:

Book	Author	Note
The Evolution of TV News in India: From Doordarshan to Digital Disruption – An Insider's Account	Harsaran Bir Kaur Pandey	Released by former Prasar Bharati Chairman **A. Surya Prakash**; publisher Om Books International

Key Facts

- **Doordarshan** started on **15 September 1959**

📝 At a Glance (Revision Box)

Ramanujan Prize 2026	Mahesh Kakde (IISc)
Oskar Klein Medal 2026	Ashoke Sen (first Indian)
Bhupen Hazarika National Award	Usha Mangeshkar (first)

13. Sports

Asian Para Games 2026: Indian gold medallists

Why in News?

Indian athletes won several medals at the **Asian Para Games 2026** in **Aichi-Nagoya, Japan**.

Athlete	Event	Medal
Mona Agarwal	Women's 10 m air rifle SH1 (Games record 250.0)	Gold
Avani Lekhara	Women's 10 m air rifle SH1 (249.6)	Silver
Sheetal Devi & Toman Kumar	Compound mixed team archery (beat Indonesia 151–148)	Gold
Nitesh Kumar	Para-badminton men's SL3 (beat Pramod Bhagat)	Gold
Naveen Sivakumar	Para-badminton men's SL4	Gold
Swati Chaudhary	Archery women's W1 - India's first medal in this category	Silver

Key Facts

- **Avani Lekhara** is a two-time Paralympic gold medallist

Harry Brook hits fastest ODI double century

Why in News?

England captain **Harry Brook** scored the **fastest ODI double century** in **114 balls** against **Sri Lanka** at **Rawalpindi** on **22 October 2026**, finishing on **202 off 116**.

Key Facts

- Broke **Shubman Gill**'s **117-ball** record
- First **England** batter to score an ODI double century

> 📌 **Exam Point**
> - Fastest ODI 200 → Harry Brook (114 balls).

Smriti Mandhana named captain of Indian women's cricket team

Why in News?

Smriti Mandhana was appointed **captain of the Indian women's cricket team**, succeeding **Harmanpreet Kaur** (Moga, Punjab), who stepped down across all formats.

Key Facts

- **UNICEF India** also appointed Mandhana as a **Celebrity Advocate** for adolescent girls on the **International Day of the Girl (11 October)**
- UNGA declared the Day in **2011**; first observed in **2012**
- **Sabbhineni Meghana** (Andhra Pradesh) retired from all cricket at 30

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ICC Players of the Month – September 2026

Why in News?

The ICC named its Players of the Month for **September 2026**.

Key Facts

- Women: **Shafali Verma** (India) - for Women's Asia Cup and Asian Games wins
- Men: **Shubman Gill** (India; from Fazilka, Punjab) - for the ODI series against West Indies

Chess: Bodhana Sivanandan and European Club Cup

Why in News?

Indian and Indian-origin players shone at European chess events.

Key Facts

- **Bodhana Sivanandan** (11, British of Indian origin) became the **youngest female International Master**, breaking **Judit Polgar**'s 38-year-old record
- European Chess Club Cup 2026 (**Montenegro**): **Nihal Sarin** and **Koneru Humpy** won individual gold; **Pentala Harikrishna** won silver
- Humpy's team **Cercle d'Echecs de Monte-Carlo** won the women's team title

Tennis: Djokovic and Alcaraz titles

Why in News?

Two ATP titles in Asia:

Key Facts

- **Novak Djokovic** won the **China Open 2026** (Beijing) - his first ATP title of 2026
- **Carlos Alcaraz** (Spain) won the **Japan Open** (Tokyo) for the second straight year, beating **Jiri Lehecka**

Table tennis: medal at Asian Championships

Why in News?

Yashaswini Ghorpade and Harmeet Desai won a **mixed doubles medal** at the **29th ITTF–ATTU Asian Table Tennis Championships 2026** in **Tashkent, Uzbekistan**.

Sports promotion: boxing partnership

Why in News?

The **National Sports Development Fund (NSDF)**, **Sports Authority of India (SAI)** and **Indian Oil Corporation** partnered to strengthen **boxing** in India.

Key Facts

- IOC to provide **Rs 40 crore** over two years for talent identification, coaching and sports science

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📝 At a Glance (Revision Box)	
Asian Para Games 2026	Aichi-Nagoya; Mona Agarwal gold (10 m air rifle SH1)
Fastest ODI 200	Harry Brook, 114 balls
Women's cricket captain	Smriti Mandhana

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14. Rankings & Indices

Reports and indices of October 2026

Why in News?

Important rankings and reports released in October 2026:

Report / Index	Published by	India / Key finding
Global Hunger Index 2026	Welthungerhilfe, IFHV, Helvetas	India **100th**/122 (score 24.1)
Global Financial Centres Index 40	Z/Yen Group & China Development Institute	**GIFT City 37th**
World Economic Outlook (Oct 2026)	IMF	India GDP **7%** (FY27)
Trade and Development Report 2026	UNCTAD	India **7.3%** growth (2026)
Emissions Gap Report 2026 ("The Point of Return")	UNEP	Cut emissions 18% by 2030
Living Planet Report 2026 ("The Science of Hope")	WWF & ZSL	Wildlife down **73%** (1970–2022)
AI readiness	World Bank	India in **top 10** emerging markets
WASH in Schools (JMP)	WHO & UNICEF	India: **50 million** children without school sanitation
Best of the World 2027	National Geographic	**Jaipur** included
Global Entrepreneurial Wealth Report 2026	HSBC	74% Indian entrepreneurs plan overseas residency
Mission Karmayogi implementation	Govt of India	**UP** 1st

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📝 At a Glance (Revision Box)

Living Planet Report	Wildlife down 73%
Emissions Gap Report	"The Point of Return"

15. Important Days

Important days of October 2026

Why in News?

Important national and international days observed in October 2026 with themes:

Date	Day	2026 Theme / Fact
1 Oct	International Day of Older Persons	"The Age of Longevity: Rethinking Systems for Longer Lives"
1 Oct	International Coffee Day	Declared by International Coffee Organization (est. 1963); first observed in Milan
1 Oct	World Vegetarian Day	"Protein that Powers and Protects"
1 Oct	NPS Diwas	PFRDA launched NPS Central
2 Oct	Gandhi Jayanti / International Day of Non-Violence	Gandhi born 2 Oct 1869, Porbandar
4–10 Oct	World Space Week	"Rocket Revolution"
5 Oct	World Teachers' Day	"Standing with teachers: 60 years of protecting the profession, advancing its status and shaping our futures"
5 Oct (1st Monday)	World Habitat Day	Adequate housing and sustainable human settlements
7 Oct	World Cotton Day	First observed 2019, hosted by WTO
8 Oct	Indian Air Force Day (94th)	"Indian Air Force – Infallible, Impervious and Precise"
9–15 Oct	National Postal Week	World Post Day (9 Oct) theme "World Post."
11 Oct	International Day of the Girl Child	UNGA 2011; first 2012
12 Oct	World Arthritis Day	"Achieve Your Dreams"
12 Oct	NHRC Foundation Day (33rd)	NHRC set up 12 Oct 1993
13 Oct	International Day for Disaster Risk Reduction	"Resilience Starts at Home"
14 Oct	World Standards Day	BIS launched Silver Refinery Scheme
15 Oct	Global Handwashing Day	"Be a Handwashing Hero"
16 Oct	World Food Day	Proposed at 20th FAO Conference (Nov 1979); first observed 1981
16 Oct	World Anaesthesia Day	"Along the Patient Pathway"; W.T.G. Morton's ether demonstration, 16 Oct 1846

17 Oct	International Day for the Eradication of Poverty	First observed 1987, Trocadéro, Paris
21 Oct	World Iodine Deficiency Day	Iodine needed for thyroid hormones T3 & T4
22 Oct	International Stuttering Awareness Day	"Shades of Stuttering – What's yours?"; began 1998
24 Oct	World Polio Day	"One day, one focus: ending polio for good"; honours Jonas Salk (IPV, 1955); India polio-free 2014
24 Oct	United Nations Day	UN Charter came into force 24 Oct 1945

📝 At a Glance (Revision Box)

World Teachers' Day	5 Oct
World Food Day	16 Oct
World Polio Day	24 Oct

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16. Obituaries

Notable deaths in October 2026

Why in News?

Prominent personalities who passed away:

Name	Known for	Age
Nana Patekar (Vishwanath Patekar)	Veteran actor & filmmaker, **Padma Shri**; films Salaam Bombay!, Krantiveer, Natsamrat; born 1 Jan 1951, Murud-Janjira (Maharashtra)	75
Vummidi Ethiraj	Jeweller associated with crafting the historic **Sengol** (1947), installed in the new Parliament on **28 May 2023**	99
P. Vasu ('Socio Vasu')	Freedom fighter, Kozhikode (Kerala); inspired by Gandhi's visit	103
Roshan Kumari	**Kathak** dancer, Padma Shri; born 24 Dec 1937, Ambala	-
Jeffrey Archer	Bestselling British novelist, former Conservative Party Deputy Chairman	86
Eva Marie Saint	Oscar-winning Hollywood actress (On the Waterfront)	102

📝 At a Glance (Revision Box)

Sengol jeweller	Vummidi Ethiraj (died at 99)

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17. Static GK: Wetlands & Ramsar Sites

Ramsar Convention - key facts

Why in News?

Static facts linked to India's 103 Ramsar Sites:

Fact	Detail
Convention signed	2 February 1971, Ramsar (Iran)
World Wetlands Day	2 February
India joined	1982
India's first Ramsar sites	Chilika Lake (Odisha), Keoladeo NP (Rajasthan) - 1981
India's total (Oct 2026)	103
Largest Ramsar site in India	Sundarbans (West Bengal)
Ramsar sites in Punjab	Harike, Kanjli, Ropar, Keshopur-Miani, Beas Conservation Reserve, Nangal
Montreux Record	List of Ramsar sites under threat (India: Keoladeo, Loktak)

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18. Static GK: Nobel Prize & Indian Laureates

Indian Nobel laureates

Why in News?

Indians and persons of Indian origin who won the Nobel Prize:

Year	Laureate	Field
1913	Rabindranath Tagore	Literature (first Asian)
1930	C.V. Raman	Physics (Raman Effect)
1968	Har Gobind Khorana	Medicine (born Raipur, Punjab - now in Pakistan)
1979	Mother Teresa	Peace
1983	S. Chandrasekhar	Physics
1998	Amartya Sen	Economics
2009	Venkatraman Ramakrishnan	Chemistry
2014	Kailash Satyarthi	Peace
2019	Abhijit Banerjee	Economics

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19. Static GK: RBI & Monetary Policy

RBI and its policy tools

Why in News?

Static facts linked to RBI's October 2026 policy:

Item	Detail
RBI established	1 April 1935 (RBI Act, 1934); nationalised 1949
HQ	Mumbai (first HQ: Kolkata)
Governor	Sanjay Malhotra (26th Governor)
Repo Rate	Rate at which RBI lends short-term funds to banks
Reverse Repo / SDF	SDF (2022) is the floor of the policy corridor
MSF	Emergency overnight borrowing by banks; ceiling of the corridor
CRR	Share of deposits kept with RBI as cash (Section 42, RBI Act)
SLR	Share kept in liquid assets by banks (Section 24, Banking Regulation Act)
MPC formed	2016 (Urjit Patel Committee recommended inflation targeting)

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20. Static GK: Defence Forces & Exercises

Indian armed forces - key facts

Why in News?

Chiefs and important facts in October 2026:

Item	Detail
Supreme Commander	President of India
Chief of Defence Staff	Gen N.S. Raja Subramani
Chief of Army Staff	Gen Dhiraj Seth
Chief of Air Staff (29th)	Air Marshal Ashutosh Dixit (from 31 Oct 2026)
Army Day	15 January
Air Force Day	8 October
Navy Day	4 December
Indian Coast Guard	Formed 1977 (Coast Guard Act, 1978); under MoD

Exercises and partner countries	
Exercise	**Partner**
SIMBEX	Singapore
KONKAN	United Kingdom
IBSAMAR	Brazil & South Africa
MOUNTAIN GUARDIAN	UAE
AIME	ASEAN
Yudh Abhyas	USA
VARUNA	France

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21. Static GK: International Organisations in News

Organisations and their headquarters

Why in News?

International organisations that featured in October 2026 news:

Organisation	HQ	Founded / Note
UNEP	Nairobi, Kenya	1972
UNCTAD	Geneva, Switzerland	1964
UNESCO	Paris, France	1945
WHO	Geneva, Switzerland	1948
UNICEF	New York, USA	1946
IMF	Washington, D.C.	1944 (Bretton Woods)
World Bank	Washington, D.C.	1944; President Ajay Banga
ITLOS	Hamburg, Germany	Under UNCLOS 1982
International Whaling Commission	Impington (Cambridge), UK	1946 convention
SWIFT	La Hulpe, Belgium	1973
BIMSTEC	Dhaka, Bangladesh	1997
WWF	Gland, Switzerland	1961
ICC (Criminal Court)	The Hague, Netherlands	Rome Statute 1998

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22. Static GK: Heritage & GI Tags

World Heritage and GI - key facts

Why in News?

Static facts linked to UNESCO and GI news:

Fact	Detail
World Heritage Convention	1972 (UNESCO)
India's World Heritage Sites	44 as of 2025 (latest: Maratha Military Landscapes)
India's Tentative List (Oct 2026)	81 sites
GI Act	Geographical Indications of Goods (Registration & Protection) Act, 1999; in force 2003
GI Registry	Chennai
First GI in India	Darjeeling Tea (2004–05)
GI tags of Punjab (examples)	Phulkari (2010), Basmati rice (shared with other States)

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