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MONTHLY CURRENT AFFAIRS DETAILED DIGEST

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1. NATIONAL & GOVERNANCE (DETAILED DIGEST)

Section 01

Cabinet Approves ₹10,000 Crore SME Growth Fund

GOVERNMENT SCHEMES

The **Union Cabinet** approved a **₹10,000 crore** commitment to establish the SME Growth Fund on 6 October 2026, providing growth-stage equity to viable small and medium enterprises and supporting future industrial champions.

- The fund was announced in the Union Budget 2026-27 and targets scalable firms across manufacturing, services and technology.
- It is designed to provide patient equity rather than a conventional short-term bank loan.
- Eligible enterprises are classified using investment and turnover criteria under the MSME framework.

Exam Pointer: Static GK: Ministry of MSME headquarters – New Delhi; MSMED Act – 2006; Union Budget 2026-27 announced the growth fund.

Cabinet Approves Integrated Transport and Logistics Authority

POLITY & GOVERNANCE

On **6 October 2026**, the **Union Cabinet** approved an Integrated Transport and Logistics Authority as a specialised institutional mechanism to improve multimodal infrastructure planning, appraisal, monitoring and impact assessment across transport sectors.

- ITLA will be established as a special-purpose vehicle to address fragmented planning among transport agencies.
- Its proposed responsibilities include research, data analytics, policy advice and appraisal of major transport projects.
- The authority complements the PM GatiShakti National Master Plan and National Logistics Policy.

Exam Pointer: Static GK: PM GatiShakti launched – 13 October 2021; National Logistics Policy launched – 17 September 2022.

PM GatiShakti National Master Plan Completes Five Years

GOVERNMENT SCHEMES

The **PM GatiShakti National Master Plan** completed five years on **13 October 2026**, highlighting the use of integrated geospatial information to coordinate road, railway, port, aviation and logistics infrastructure across ministries and states.

- The programme was launched on 13 October 2021 as a GIS-based infrastructure planning initiative.
- Official October 2026 information described approximately 1,800 integrated data layers and 58 central ministries or departments.
- The Network Planning Group had evaluated 421 projects worth roughly ₹20.23 lakh crore.

Exam Pointer: Static GK: PM GatiShakti is coordinated by DPIIT; its seven infrastructure engines include roads, railways, ports and airports.

NSAP Extended and Renamed Pradhan Mantri Samajik Sahayata Yojana

GOVERNMENT SCHEMES

The **Union Cabinet** extended the National Social Assistance Programme for five years on **14 October 2026**, renaming it Pradhan Mantri Samajik Sahayata Yojana and approving **₹53,428 crore** through FY2030-31.

- Old-age, widow and family-benefit assistance will continue, with associated sub-schemes receiving revised names.
- The disability-pension eligibility threshold changes from 80% to 40% benchmark disability.
- The revised disability benefit covers beneficiaries from birth rather than applying a minimum age of 18 years.

Exam Pointer: Static GK: Nodal department – Department of Rural Development; Rights of Persons with Disabilities Act – 2016.

Cabinet Approves Pradhan Mantri Viksit Gram Swaraj Yojana

GOVERNMENT SCHEMES

On **28 October 2026**, the **Union Cabinet** approved the Pradhan Mantri Viksit Gram Swaraj Yojana as a Centrally Sponsored Scheme for FY2026-27 to FY2030-31 with an outlay of **₹7,395.55 crore**.

- Central contribution is ₹4,869.48 crore; the states are to contribute ₹2,526.07 crore.
- The initiative covers more than 2.55 lakh Panchayats and traditional local bodies.
- About 32 lakh elected representatives, officials and other stakeholders are expected to benefit directly.

Exam Pointer: Static GK: Ministry of Panchayati Raj – New Delhi; 73rd Constitution Amendment Act – 1992; Eleventh Schedule – 29 subjects.

Cabinet Clears Container Manufacturing Promotion Scheme

GOVERNMENT SCHEMES

The **Union Cabinet** approved the **Container Manufacturing Promotion Scheme** on **28 October 2026** with a ₹10,000 crore outlay to expand domestic freight-container production, reduce import dependence and strengthen supply-chain resilience.

- The scheme is intended to operate through FY2039-40 with support for new and expanded manufacturing capacity.
- Annual container capacity is targeted to rise from around 70,000 to 7.5 lakh twenty-foot equivalent units.
- The scheme includes interest subvention for eligible term loans and production-linked assistance.

Exam Pointer: Static GK: TEU means twenty-foot equivalent unit; responsible ministry – Ministry of Ports, Shipping and Waterways.

Khelo India Sports Goods Manufacturing Scheme Approved GOVERNMENT SCHEMES

The **Union Cabinet** approved the **Khelo India Sports Goods Manufacturing Scheme** on 28 October 2026, providing **₹1,856.67 crore** for FY2026-27 to FY2033-34 to develop domestic manufacturing, certification and exports.

- The scheme will support dedicated sports-goods manufacturing zones and technology-oriented production.
- Measures include assistance for international federation certification, skilling and research.
- It aligns with Khelo Bharat Niti 2025, Make in India and Atmanirbhar Bharat.

Exam Pointer: Static GK: Sports is a State subject; Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports headquarters – New Delhi.

Central Government Dearness Allowance Raised to 63% GOVERNMENT SCHEMES

The **Union Cabinet** approved a **three-percentage-point** increase in Dearness Allowance and Dearness Relief on 28 October 2026, raising the rate from 60% to **63%** of basic pay or pension with effect from 1 July 2026.

- The annual combined expenditure implication is estimated at ₹10,016.10 crore.
- Approximately 48.54 lakh employees and 68.71 lakh pensioners are expected to benefit.
- The revision follows the accepted formula based on the Seventh Central Pay Commission recommendations.

Exam Pointer: Static GK: Dearness Allowance compensates employees for inflation; the Seventh Central Pay Commission recommendations took effect in 2016.

PRAGATI Reviews Infrastructure and Welfare Projects POLITY & GOVERNANCE

Prime Minister Narendra Modi chaired the **54th PRAGATI meeting** on 28 October 2026 to review delayed infrastructure and public-welfare projects across states and Union Territories, reinforcing digital monitoring and intergovernmental coordination for implementation.

- PRAGATI combines project monitoring with grievance and governance review at the central level.
- The report covered projects worth more than ₹16,000 crore across 31 states and Union Territories.
- The review mechanism requires follow-up coordination among Union ministries and state administrations.

Exam Pointer: Static GK: PRAGATI expands to Pro-Active Governance and Timely Implementation; platform was launched in March 2015.

Nationwide Financial Inclusion Saturation Campaign Begins GOVERNMENT SCHEMES

The **Department of Financial Services** launched a nationwide financial-inclusion saturation campaign from **21 October to 31 December 2026**, covering about **2.70 lakh** Gram Panchayats and urban local bodies through bank-led enrolment and awareness camps.

- Camps facilitate enrolment under PMJJBY, PMSBY and Atal Pension Yojana.
- Other services include opening PMJDY accounts, re-KYC, nomination and digital-fraud awareness.
- The campaign reaches rural and urban local bodies rather than being limited to district headquarters.

Exam Pointer: Static GK: PMJDY launched – August 2014; PMJJBY and PMSBY launched – May 2015; APY launched – May 2015.

UDAN Regional Air Connectivity Scheme Completes Ten Years GOVERNMENT SCHEMES

The **UDAN regional connectivity scheme** completed ten years on **21 October 2026**, marking a decade of efforts to make regional flying more accessible and bring unserved and underserved airports onto India's civil-aviation network.

- UDAN stands for Ude Desh ka Aam Nagrik and began on 21 October 2016.
- The scheme seeks affordable regional travel through route incentives and support for regional aviation.
- It is administered by the Ministry of Civil Aviation and implemented through the Airports Authority of India.

Exam Pointer: Static GK: Ministry of Civil Aviation headquarters – New Delhi; Airports Authority of India established – 1995.

ESIC Extends New Amnesty Scheme 2025 Deadline GOVERNMENT SCHEMES

The **Employees' State Insurance Corporation** extended the New Amnesty Scheme 2025 through **31 December 2026**, allowing eligible pending disputes under the Employees' State Insurance framework to be addressed on the scheme's existing terms.

- The earlier stated end date was 30 September 2026.
- The extension provides additional time for eligible employers and other parties to seek settlement.
- ESIC administers social insurance benefits including medical care and cash benefits.

Exam Pointer: Static GK: Employees' State Insurance Act – 1948; nodal ministry – Ministry of Labour and Employment.

Textiles Ministry Revises Round Four PLI Conditions GOVERNMENT SCHEMES

The **Ministry of Textiles** announced changes for the fourth application round of the **PLI Scheme for Textiles**, including a revised threshold and an application window beginning 1 November 2026 to encourage manufacturing investment.

- Round Four applications are scheduled for 1 November to 31 December 2026.
- The Part 2 turnover threshold was reported reduced to ₹100 crore from ₹200 crore.
- Covered segments include man-made fibre apparel, MMF fabrics and technical textiles.

Exam Pointer: Static GK: PLI expands to Production Linked Incentive; Ministry of Textiles headquarters – New Delhi.

Rural Attendance Monitoring Upgraded with NMMS 2.0 GOVERNMENT SCHEMES

The **Ministry of Rural Development** launched an upgraded **NMMS 2.0** mobile application in October 2026 to improve digital attendance recording and monitoring of workers under the government's rural employment framework.

- NMMS stands for National Mobile Monitoring System.
- Digital attendance records can assist verification of workers deployed at rural public works.
- The revised platform is intended to improve field reporting and transparency.

Exam Pointer: Static GK: MGNREGA was enacted in 2005; nodal ministry – Ministry of Rural Development.

PLFS Revision Plans Include Platform and Unpaid Work REPORTS & INDICES

The **National Statistical Office** proposed changes to the Periodic Labour Force Survey from January 2027 to improve information on platform work and unpaid domestic and care work, strengthening the evidence base for labour-market analysis.

- PLFS measures indicators including labour-force participation, worker-population ratio and unemployment.
- The proposal includes improved measurement of digital platform employment.
- The revision also aims to recognise unpaid domestic and caregiving activities more consistently.

Exam Pointer: Static GK: PLFS launched – 2017; NSO functions under the Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation.

ASUSE Survey to Track Financial Years and Gender REPORTS & INDICES

The **Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation** proposed modifications to the Annual Survey of Unincorporated Sector Enterprises for 2027-28, including aligning the reference period with the financial year and gathering additional gender-disaggregated information.

- ASUSE studies unincorporated non-agricultural enterprises, including many small businesses.
- Improved gender reporting is intended to support more detailed enterprise analysis.
- The proposed financial-year alignment changes survey timing rather than abolishing the survey.

Exam Pointer: Static GK: MoSPI headquarters – New Delhi; India's financial year runs from 1 April to 31 March.

Telecommunications Regulatory Sandbox Rules Notified POLITY & GOVERNANCE

The Government notified the **Telecommunications (Regulatory Sandbox) Rules, 2026** on **22 October 2026** to establish controlled environments for testing innovative telecom technologies, products and services under prescribed regulatory safeguards.

- A regulatory sandbox allows limited real-world trials under conditions fixed by the regulator.
- The rules relate to emerging telecom services and technology testing.
- Authorisation and oversight are intended to safeguard consumers and network security during pilots.

Exam Pointer: Static GK: Department of Telecommunications functions under the Ministry of Communications; Telecommunications Act – 2023.

E100 Ethanol Fuel Permitted for Compatible Vehicles GOVERNMENT SCHEMES

The **Ministry of Road Transport and Highways** amended vehicle rules in October 2026 to allow fuel containing up to **100% ethanol** in compatible flex-fuel vehicles, supporting cleaner-fuel options without treating E100 as suitable for ordinary petrol-only cars.

- E100 denotes fuel composed of 100% ethanol rather than an ethanol-petrol blend.
- Flex-fuel vehicles require appropriately designed fuel systems and engine calibration.
- The change concerns vehicle compatibility requirements under the Central Motor Vehicles Rules.

Exam Pointer: Static GK: Central Motor Vehicles Rules – 1989; ethanol blending is linked to India's biofuel policy.

UPSC Marks Centenary of Public Service Recruitment POLITY & GOVERNANCE

The **Union Public Service Commission** marked a century of its institutional journey in October 2026, highlighting the development of merit-based recruitment and examinations for central civil services in India.

- The first Public Service Commission in India was established on 1 October 1926.
- UPSC is a constitutional body tasked with examinations and recruitment advice.
- The Commission is headquartered at Dholpur House in New Delhi.

Exam Pointer: Static GK: UPSC constitutional provisions – Articles 315 to 323; first Public Service Commission formed – 1926.

UIDAI Announces Five Initiatives on Aadhaar Day GOVERNMENT SCHEMES

The **Unique Identification Authority of India** unveiled five initiatives at an Aadhaar Samvaad event in Kolkata on 29 September 2026, marking an Aadhaar anniversary and developments in digital identity services.

- The gathering was held in Kolkata, West Bengal.
- Aadhaar uses a 12-digit identification number issued to eligible residents.
- UIDAI is the statutory authority responsible for Aadhaar.

Exam Pointer: Static GK: Aadhaar Act – 2016; UIDAI headquarters – New Delhi; first Aadhaar number issued – 2010.

Air Ayodhya Receives Initial Approval Under UDAN POLITY & GOVERNANCE

Air Ayodhya, promoted by Megamax Aviation Private Limited, received an initial **No Objection Certificate** from the Ministry of Civil Aviation to pursue operations under the UDAN regional-connectivity framework, in the September–October reporting period.

- An NOC is an initial administrative step, not a complete airline operating licence.
- UDAN aims to support air services to underserved and unserved airports.
- The promoter was identified as Megamax Aviation Private Limited.

Exam Pointer: Static GK: UDAN launched – 21 October 2016; DGCA headquarters – New Delhi.

PRAHAAR Counter-Terrorism Framework and Extradition Portal Discussed POLITY & GOVERNANCE

The **Ministry of Home Affairs** presented the **PRAHAAR** counter-terrorism framework and an extradition information portal during the September–October source period, addressing inter-agency cooperation against terrorism and international fugitives.

- The report described a seven-pillar counter-terrorism framework.
- The Extradition Portal is intended to assist cooperation and information access.
- Extradition is the legal process for handing over a wanted person between jurisdictions.

Exam Pointer: Static GK: Ministry of Home Affairs headquarters – New Delhi; National Investigation Agency Act – 2008.

MoSPI Issues Trial Index of Services Production REPORTS & INDICES

The **Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation** released a trial sub-sectoral **Index of Services Production** for July 2026, adding experimental data on India's services economy to the official statistical landscape.

- The index uses 2024-25 as its stated base year.
- The trial covered 19 services sub-sectors in the reporting period.
- A trial indicator should not be confused with an established final official series.

Exam Pointer: Static GK: MoSPI headquarters – New Delhi; Index of Industrial Production base year – 2011-12.

Government Proposes CAFE-III Vehicle Efficiency Standards GOVERNMENT SCHEMES

The government notified or proposed stricter **CAFE** fuel-efficiency requirements for passenger vehicles in the September–October reporting period, seeking lower emissions and improved average fuel performance across manufacturer fleets.

- CAFE stands for Corporate Average Fuel Economy.
- The report cited a target improvement of about 16.7% under CAFE-III proposals.
- These standards apply to manufacturer fleet averages, not a guarantee for every individual car.

Exam Pointer: Static GK: Bureau of Energy Efficiency established – 2002; governing law – Energy Conservation Act, 2001.

Five Indian Sites Enter UNESCO Tentative Heritage List GOVERNMENT SCHEMES

Five heritage properties linked to India were added to the **UNESCO** World Heritage Tentative List in September 2026 and included during October 2026, marking potential candidates for future nomination.

- Four reported entries were in Madhya Pradesh.
- The fifth was a transnational India–South Africa proposal associated with Mahatma Gandhi.
- A Tentative List inclusion does not mean formal World Heritage inscription.

Exam Pointer: Static GK: UNESCO headquarters – Paris; World Heritage Convention adopted – 1972.

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2. BANKING & FINANCE (DETAILED DIGEST)

Section 02

Small Savings Interest Rates Retained for Q3 FY27 BANKING & FINANCE

The **Department of Economic Affairs** retained the interest rates on government small savings schemes for **1 October–31 December 2026**, maintaining continuity for savers across post-office deposits and other notified instruments.

- The notified quarter is Q3 of financial year 2026-27.
- Small savings products include PPF, National Savings Certificates, Sukanya Samriddhi and various post-office schemes.
- The central government periodically announces applicable rates, generally on a quarterly basis.

Exam Pointer: Static GK: PPF expands to Public Provident Fund; Department of Economic Affairs is under the Ministry of Finance.

Bank of India Introduces Programmable Digital Rupee Transfers BANKING & FINANCE

The **Bank of India** introduced user-level programmable central bank digital currency with automatic issuance, enabling eligible digital-rupee users to specify recurring transfers and usage conditions within India's retail CBDC ecosystem.

- The Indian digital rupee is issued by the Reserve Bank of India as central bank money.
- Programmability can support conditional transfers and repeat payments.
- Bank participation is part of the RBI-led retail CBDC framework.

Exam Pointer: Static GK: RBI headquarters – Mumbai; Digital Rupee retail pilot began – 1 December 2022.

SEBI Approves PRIM and Independent Fund Manager Framework BANKING & FINANCE

The **Securities and Exchange Board of India** approved a Portfolio Managers Route for Investing in Mutual Fund Units, called **PRIM**, along with a framework for independent fund managers to expand regulated asset-management arrangements.

- PRIM concerns portfolio-management exposure to mutual fund units.
- The proposed independent fund-manager category seeks to formalise a separate regulated investment-management segment.
- These measures fall within SEBI's oversight of the securities market and investment intermediaries.

Exam Pointer: Static GK: SEBI became a statutory regulator in 1992; its headquarters are in Mumbai.

PFRDA Launches Unified NPS Central Digital Platform BANKING & FINANCE

The **Pension Fund Regulatory and Development Authority** launched **NPS Central** in October 2026 as a unified digital interface for registration, investments and account services under the National Pension System.

- The platform seeks to simplify subscriber access to common NPS transactions.
- PFRDA regulates the pension system and pension intermediaries.
- The National Pension System is a market-linked, defined-contribution pension arrangement.

Exam Pointer: Static GK: PFRDA Act – 2013; PFRDA headquarters – New Delhi; NPS launched for new central recruits – 1 January 2004.

NABKISAN Lists WASH Social Bond on NSE BANKING & FINANCE

NABKISAN listed a social bond focused on water, sanitation and hygiene on the National Stock Exchange in October 2026, providing a capital-market funding channel for activities with social-development outcomes.

- The bond issue had a reported value of ₹180 crore and a coupon of 8.10%.
- WASH stands for Water, Sanitation and Hygiene.
- Social bonds direct proceeds towards specified eligible projects with social benefits.

Exam Pointer: Static GK: NSE headquarters – Mumbai; NABARD established – 12 July 1982; NABKISAN is a NABARD subsidiary.

Bank of Baroda Sponsors Pension Fund BANKING & FINANCE

Bank of Baroda became the second public-sector bank to sponsor a pension fund under the National Pension System ecosystem, extending public-sector participation in India's regulated pension-fund management industry.

- Pension funds invest retirement contributions subject to PFRDA regulations.
- The sponsoring institution and pension fund are distinct legal and operational roles.
- Subscribers select investment arrangements according to NPS rules and available options.

Exam Pointer: Static GK: Bank of Baroda founded – 1908; headquarters – Vadodara; pension regulator – PFRDA.

Finance Minister Chairs 30th FSDC Meeting BANKING & FINANCE

Union Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman chaired the **30th Financial Stability and Development Council meeting** in New Delhi on **23 October 2026**, reviewing financial-sector coordination, stability and regulatory priorities.

- The FSDC is chaired by the Union Finance Minister.
- The council facilitates coordination among financial-sector regulators and policymakers.
- It addresses issues concerning financial stability, inclusion and systemic risks.

Exam Pointer: Static GK: FSDC established – 2010; the RBI Governor and heads of major regulators are participants in its framework.

SEBI and Bank of England Sign Clearing Cooperation MoU BANKING & FINANCE

On **28 October 2026**, **SEBI** and the **Bank of England** signed a memorandum of understanding on regulatory cooperation and information exchange regarding clearing corporations and central counterparties.

- Central counterparties interpose themselves between counterparties to eligible trades.
- The agreement seeks to support supervisory communication on cross-border clearing risks.
- SEBI regulates recognised clearing corporations in India's securities markets.

Exam Pointer: Static GK: SEBI headquarters – Mumbai; Bank of England established – 1694; UK capital – London.

RBI Revises Basel III Leverage Ratio Directions BANKING & FINANCE

The **Reserve Bank of India** issued revised prudential directions in October 2026 addressing the bank leverage ratio under the **Basel III** framework, strengthening consistency in the measurement and disclosure of bank exposure.

- The leverage ratio compares Tier 1 capital with a defined exposure measure.
- Unlike risk-weighted capital ratios, it constrains leverage using a non-risk-based denominator.
- Basel III standards are developed by the Basel Committee on Banking Supervision.

Exam Pointer: Static GK: Basel Committee is hosted at the BIS in Basel, Switzerland; RBI was established in 1935.

BSE and MMTC-PAMP Partner on Electronic Gold Receipts BANKING & FINANCE

BSE Limited and **MMTC-PAMP** agreed to expand the Electronic Gold Receipts market in October 2026, seeking to connect physical gold holdings with regulated exchange-traded electronic receipts.

- Electronic Gold Receipts represent eligible physical gold stored through an approved mechanism.
- The partnership concerns the gold-to-receipt conversion ecosystem.
- SEBI provides the regulatory framework for Electronic Gold Receipts in India.

Exam Pointer: Static GK: BSE established – 1875; headquarters – Mumbai; EGR means Electronic Gold Receipt.

NCDEX Introduces NDEX and FINNDEX Indices BANKING & FINANCE

The **National Commodity and Derivatives Exchange** introduced the NDEX and FINNDEX equity benchmarks on **22 October 2026**, signalling a move towards equity-index products alongside its established commodity-market activities.

- The new benchmarks were named NDEX and FINNDEX.
- Indices are statistical measures reflecting the performance of selected securities.
- Trading products derived from indices operate under the relevant securities regulation.

Exam Pointer: Static GK: NCDEX incorporated – 2003; securities regulator – SEBI; commodity derivatives became subject to SEBI regulation in 2015.

India Post and UTI AMC Expand Doorstep KYC BANKING & FINANCE

India Post and **UTI Asset Management Company** agreed in late October 2026 to expand doorstep Know Your Customer verification for mutual fund investors, particularly in remote and underserved areas.

- India Post functions under the Department of Posts in the Ministry of Communications.
- KYC is used to verify customers' identity and eligibility for regulated financial services.
- The initiative relies on the postal network to improve service accessibility.

Exam Pointer: Static GK: India Post headquarters – New Delhi; mutual funds in India are regulated by SEBI.

YES BANK Launches YES vibez Savings Account BANKING & FINANCE

YES BANK launched the YES vibez savings product in October 2026 for younger account holders, combining ordinary banking services with app-based features, rewards and lifestyle-linked benefits.

- The product is aimed at customers in the approximately 18-to-30 age group.
- Savings accounts remain subject to bank KYC and account-opening regulations.
- Product rewards and offers are distinct from regulated bank-deposit protection.

Exam Pointer: Static GK: YES BANK founded – 2004; headquarters – Mumbai; deposit insurer – DICGC.

SBI Life Introduces Waiver of Premium Rider BANKING & FINANCE

SBI Life Insurance launched a waiver-of-premium rider in October 2026 to support continuation of eligible insurance cover when specified illness or disability events prevent policyholders from making regular premium payments.

- A rider is an additional benefit attached to a base insurance policy.
- The precise triggers depend on the policy wording and covered conditions.
- Life insurers in India operate under IRDAI regulation.

Exam Pointer: Static GK: IRDAI headquarters – Hyderabad; IRDA Act – 1999.

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3. ECONOMY & BUSINESS (DETAILED DIGEST)

Section 03

World Bank Raises India FY27 Growth Forecast to 7.1% ECONOMY

The **World Bank** projected India's real GDP growth at **7.1%** for FY2026-27 in its **India Development Update** released on 6 October 2026, citing domestic demand and exports amid global uncertainties.

- The October report emphasised external risks including oil prices, climate shocks and market volatility.
- It examined India's opportunities in artificial intelligence and digital infrastructure.
- The figure is a forecast, not a final national-accounts growth estimate.

Exam Pointer: Static GK: World Bank headquarters – Washington, D.C.; IBRD established – 1944.

IMF Projects India Growth at 7% in 2026 ECONOMY

The **International Monetary Fund** projected **7.0%** growth for India in its October 2026 Asia-Pacific outlook, citing continued strength in private consumption and services despite global trade and energy-price risks.

- The IMF forecast relates to calendar-year 2026 in the cited regional outlook.
- Economic projections are revised as new national and global data become available.
- The forecast should not be treated as a reported actual growth rate.

Exam Pointer: Static GK: IMF headquarters – Washington, D.C.; founded – 1944; flagship report – World Economic Outlook.

IDBI Bank Strategic Restructuring Transaction Approved ECONOMY

The government approved strategic restructuring of **IDBI Bank** in October 2026, including sale of a **60.72%** stake to a Fairfax-linked Canadian company for consideration of approximately **₹52,878.08 crore**.

- The strategic buyer is 10955230 Canada Inc., whose parent is Fairfax Financial Holdings.
- The divested stake consists of 30.48% government equity and 30.24% LIC equity.
- IDBI Bank remains a scheduled commercial bank under RBI regulation.

Exam Pointer: Static GK: Department of Investment and Public Asset Management is under the Ministry of Finance; RBI founded – 1935.

WTO Raises Global Merchandise Trade Forecast ECONOMY

The **World Trade Organization** revised its forecast for global merchandise trade growth in 2026 to **3.9%** in an October update, reflecting a stronger near-term outlook than the earlier 1.9% estimate.

- Merchandise trade refers to trade in physical goods rather than services.
- The forecast is global, not a measurement of India's bilateral trade.
- WTO assessments are updated as economic and commercial conditions change.

Exam Pointer: Static GK: WTO established – 1 January 1995; headquarters – Geneva, Switzerland.

India Net Direct Tax Collections Reach ₹13.38 Lakh Crore ECONOMY

India's net direct-tax collections reached approximately **₹13.38 lakh crore** by mid-October 2026, reflecting **13.2%** year-on-year growth in the report's reported provisional revenue figures. The figures should be read in the context of the stated reporting period.

- The provisional collection reference date was 14 October 2026.
- Net collections differ from gross collections because refunds are deducted.
- Direct taxes principally include income tax and corporation tax.

Exam Pointer: Static GK: CBDT is under the Department of Revenue; central direct taxes are administered under the Ministry of Finance.

India Eight Core Industries Grow 7.9% in September ECONOMY

The **Ministry of Commerce and Industry** reported an increase of **7.9%** in the Index of Eight Core Industries for September 2026, providing an early indicator of growth across major industrial infrastructure sectors.

- The index includes coal, crude oil, natural gas, refinery products, fertilisers, steel, cement and electricity.
- The report compared the September estimate with revised August growth of 5.9%.
- Core-sector figures can be revised after initial release.

Exam Pointer: Static GK: Eight Core Industries carry a combined weight of 40.27% in the Index of Industrial Production.

India FY2025-26 FDI Inflows Reported at USD 94.53 Billion ECONOMY

The **Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade** reported total foreign direct investment inflows of **USD 94.53 billion** for FY2025-26 in an October 2026 update on overseas investment.

- FDI data include components such as equity inflows, reinvested earnings and other capital.
- The financial year covered is 1 April 2025 to 31 March 2026.
- FDI measures lasting investment interests, unlike short-term portfolio flows.

Exam Pointer: Static GK: DPIIT is under the Ministry of Commerce and Industry; FDI policy is overseen by the Union government.

Rabi MSPs Increased for 2027-28 Marketing Season ECONOMY

The **Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs** approved higher Minimum Support Prices for Rabi crops for the 2027-28 marketing season on **30 September 2026**, a decision retained here because it appeared in the October coverage.

- Wheat MSP was set at ₹2,610 per quintal and lentil (masur) at ₹7,390 per quintal.
- Safflower recorded the largest absolute rise at ₹675 per quintal.
- The stated return over estimated production cost for wheat was 106%.

Exam Pointer: Static GK: CCEA is chaired by the Prime Minister; Commission for Agricultural Costs and Prices advises on MSPs.

India Post Reports 24% Revenue Growth in First Half ECONOMY

India Post reported revenue of approximately **₹8,212.7 crore** in April–September 2026, about **24%** higher than the corresponding period of the preceding year, reflecting growth in postal and related services.

- The reporting period is the first six months of FY2026-27.
- Postal services include mail, parcels, logistics and selected financial services.
- The Department of Posts functions under the Ministry of Communications.

Exam Pointer: Static GK: India Post is part of the Ministry of Communications; PIN stands for Postal Index Number.

CAIT and Nasscom Launch Digital Skills Partnership ECONOMY

The **Confederation of All India Traders** and **Nasscom** signed an October 2026 agreement to provide traders and MSMEs with practical training in artificial intelligence, cybersecurity and digital marketing.

- The initiative is called Tech Connect for Traders and MSMEs.
- The programme focuses on technology skills rather than a direct cash subsidy.
- Cybersecurity is included to help enterprises manage online operating risks.

Exam Pointer: Static GK: MSME means Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises; Nasscom represents the Indian technology industry.

NSO Releases National Household Travel Survey ECONOMY

The **National Statistical Office** released findings from India's first National Household Travel Survey in October 2026 to build evidence about commuting patterns, travel behaviour and household transport expenditure for public planning.

- The survey captures transport-related household behaviour and expenditure.
- The October report reported average monthly workplace commuting expenditure of ₹785.
- Transport statistics can help evaluate access to employment and public services.

Exam Pointer: Static GK: NSO functions under MoSPI; sample surveys are used for official statistical estimates.

Adani Power and Bhutan DGPC Sign Hydropower Pact ECONOMY

Adani Power and Bhutan's **Druk Green Power Corporation** agreed to cooperate on a proposed 770 MW hydropower project in October 2026, illustrating cross-border participation in the development of renewable electricity infrastructure.

- The project capacity cited in the report is 770 MW.
- Druk Green Power Corporation is a state-owned Bhutanese power company.
- Hydropower is generated by converting the potential energy of moving water into electricity.

Exam Pointer: Static GK: Bhutan capital – Thimphu; currency – ngultrum; India and Bhutan cooperate extensively on hydropower.

JNPA Secures Blue Financing for Shore Power ECONOMY

Jawaharlal Nehru Port Authority reached a financing arrangement with the International Finance Corporation for port shore-power infrastructure, using a sustainability-linked blue-financing approach for maritime infrastructure.

- Shore power allows ships to use land-based electricity while berthed.
- This can reduce dependence on onboard diesel generators at port.
- Blue finance supports eligible projects associated with sustainable ocean and water systems.

Exam Pointer: Static GK: JNPA is at Nhava Sheva, Maharashtra; IFC belongs to the World Bank Group.

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4. SUMMITS, MOUS & INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS (DETAILED DIGEST)

Section 04

India Hosts First BIMSTEC Home Ministers Meeting SUMMITS & MOUS

India hosted the inaugural **BIMSTEC Home Ministers' Meeting** in **New Delhi** on **13 October 2026**, focusing on cooperation against transnational crime, terrorism and other regional security challenges among Bay of Bengal countries.

- The meeting was chaired by Union Home Minister Amit Shah.
- The participating countries discussed shared security challenges across the Bay of Bengal region.
- The meeting adopted a Delhi Declaration to guide further regional security coordination.

Exam Pointer: Static GK: BIMSTEC Secretariat – Dhaka; BIMSTEC founded – 6 June 1997; membership – seven countries.

India and Poland Review Strategic Partnership INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS

Polish Prime Minister **Donald Tusk** visited India from **21 to 23 October 2026** for talks on strengthening the India-Poland strategic partnership and expanding cooperation in technology, investment, economic ties and regional affairs.

- India and Poland upgraded relations to a strategic partnership in 2024.
- Both countries are participants in wider European and Indo-Pacific economic engagement.
- Poland is a member of the European Union and NATO.

Exam Pointer: Static GK: Poland capital – Warsaw; currency – Polish złoty; India-Poland diplomatic relations established – 1954.

Liechtenstein Hereditary Prince Alois Visits India INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS

Hereditary Prince Alois of Liechtenstein visited India in late October 2026 and met Prime Minister Narendra Modi to discuss investment, innovation and commercial cooperation between India and the European microstate.

- The visit took place from 25 to 28 October 2026 according to the report.
- Liechtenstein is a member of the European Free Trade Association.
- Topics included trade, technology, science and investment.

Exam Pointer: Static GK: Liechtenstein capital – Vaduz; currency – Swiss franc; EFTA has four member countries.

India and Ghana Exchange Bilateral MoUs INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS

India and **Ghana** exchanged two memoranda of understanding during bilateral ministerial engagement in October 2026, seeking to strengthen cooperation and institutional links between the countries.

- India's external engagement was led by External Affairs Minister S. Jaishankar.
- MoUs record intended cooperation and are distinct from automatically binding treaties.
- Ghana is a member of the African Union and the Economic Community of West African States.

Exam Pointer: Static GK: Ghana capital – Accra; currency – Ghanaian cedi; African Union headquarters – Addis Ababa.

India and Japan Advance Joint Crediting Mechanism SUMMITS & MOUS

India and Japan advanced implementation of the **Joint Crediting Mechanism** in October 2026 to cooperate on greenhouse-gas emissions reductions through eligible projects and accounting approaches linked to international climate commitments.

- The arrangement concerns mitigation projects and carbon accounting.
- Article 6 of the Paris Agreement addresses international cooperation in mitigation outcomes.
- Transparent accounting is required to minimise double-counting of emission reductions.

Exam Pointer: Static GK: Paris Agreement adopted – 2015; UNFCCC secretariat – Bonn; Japan capital – Tokyo.

India Opens Resident Diplomatic Mission in Costa Rica INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS

The **Ministry of External Affairs** operationalised India's resident mission in **San José**, Costa Rica, effective 10 October 2026, expanding India's direct diplomatic representation and engagement in Central America.

- A resident embassy enables in-country diplomatic and consular outreach.
- Costa Rica is a Central American country between Nicaragua and Panama.
- The initiative is part of India's wider engagement with Latin America and the Caribbean.

Exam Pointer: Static GK: Costa Rica capital – San José; currency – Costa Rican colón; India's foreign ministry – MEA.

India and New Zealand Implement Free Trade Agreement INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS

The **India–New Zealand Free Trade Agreement** was reported to have entered into force on **20 October 2026**, with cooperation on electronic exchange of origin information intended to facilitate trade documentation and market access.

- Origin documentation establishes whether traded goods qualify for preferential treatment.
- The two countries announced a memorandum of cooperation on digital origin data.
- Tariff preferences depend on the agreement's applicable rules of origin.

Exam Pointer: Static GK: New Zealand capital – Wellington; currency – New Zealand dollar; WTO headquarters – Geneva.

India and Mexico Initiate Preferential Trade Negotiations INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS

India and Mexico signed terms of reference to begin negotiations on a proposed **Preferential Trade Agreement** in October 2026, establishing a negotiating framework for closer bilateral trade and investment relations.

- A PTA may offer tariff preferences for selected products rather than eliminating all duties.
- The Terms of Reference set the scope and procedures for negotiations.
- Any final trade agreement would require further negotiation and domestic procedures.

Exam Pointer: Static GK: Mexico capital – Mexico City; currency – Mexican peso; a PTA differs from a comprehensive FTA.

India Participates in 153rd IPU Assembly SUMMITS & MOUS

A parliamentary delegation led by Rajya Sabha Deputy Chairman **Harivansh** participated in the **153rd Inter-Parliamentary Union Assembly** at Arusha, Tanzania, during the period reported in the October daily materials.

- The Inter-Parliamentary Union promotes cooperation among national parliaments.
- The delegation represented India's parliamentary engagement in multilateral discussions.
- Arusha is a city in northern Tanzania.

Exam Pointer: Static GK: IPU established – 1889; headquarters – Geneva; Tanzania capital – Dodoma.

India Participates in Biodiversity COP17 in Armenia INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS

India delivered its national statement at **CBD COP17** in **Yerevan, Armenia**, in October 2026, emphasising biodiversity protection and international cooperation under the Convention on Biological Diversity.

- COP stands for Conference of the Parties.
- The CBD addresses conservation, sustainable use and fair benefit-sharing from genetic resources.
- The Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework was adopted at COP15 in 2022.

Exam Pointer: Static GK: Convention on Biological Diversity entered into force – 1993; Armenia capital – Yerevan.

India and Sri Lanka Launch SAMHiTA Manuscript Project SUMMITS & MOUS

India and Sri Lanka launched the **SAMHiTA** palm-leaf manuscript digitisation initiative at **Gangaramaya Temple, Colombo**, in October 2026 to support preservation and study of historic written cultural material.

- The initial project scope cited in the report is 100 ancient manuscripts.
- Digitisation creates reproducible records for conservation and research.
- Gangaramaya Temple is located in Colombo, Sri Lanka.

Exam Pointer: Static GK: Sri Lanka administrative capital – Sri Jayawardenepura Kotte; currency – Sri Lankan rupee.

India and France Cooperate on Manuscript Preservation SUMMITS & MOUS

The **Ministry of Culture** and France's **Bibliothèque nationale de France** entered an agreement under the Gyan Bharatam Mission in October 2026 to improve documentation, digitisation and study of manuscripts.

- The French institution is the country's national library.
- The initiative aims to safeguard historic manuscripts and improve research access.
- Cross-border collaboration can provide expertise on conservation techniques and archives.

Exam Pointer: Static GK: France capital – Paris; currency – euro; Ministry of Culture headquarters – New Delhi.

India and Canada Sign Commercial Cooperation Agreements INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS

Indian and Canadian businesses signed a group of commercial agreements and memoranda of understanding during October 2026 engagement, seeking to expand investment, industrial links and bilateral economic cooperation.

- The cooperation package consisted of 34 commercial agreements and memoranda of understanding.
- Their stated combined value was approximately CAD 300 million.
- Commercial agreements differ from government-to-government treaties.

Exam Pointer: Static GK: Canada capital – Ottawa; currency – Canadian dollar; India and Canada belong to the Commonwealth.

India Participates in G20 Trade Ministers Meeting INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS

India participated in the **G20 Trade Ministers' Meeting** held in Milwaukee, United States, at the September–October transition, discussing international commercial cooperation and the policy outlook for global trade.

- The report gives the meeting period as 30 September–1 October 2026.
- The United States was the host country in the report.
- The G20 is a forum of leading economies, the European Union and African Union.

Exam Pointer: Static GK: G20 founded – 1999; India hosted G20 leaders' summit – New Delhi, 2023.

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5. DEFENCE & SECURITY (DETAILED DIGEST)

Section 05

Cabinet Clears Eight Next-Generation Navy Corvettes DEFENCE & SECURITY

The **Cabinet Committee on Security** approved construction of **eight Next-Generation Corvettes** for the Indian Navy in October 2026, strengthening plans for indigenous maritime combat capabilities through two public-sector shipyards.

- Garden Reach Shipbuilders & Engineers is to build five corvettes; Goa Shipyard will build three.
- The new vessels are designed for anti-surface, anti-air and anti-submarine operations.
- Final construction contracts were signed on 2 November 2026; that later step is not conflated with October approval.

Exam Pointer: Static GK: GRSE headquarters – Kolkata; Goa Shipyard headquarters – Vasco da Gama, Goa; Indian Navy headquarters – New Delhi.

DAC Approves Defence Purchases Worth ₹2.12 Lakh Crore DEFENCE & SECURITY

The **Defence Acquisition Council** approved Acceptance of Necessity for capital-acquisition proposals of approximately **₹2.12 lakh crore** in October 2026 to advance equipment modernisation across India's armed forces.

- Acceptance of Necessity is an early formal step in India's defence procurement process.
- The DAC is chaired by the Defence Minister.
- Approval of AoN is not itself a signed procurement contract.

Exam Pointer: Static GK: Ministry of Defence headquarters – New Delhi; Defence Acquisition Procedure – 2020.

India and Indonesia Begin Garuda Shakti 2026 DEFENCE & SECURITY

The **11th India–Indonesia Garuda Shakti** special-forces exercise commenced at **Banyuwangi, Indonesia** on **27 October 2026**, focusing on interoperability and jungle-oriented special-operations training. The development is part of the ongoing modernisation and operational cooperation of India's defence services.

- The exercise is scheduled from 27 October to 6 November 2026.
- India's contingent includes Parachute Regiment special-forces personnel.
- Training covers combat marksmanship, air assault, mountaineering and tactical coordination.

Exam Pointer: Static GK: Indonesia capital – Jakarta; currency – Indonesian rupiah; GARUDA SHAKTI is a joint Army special-forces exercise.

AUSTRAHIND 2026 Exercise Begins in Kerala DEFENCE & SECURITY

The **fifth AUSTRAHIND exercise** brought Indian and Australian Army personnel together at **Thiruvananthapuram** in October 2026 to improve tactical coordination, joint operational skills and mutual understanding between the two armies.

- AUSTRAHIND is a bilateral land-forces training exercise.
- The reported venue is the Foreign Training Node in Kerala.
- It should not be confused with AUSINDEX, the India-Australia naval exercise.

Exam Pointer: Static GK: Australia capital – Canberra; currency – Australian dollar; Indian Army headquarters – New Delhi.

India and UK Conduct KONKAN-26 Naval Exercise DEFENCE & SECURITY

The Indian Navy and the United Kingdom's Royal Navy conducted **KONKAN-26** near **Plymouth** in October 2026 to strengthen maritime cooperation and interoperability through bilateral naval training and operational exchange.

- KONKAN is the bilateral naval exercise between India and the United Kingdom.
- The Indian ship identified in the report was INS Trishul.
- Plymouth is an important Royal Navy port on England's south coast.

Exam Pointer: Static GK: United Kingdom capital – London; Royal Navy headquarters – Portsmouth.

India and Russia Conduct INDRA-2026 Maritime Exercise DEFENCE & SECURITY

The **India–Russia naval exercise INDRA-2026** took place near **Vladivostok, Russia**, with INS Sahyadri participating in training intended to strengthen maritime coordination between the two countries.

- INS Sahyadri is an Indian Navy stealth frigate.
- INDRA is the established series of India-Russia defence exercises.
- Vladivostok is a major Russian Pacific Fleet port.

Exam Pointer: Static GK: Russia capital – Moscow; currency – Russian rouble; Indian Navy Western Naval Command headquarters – Mumbai.

Coast Guard Conducts SAREX-2026 off Odisha DEFENCE & SECURITY

The **Indian Coast Guard** conducted the **12th National Maritime Search and Rescue Exercise, SAREX-2026**, off Odisha in October to improve coordination for rescue operations, disaster response and safety at sea.

- SAREX tests maritime search-and-rescue communication and procedures.
- The exercise involves coordination among maritime and supporting agencies.
- India's Coast Guard has a statutory maritime safety and security role.

Exam Pointer: Static GK: Indian Coast Guard established – 1 February 1977; headquarters – New Delhi; governing Act – 1978.

Army Unveils Revised Land Warfare Doctrine DEFENCE & SECURITY

Defence Minister Rajnath Singh released the **Indian Army's revised Land Warfare Doctrine** during the Army Commanders' Conference in New Delhi in October 2026, outlining guidance for adapting operations to modern and emerging battlefield challenges.

- A military doctrine provides principles and guidance, not a schedule of individual operations.
- The review addressed the evolution of land combat and military technology.
- The announcement was associated with an Army Commanders' Conference.

Exam Pointer: Static GK: Indian Army headquarters – New Delhi; Army Day – 15 January; Chief of Army Staff is the professional head of the service.

Military Signs Five-Year AI Cooperation MoU with Sarvam DEFENCE & SECURITY

Headquarters Integrated Defence Staff signed a **five-year AI cooperation MoU** with Indian technology company **Sarvam** on 27 October 2026 to explore indigenous artificial-intelligence applications for the armed forces.

- The agreement addresses defence-related AI development and capability building.
- HQ IDS facilitates joint planning and integration across the armed services.
- An MoU establishes cooperation; it is not proof that all envisaged products are already operational.

Exam Pointer: Static GK: Headquarters Integrated Defence Staff established – 2001; Chief of Defence Staff post created – 2019.

Defence Ministry Signs BrahMos Contract for ₹661.50 Crore DEFENCE & SECURITY

The **Ministry of Defence** signed a contract of approximately **₹661.50 crore** for BrahMos-related requirements in October 2026, supporting procurement and domestic defence-industrial activity. The development is part of the ongoing modernisation and operational cooperation of India's defence services.

- BrahMos is a supersonic cruise missile developed through India-Russia cooperation.
- BrahMos Aerospace is the joint-venture company behind the weapon system.
- Cruise missiles use powered flight over much of their trajectory.

Exam Pointer: Static GK: BrahMos name derives from Brahmaputra and Moskva; DRDO headquarters – New Delhi.

India-UAE Mountain Guardian Exercise Held in Uttarakhand DEFENCE & SECURITY

Indian and United Arab Emirates personnel participated in **Mountain Guardian 2026** training at **Chaubatia, Uttarakhand**, during October, enhancing interoperability and familiarisation with mountain-warfare procedures. The development is part of the ongoing modernisation and operational cooperation of India's defence services.

- The report placed the exercise between 5 and 18 October 2026.
- The programme included field training and coordination between participating contingents.
- Chaubatia is a training location in Uttarakhand's hill region.

Exam Pointer: Static GK: UAE capital – Abu Dhabi; currency – UAE dirham; Chaubatia is near Ranikhet.

Defence Ministry Contracts BEL for Lightweight Radars DEFENCE & SECURITY

The **Ministry of Defence** signed a reported **₹770 crore** contract with Bharat Electronics Limited in October 2026 for improved low-level lightweight radars, supporting the Indian Army's ground-based air-surveillance capability.

- Low-level radars are designed to detect targets flying near the ground.
- BEL is a defence public-sector company in the electronics sector.
- The deal was intended to strengthen domestic radar procurement.

Exam Pointer: Static GK: Bharat Electronics Limited headquarters – Bengaluru; BEL founded – 1954.

DRDO Tests High-Altitude Pseudo-Satellite Platform DEFENCE & SECURITY

The **Defence Research and Development Organisation** reported a high-altitude platform trial reaching approximately **21 km** during October 2026, advancing long-endurance aerial systems for surveillance and other possible applications.

- The report describes a sustained altitude of around 20 km.
- High-altitude pseudo-satellites operate in the atmosphere rather than Earth orbit.
- Stratospheric operation offers a different operating environment from conventional aircraft.

Exam Pointer: Static GK: DRDO formed – 1958; headquarters – New Delhi; stratosphere lies above the troposphere.

DRDO Conducts High-Altitude Parachute Trial in Ladakh DEFENCE & SECURITY

The **DRDO** conducted a high-altitude parachute trial near **Nyoma, Ladakh** during October 2026, evaluating equipment designed for deploying personnel in demanding high-elevation environments. The development is part of the ongoing modernisation and operational cooperation of India's defence services.

- The parachute system was identified as an Advanced High-Altitude Parachute.
- The reported trial involved a live static-line jump.
- High-altitude deployment requires consideration of air density, temperature and oxygen availability.

Exam Pointer: Static GK: Nyoma is in eastern Ladakh; DRDO's Aerial Delivery Research and Development Establishment is based in Agra.

India and South Korea Hold Defence Industry Joint Meeting DEFENCE & SECURITY

India and the Republic of Korea held their **10th Joint Committee Meeting** on Defence Industries and Logistics Cooperation in New Delhi on 29 September 2026, reviewing defence manufacturing and logistics cooperation.

- The meeting is part of established India-Korea defence-industrial dialogue.
- Its topics included supply chains, collaborative manufacturing and partnership opportunities.
- The meeting took place on 29 September 2026.

Exam Pointer: Static GK: Republic of Korea capital – Seoul; currency – South Korean won; Indian Defence Ministry headquarters – New Delhi.

DRDO and CSIR Collaborate on Lightweight Bulletproof Glass DEFENCE & SECURITY

The **DRDO** and CSIR-Central Glass and Ceramic Research Institute planned an indigenous lightweight bulletproof-glass development project during the transition into October 2026, aimed at improving armoured-vehicle protection.

- The report reported a research project worth ₹50 crore over four years.
- Lightweight transparent armour aims to balance protection with vehicle mass.
- CSIR-CGCRI specialises in glass and ceramic research.

Exam Pointer: Static GK: CSIR founded – 1942; CSIR-CGCRI headquarters – Kolkata; DRDO founded – 1958.

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6. SCIENCE, TECH & SPACE (DETAILED DIGEST)

Section 06

India Crosses Thousand-Kilometre Quantum Communication Milestone SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY

Indian researchers reported a milestone of more than **1,000 km** in quantum-secure communication during October 2026 coverage, highlighting advances in methods intended to detect eavesdropping and strengthen the security of sensitive data transmission.

- Quantum key distribution uses quantum properties to help establish cryptographic keys.
- A key-distribution demonstration is not the same as a universally secure internet.
- Long-distance deployment requires management of signal losses and network equipment.

Exam Pointer: Static GK: National Quantum Mission approved – 2023; Department of Science and Technology is its nodal department.

India Mobile Congress 2026 Inaugurated in Delhi SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY

Prime Minister Narendra Modi inaugurated the **10th India Mobile Congress** at **Yashobhoomi, New Delhi** on 8 October 2026, bringing the telecommunications sector together to examine networks, digital innovation and emerging applications.

- India Mobile Congress is a major Indian telecom and technology industry event.
- Yashobhoomi is the India International Convention and Expo Centre in Dwarka.
- Highlighted technologies included next-generation networks and digital applications.

Exam Pointer: Static GK: Department of Telecommunications operates under Ministry of Communications; ITU headquarters – Geneva.

ISRO Plans NVS-03 Satellite Mission SPACE

The **Indian Space Research Organisation** scheduled a **GSLV Mk II** mission for the NVS-03 navigation satellite in October 2026, intended to strengthen the NavIC regional satellite-navigation constellation.

- The report identified 30 October 2026 as the scheduled launch date, not confirmed completion.
- NVS satellites are part of the second-generation Indian navigation system.
- GSLV Mk II uses a cryogenic upper stage.

Exam Pointer: Static GK: ISRO headquarters – Bengaluru; NavIC expands to Navigation with Indian Constellation; Sriharikota launch centre – Andhra Pradesh.

ISRO Advances Gaganyaan Module Separation Tests SPACE

ISRO completed crew-module and service-module separation testing reported in October 2026, supporting preparations for uncrewed test flights and eventual human spaceflight under India's **Gaganyaan programme**.

- The testing was associated with Vikram Sarabhai Space Centre.
- Module separation must take place safely before later re-entry and recovery phases.
- Gaganyaan is India's programme to demonstrate independent human-spaceflight capability.

Exam Pointer: Static GK: Vikram Sarabhai Space Centre – Thiruvananthapuram; ISRO established – 1969.

CBSE Opens Experiential Learning Centre in Dwarka SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY

The **Central Board of Secondary Education** opened an **Experience Centre** at its integrated complex in Dwarka, New Delhi, in late October 2026 to introduce interactive displays and learning experiences.

- The centre aims to encourage experiential approaches rather than solely textbook instruction.
- It is located at the CBSE Integrated Complex in Dwarka.
- Interactive exhibits are intended to improve student and educator engagement.

Exam Pointer: Static GK: CBSE headquarters – New Delhi; Ministry of Education comprises departments for school education and higher education.

TDB Supports Manastu Space Green Propulsion SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY

The **Technology Development Board** agreed to provide research and innovation support for **Manastu Space** in October 2026 to develop indigenous green propulsion technologies for spacecraft.

- The report cited project support of approximately ₹116 crore.
- Green propulsion seeks to reduce the hazards associated with some traditional spacecraft propellants.
- TDB works under the Department of Science and Technology.

Exam Pointer: Static GK: TDB established under Technology Development Board Act – 1995; ISRO headquarters – Bengaluru.

IIT Kharagpur Announces School of Physical AI SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY

IIT Kharagpur announced a proposed School of Physical Artificial Intelligence in October 2026, linking robotics and embodied computing with engineering research, education and real-world intelligent systems.

- The report reported a proposed investment of ₹35 crore.
- Physical AI focuses on interaction with the physical world through sensors, robotics and control systems.
- The announcement is a development plan, not confirmation of full operational deployment.

Exam Pointer: Static GK: IIT Kharagpur established – 1951; located in West Bengal.

Centre for Development of Telematics Expands Research Cooperation SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY

C-DOT signed an MoU with **IIT (BHU), Varanasi** to establish an additional Centre of Excellence for advanced telecommunications and quantum-related research during October 2026. The work contributes to ongoing research and technology development.

- The new facility was described as C-DOT's sixth Centre of Excellence.
- The collaboration aims to link academic research with telecom development.
- C-DOT is India's government telecommunications technology development organisation.

Exam Pointer: Static GK: C-DOT established – 1984; Department of Telecommunications is under the Ministry of Communications.

Samsung and IISc Open Quantum Research Laboratory SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY

Samsung Semiconductor India Research and the **Indian Institute of Science** inaugurated a quantum research laboratory in Bengaluru during October 2026 to support work in quantum computing and related emerging technologies.

- The partnership links a semiconductor R&D organisation and an Indian research institute.
- Quantum research includes hardware, software and methods for manipulating quantum states.
- The laboratory announcement is distinct from deployment of a commercially fault-tolerant quantum computer.

Exam Pointer: Static GK: IISc established – 1909; location – Bengaluru; qubit is the basic unit of quantum information.

IIT Ropar Launches AVNI AI Agriculture App SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY

IIT Ropar introduced an agricultural-learning application called **AVNI** during October 2026 to help users identify crops and gain information about produce through AI-based recognition and educational features.

- The system was described as identifying crops, cereals, vegetables, fruits and spices.
- The initiative uses applied AI for agricultural education and information access.
- Image-based identification accuracy depends on available training data and field conditions.

Exam Pointer: Static GK: IIT Ropar is in Punjab; ICAR headquarters – New Delhi.

Raman Research Institute Studies Centaurus X-3 Accretion SPACE

Scientists at the **Raman Research Institute** studied unusual accretion structures around **Centaurus X-3**, a high-mass X-ray pulsar, in research highlighted during October 2026. The activity contributes to India's wider space-technology programme.

- Accretion occurs when matter is drawn gravitationally towards a compact object.
- Centaurus X-3 is an X-ray binary system containing a neutron star.
- X-ray astronomy investigates energetic astrophysical processes beyond the visible spectrum.

Exam Pointer: Static GK: Raman Research Institute located – Bengaluru; neutron stars form from stellar evolution of massive stars.

HCLTech Opens Semiconductor Development Centres in Karnataka SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY

HCLTech opened semiconductor development centres in Bengaluru and Hubballi in October 2026, expanding engineering support for Japan's Rapidus and the broader advanced-chip manufacturing ecosystem. The work contributes to ongoing research and technology development.

- The locations reported are Bengaluru and Hubballi.
- Rapidus is a Japanese semiconductor company pursuing advanced chip production.
- Semiconductor design and verification are distinct from wafer fabrication.

Exam Pointer: Static GK: Karnataka capital – Bengaluru; semiconductors include silicon-based electronic components.

Tata Communications Opens Cybersecurity Centre at SASTRA SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY

Tata Communications established a Cybersecurity and Digital Forensics Centre of Excellence at SASTRA Deemed University in Thanjavur on 30 September 2026, expanding industry–academic cooperation on digital security skills.

- The centre focuses on cybersecurity and digital-forensics applications.
- Digital forensics involves investigating and preserving electronic evidence.
- The location is Thanjavur, Tamil Nadu.

Exam Pointer: Static GK: CERT-In is India's national agency for cybersecurity incident response; SASTRA is located in Tamil Nadu.

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7. ENVIRONMENT & ECOLOGY (DETAILED DIGEST)

Section 07

UNEP Releases Emissions Gap Report 2026 ENVIRONMENT & ECOLOGY

The **UN Environment Programme** released its **Emissions Gap Report 2026**, titled *The Point of Return*, warning that urgent greenhouse-gas reductions are required to limit the duration and scale of global warming above 1.5°C.

- For its low-overshoot pathway, emissions cuts of 18% by 2030 and 45% by 2035 are estimated relative to 2025.
- The report presents a pathway returning warming to at most 1.5°C by 2100.
- The report is UNEP's seventeenth Emissions Gap Report.

Exam Pointer: Static GK: UNEP headquarters – Nairobi, Kenya; Paris Agreement adopted – December 2015; target – well below 2°C and pursue 1.5°C.

WWF Living Planet Report Highlights Biodiversity Decline ENVIRONMENT & ECOLOGY

WWF and conservation partners released the **Living Planet Report 2026** in October, drawing attention to trends in monitored vertebrate wildlife populations and the importance of restoring ecosystems.

- The report uses the Living Planet Index as an indicator of monitored vertebrate population trends.
- Index trends do not mean the same percentage of all individual animals disappeared.
- The Zoological Society of London contributes to the scientific work behind the index.

Exam Pointer: Static GK: WWF founded – 1961; its international secretariat is based at Gland, Switzerland.

India Ramsar Site Count Reported at 103 ENVIRONMENT & ECOLOGY

The October report reported the addition of **Sukhna Wetland** and **Sauj Jheel** to India's internationally important wetland network, taking the country's Ramsar-site tally to **103**.

- Sukhna Wetland is associated with Chandigarh; Sauj Jheel is in Uttar Pradesh.
- Ramsar designation recognises wetlands of international ecological significance.
- A Ramsar site's management responsibilities remain with the relevant national and local authorities.

Exam Pointer: Static GK: Ramsar Convention adopted – 1971 in Ramsar, Iran; entered into force – 1975.

India Issues First PRAMAAN Forest Certificates ENVIRONMENT & ECOLOGY

India issued its first **PRAMAAN certificates** under the Indian Forest and Wood Certification Scheme, reflecting efforts to encourage traceable, sustainable forest-product sourcing during the period covered by the October daily posts.

- The first handover was reported on 29 September 2026 and is retained under the user's no-cutoff instruction.
- PRAMAAN relates to voluntary forest and wood certification in India.
- Certification is designed to demonstrate compliance with prescribed sustainable-management standards.

Exam Pointer: Static GK: Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change headquarters – New Delhi; Forest Conservation Act – 1980.

India Reaffirms Whale Conservation at IWC Meeting ENVIRONMENT & ECOLOGY

India reiterated its support for whale and cetacean conservation at the **70th International Whaling Commission meeting** during October 2026, stressing protection of marine mammals and sustainable ocean management.

- The IWC manages international cooperation on the regulation and conservation of whales.
- Cetaceans include whales, dolphins and porpoises.
- The IWC introduced a commercial-whaling moratorium effective from 1986.

Exam Pointer: Static GK: International Convention for the Regulation of Whaling – 1946; IWC headquarters – Cambridge, United Kingdom.

New Ophiorrhiza Species Reported in Arunachal Pradesh ENVIRONMENT & ECOLOGY

Researchers reported two newly identified flowering-plant species, *Ophiorrhiza shidiensis* and *Ophiorrhiza pemae*, from Arunachal Pradesh during October 2026, adding to knowledge of the region's plant diversity.

- The genus Ophiorrhiza belongs to the coffee family, Rubiaceae.
- The species were associated with remote forest areas in Changlang district.
- Botanical description relies on diagnostic differences from previously described species.

Exam Pointer: Static GK: Arunachal Pradesh capital – Itanagar; Eastern Himalaya is recognised for high biodiversity.

Microscopic Land Snail Identified in Maharashtra ENVIRONMENT & ECOLOGY

Researchers from the Thackeray Wildlife Foundation reported *Dicharax tilariensis*, a microscopic land-snail species from the Tilari landscape in Maharashtra, highlighting the ecological importance of small and understudied invertebrates.

- The reported discovery location is the Tilari region of Kolhapur district.
- Land snails are molluscs and can be highly sensitive to microhabitat conditions.
- The report described the species as having a very restricted known range.

Exam Pointer: Static GK: Mollusca is an animal phylum; Western Ghats are a global biodiversity hotspot.

India Reports Cheetah Conservation Milestone at Kuno ENVIRONMENT & ECOLOGY

The October report reported a **cheetah population of 60** at Kuno National Park, drawing attention to the progress and continuing monitoring requirements of India's cheetah reintroduction programme.

- Project Cheetah involves translocation, breeding, habitat protection and ongoing veterinary monitoring.
- Kuno National Park is located in Madhya Pradesh.
- Population reports can change with births, deaths and movement of animals.

Exam Pointer: Static GK: Cheetah is classified as Vulnerable on the IUCN Red List; Kuno is in Sheopur district.

IUCN Global Coral Assessment Warns of Ecosystem Risk ENVIRONMENT & ECOLOGY

An October 2026 coral-reef assessment covered in the reports warned of mounting threats from warming seas and other pressures on shallow-water coral ecosystems, underscoring the need for marine conservation.

- Mass coral bleaching is linked to unusually warm sea temperatures.
- Reef ecosystems support marine biodiversity, fisheries and coastal protection.
- Marine protected areas can reduce some local pressures but cannot alone stop global warming.

Exam Pointer: Static GK: IUCN headquarters – Gland, Switzerland; coral animals belong to phylum Cnidaria.

WHO and UNICEF Report School Sanitation Gaps ENVIRONMENT & ECOLOGY

A **WHO–UNICEF** report on drinking water, sanitation and hygiene in schools for 2015–2025 highlighted continuing access gaps for Indian children, underscoring the significance of school hygiene infrastructure.

- The report estimated that roughly 50 million Indian children lacked school sanitation services in 2025.
- School WASH measures access to safe water, sanitation and handwashing facilities.
- Improved WASH conditions support attendance, health and student dignity.

Exam Pointer: Static GK: WHO founded – 1948, headquarters – Geneva; UNICEF founded – 1946, headquarters – New York.

Gujarat Reorganises Forest Division for Asiatic Lions ENVIRONMENT & ECOLOGY

The **Gujarat government** reorganised the Porbandar Forest Division to strengthen management of Asiatic lions around the Barda landscape in the September–October source coverage. The announcement has significance for regional conservation and ecological research.

- The initiative concerns habitat management and human–wildlife interactions.
- Barda Wildlife Sanctuary is in Gujarat's Saurashtra region.
- Asiatic lions are primarily associated with the Gir landscape of Gujarat.

Exam Pointer: Static GK: Asiatic lion scientific name – Panthera leo persica; Gir National Park established – 1965.

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8. APPOINTMENTS & PERSONS IN NEWS (DETAILED DIGEST)

Section 08

Sunil Kumar Selected as Next ONGC Chairman APPOINTMENTS

The **Appointments Committee of the Cabinet** approved **Sunil Kumar** as the next chairman of Oil and Natural Gas Corporation in October 2026, with the appointment intended to take effect on or after 7 December 2026.

- The approval concerns an incoming leadership position, not an already completed handover.
- ONGC is a major Indian public-sector oil and gas exploration and production company.
- The company's corporate headquarters are in New Delhi.

Exam Pointer: Static GK: ONGC established – 1956; Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas headquarters – New Delhi.

Air Marshal Ashutosh Dixit Selected as Air Force Chief APPOINTMENTS

Air Marshal Ashutosh Dixit was designated the next Chief of the Air Staff in October 2026, with effect from **31 October 2026**, to succeed Air Chief Marshal Amar Preet Singh.

- The position is the professional head of the Indian Air Force.
- The report identifies him as the 29th Chief of the Air Staff.
- The Chief of the Air Staff is a member of India's senior military leadership.

Exam Pointer: Static GK: Indian Air Force established – 8 October 1932; headquarters – New Delhi.

S. C. L. Das Named Part-Time FSIB Chairperson APPOINTMENTS

The government appointed **Subhas Chandra Lal Das** as part-time chairperson of the Financial Services Institutions Bureau in October 2026, strengthening leadership of the body involved in recommending appointments to major public financial institutions.

- The report states an appointment date of 16 October and a three-year tenure.
- FSIB makes recommendations for specified senior appointments in public financial institutions.
- Its work is distinct from financial-sector prudential regulation.

Exam Pointer: Static GK: FSIB established – 2022; Ministry of Finance headquarters – New Delhi.

Vijay Sankar Named FICCI President-Elect APPOINTMENTS

The **Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce and Industry** named **Vijay Sankar** President-Elect for 2026-27 in October, indicating a planned succession in the leadership of the national industry association.

- Vijay Sankar is associated with the Sanmar Group.
- He was scheduled to take over following FICCI's November annual convention.
- President-Elect denotes an incoming office-holder, not necessarily the serving president.

Exam Pointer: Static GK: FICCI founded – 1927; headquarters – New Delhi.

Sudhakar Dalela Appointed Next Ambassador to Nepal APPOINTMENTS

The **Ministry of External Affairs** announced **Sudhakar Dalela** as India's next Ambassador to Nepal during October 2026, marking a diplomatic appointment in a key neighbouring country.

- The ambassador is India's senior resident diplomatic representative in Nepal.
- India and Nepal maintain close commercial, cultural and people-to-people relations.
- Ambassador-designate and serving ambassador may differ until formal assumption of charge.

Exam Pointer: Static GK: Nepal capital – Kathmandu; currency – Nepalese rupee; India-Nepal Treaty of Peace and Friendship signed – 1950.

T. M. Balakrishnan Nair Chosen to Lead IOCINDIO APPOINTMENTS

T. M. Balakrishnan Nair, Director of INCOIS, was elected chair of **IOCINDIO**, UNESCO's Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission sub-commission for the Indian Ocean, during an October 2026 meeting.

- The cited meeting took place in Bali, Indonesia.
- IOCINDIO addresses ocean-science coordination and capacity development in the Indian Ocean.
- INCOIS provides ocean information and advisory services in India.

Exam Pointer: Static GK: INCOIS headquarters – Hyderabad; UNESCO headquarters – Paris.

Narendra Bhooshan Assumes Environment Secretary Post APPOINTMENTS

Narendra Bhooshan, an Indian Administrative Service officer, assumed charge as Secretary in the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change in October 2026 as part of senior Union administrative appointments.

- Secretaries head the permanent civil-service administration of Union ministries.
- The ministry coordinates forest, wildlife, climate and environmental policies.
- Civil-service appointments should be distinguished from ministerial portfolios.

Exam Pointer: Static GK: Indian Administrative Service established – 1946; MoEFCC headquarters – New Delhi.

Bimal Patel Assumes Judgeship at ITLOS APPOINTMENTS

Indian jurist **Bimal Patel** assumed office as a judge of the International Tribunal for the Law of the Sea in October 2026, representing India's participation in international maritime-law adjudication.

- ITLOS adjudicates certain disputes arising under the UN Convention on the Law of the Sea.
- The tribunal is based in Hamburg, Germany.
- Judges serve in their individual capacity, rather than as national government delegates.

Exam Pointer: Static GK: ITLOS established – 1996; UNCLOS adopted – 1982; Germany capital – Berlin.

Sajjan Singh Yadav Selected as Jammu and Kashmir Chief Secretary APPOINTMENTS

The **Ministry of Home Affairs** appointed **Dr Sajjan Singh Yadav** as the next Chief Secretary of Jammu and Kashmir in October 2026, to head the Union Territory's senior civil-service administration.

- The officer belongs to the 1995 AGMUT cadre batch of the Indian Administrative Service.
- A Chief Secretary coordinates administrative departments within a state or Union Territory.
- Appointment announcements may precede the formal assumption of office.

Exam Pointer: Static GK: Jammu and Kashmir became a Union Territory – 31 October 2019; Srinagar and Jammu are seasonal seats of government.

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9. AWARDS, HONOURS & BOOKS (DETAILED DIGEST)

Section 09

SBI Wins World's Best Consumer Bank Award

AWARDS & HONOURS

State Bank of India received the **World's Best Consumer Bank 2026** recognition from Global Finance, in October 2026, highlighting the bank's customer-facing services and market position.

- The report reported SBI winning the consumer-banking distinction for a second consecutive year.
- This is a publication's industry award, not an RBI regulatory ranking.
- Consumer banking covers retail deposits, loans, payment services and other individual-customer products.

Exam Pointer: Static GK: SBI constituted – 1 July 1955; headquarters – Mumbai; SBI is India's largest public-sector bank by assets.

Ashoke Sen Honoured with Oskar Klein Medal

AWARDS & HONOURS

Indian theoretical physicist **Ashoke Sen** was recognised with the **2026 Oskar Klein Medal** for contributions to string theory and related fields, according to the October current-affairs report.

- The award is associated with excellence in theoretical physics.
- The report described him as the first Indian physicist to receive the distinction.
- String theory is a theoretical framework investigating fundamental particles and interactions.

Exam Pointer: Static GK: Oskar Klein was a Swedish theoretical physicist; Ashoke Sen is associated with Harish-Chandra Research Institute.

Lionel Messi Receives Princess of Asturias Sports Award

AWARDS & HONOURS

Argentine footballer **Lionel Messi** received the **2026 Princess of Asturias Award for Sports** during an October ceremony in Oviedo, Spain, recognising his contribution to international football.

- The award ceremony was reported on 23 October 2026.
- The awards recognise achievements across sports, arts, science and other fields.
- Oviedo is in the Spanish autonomous community of Asturias.

Exam Pointer: Static GK: Spain capital – Madrid; currency – euro; Messi captained Argentina to the 2022 FIFA World Cup title.

Usha Mangeshkar Named Bhupen Hazarika Award Recipient

AWARDS & HONOURS

The Assam government selected singer **Usha Mangeshkar** as the inaugural recipient of the **Bharat Ratna Dr Bhupen Hazarika National Award**, recognising artistic contribution and the cultural legacy of the late musician.

- Bhupen Hazarika was a singer, composer and cultural figure associated with Assam.
- The award was announced as a newly instituted national honour.
- Usha Mangeshkar is a playback singer and sister of Lata Mangeshkar.

Exam Pointer: Static GK: Assam capital – Dispur; Bhupen Hazarika received Bharat Ratna posthumously in 2019.

Sitaram Raul Wins Wildlife Photography Category Award

AWARDS & HONOURS

Indian photographer **Sitaram Raul** won the Behaviour: Invertebrates category at the **Wildlife Photographer of the Year 2026** competition for a photograph titled *Shifting Sand*. The distinction recognised work in the recipient's professional field.

- The competition recognises nature photography and conservation storytelling.
- The category focuses on the behaviour of invertebrate animals.
- The photograph's title reported in the report is Shifting Sand.

Exam Pointer: Static GK: Wildlife Photographer of the Year is associated with London's Natural History Museum; invertebrates lack a vertebral column.

Ameena Nazreen Wins Global Youth Institute Award

AWARDS & HONOURS

Indian student **Ameena Nazreen A. S.** received a Global Youth Institute recognition during the October 2026 Norman E. Borlaug International Dialogue in Des Moines, Iowa, for food-security-related research.

- The Norman E. Borlaug International Dialogue addresses world food security.
- The event takes place in Des Moines in the US state of Iowa.
- Student research at the Global Youth Institute covers agriculture and food systems.

Exam Pointer: Static GK: Norman Borlaug won the Nobel Peace Prize – 1970; World Food Prize established – 1986.

Reema Nanavaty Receives Hillary Rodham Clinton Award AWARDS & HONOURS

Indian social worker and **SEWA** leader **Reema Nanavaty** received a Hillary Rodham Clinton Award in Washington during October 2026 for work associated with women's economic empowerment and livelihoods.

- SEWA stands for Self-Employed Women's Association.
- The award recognised leadership in women's empowerment and peace-related development work.
- SEWA is a trade union and movement associated with self-employed women.

Exam Pointer: Static GK: SEWA founded – 1972; founder – Ela Bhatt; original base – Ahmedabad.

English Translation of The Story of Vande Mataram Unveiled BOOKS & AUTHORS

An English translation of *The Story of Vande Mataram* was unveiled in New Delhi during October 2026, renewing attention to the history and cultural significance of India's national song.

- The translation was unveiled by former Governor Arif Mohammed Khan.
- The event took place at the Constitution Club of India.
- Vande Mataram was composed by Bankim Chandra Chattopadhyay.

Exam Pointer: Static GK: Vande Mataram appears in the novel Anandamath, published in 1882; it was adopted as India's national song in 1950.

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10. SPORTS (DETAILED DIGEST)

Section 10

India Finishes Fourth at Asian Games 2026 SPORTS

India finished **fourth** in the medal standings at the **2026 Aichi–Nagoya Asian Games** in Japan, with a reported tally of 85 medals across disciplines in October 2026.

- The Asian Games took place in Aichi and Nagoya, Japan.
- The report highlighted achievements in wrestling, boxing, athletics, archery and hockey.
- The next Asian Games are scheduled for 2030 in Doha, Qatar.

Exam Pointer: Static GK: Asian Games first held – 1951 in New Delhi; organiser – Olympic Council of Asia.

India Wins 114 Medals at Asian Para Games 2026 SPORTS

India was reported to have finished **fourth** with **114 medals** at the Aichi–Nagoya Asian Para Games 2026, including 30 gold, 35 silver and 49 bronze medals.

- The total is the report's stated national-record medal haul for India.
- Sports included para-athletics, para-badminton, para-shooting and other disciplines.
- Asian Para Games provide multisport competition for eligible para-athletes in Asia.

Exam Pointer: Static GK: Asian Paralympic Committee headquarters – Dubai; first Asian Para Games held – Guangzhou, China, 2010.

Indian Women Win Asian Games Hockey Gold SPORTS

The Indian women's hockey team won **gold** at the 2026 Asian Games, ending a decades-long wait for the title and marking a major result in the country's international women's hockey programme.

- The report described it as India's first women's Asian Games hockey gold in 44 years.
- Lalremsiami was credited with a decisive goal in the final.
- Hockey is governed internationally by the Fédération Internationale de Hockey.

Exam Pointer: Static GK: FIH headquarters – Lausanne, Switzerland; India's previous women's Asian Games hockey gold – 1982.

P. V. Sindhu Finishes French Open Runner-up SPORTS

Indian shuttler **P. V. Sindhu** finished runner-up in women's singles at the **2026 French Open**, losing the final to South Korea's An Se-young in October and adding another major international badminton podium finish.

- The French Open is an international badminton tournament.
- An Se-young represented South Korea.
- Women's singles is one of badminton's five standard elite tournament disciplines.

Exam Pointer: Static GK: Badminton World Federation headquarters – Kuala Lumpur; P. V. Sindhu won Olympic silver – 2016 and bronze – 2020.

Yuki Bhambri Wins Almaty Open Doubles SPORTS

Indian player **Yuki Bhambri** and American partner **Ryan Seggerman** won the men's doubles title at the Almaty Open 2026 in Kazakhstan, a notable international result in India's tennis doubles programme.

- The tournament was held in Almaty, Kazakhstan.
- Men's doubles pairs consist of two players on each team.
- ATP tournament titles are distinct from Grand Slam championships.

Exam Pointer: Static GK: Kazakhstan capital – Astana; currency – tenge; ATP founded – 1972.

Nihal Sarin and Koneru Humpy Earn Chess Golds SPORTS

Indian chess grandmasters **Nihal Sarin** and **Koneru Humpy** won individual gold-medal distinctions at the European Chess Club Cup 2026 in Montenegro, during October 2026. Both players represented Indian chess on the international club circuit.

- The competition is a club-team chess event with individual board results.
- Nihal Sarin is an Indian grandmaster; Koneru Humpy is a leading Indian woman grandmaster.
- The event took place in Montenegro.

Exam Pointer: Static GK: FIDE headquarters – Lausanne; Montenegro capital – Podgorica; chess has 64 squares.

India Wins Four Golds at Astronomy Olympiad SPORTS

India won **four gold** and **one silver** medal at the 19th International Olympiad on Astronomy and Astrophysics 2026, in October 2026, highlighting achievement in scientific problem-solving.

- The IOAA is an academic competition, not an Olympic sporting event.
- Participants solve astronomy and astrophysics theory and practical problems.
- The report reported a team total of five medals.

Exam Pointer: Static GK: IOAA first held – 2007 in Thailand; ISRO headquarters – Bengaluru.

Deepthi Jeevanji Wins Asian Para Games T20 Gold SPORTS

Indian para-athlete **Deepthi Jeevanji** won the women's 400 m T20 gold medal at the 2026 Asian Para Games, reportedly setting a Games record of **56.36 seconds**.

- T20 is a classification used for eligible athletes with intellectual impairments.
- The event is the women's 400-metre race.
- Games records apply to the competition and may differ from world records.

Exam Pointer: Static GK: Paralympic Games are governed by the International Paralympic Committee; IPC headquarters – Bonn.

Praveen Kumar Wins Asian Para Games High Jump Gold SPORTS

Indian para-athlete **Praveen Kumar** won the men's high-jump gold at the 2026 Asian Para Games in Japan, establishing a Games record in the event reported by the daily current-affairs source.

- The reported event included T44/T64-class athletes.
- Compatriot Banti was reported to have won silver.
- Para-athletics uses classification systems to support equitable competition.

Exam Pointer: Static GK: High jump is an athletics field event; the Fosbury flop is a common high-jump technique.

Shubman Gill and Shafali Verma Named ICC Monthly Players SPORTS

Indian cricketers **Shubman Gill** and **Shafali Verma** were named the ICC men's and women's Players of the Month for September 2026, respectively, in announcements covered during October.

- The award recognises international cricket performances during the specified month.
- The two awards represent separate men's and women's categories.
- The announcement month may differ from the performance month.

Exam Pointer: Static GK: ICC headquarters – Dubai; ICC founded – 1909 as Imperial Cricket Conference.

India's Ahmedabad 2036 Olympic Bid Progresses SPORTS

India continued discussions relating to a possible **2036 Olympic and Paralympic Games** bid centred on Ahmedabad during October 2026, while the hosting rights remained undecided during October 2026.

- Discussions with the IOC do not constitute award of hosting rights.
- Ahmedabad is in Gujarat, a state considering infrastructure plans for a possible bid.
- The Olympic Movement assesses candidate hosts through a staged dialogue process.

Exam Pointer: Static GK: IOC headquarters – Lausanne, Switzerland; first modern Olympic Games – Athens, 1896.

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11. OBITUARIES (DETAILED DIGEST)

Section 11

Metallurgist Palle Rama Rao Dies OBITUARIES

Eminent Indian metallurgist and materials scientist **Palle Rama Rao** died in October 2026, during October 2026, recalling his work in advanced materials and scientific institutions.

- He was known for contributions to metallurgy and materials science.
- His academic and research work influenced engineering-materials development.
- Materials science studies relationships among structure, properties and processing of materials.

Exam Pointer: Static GK: Indian Institute of Metals established – 1946; Department of Science and Technology headquarters – New Delhi.

Kathak Dancer Roshan Kumari Dies OBITUARIES

Renowned **Kathak dancer Roshan Kumari**, associated with the Jaipur gharana, died in October 2026 according to the reports, marking the loss of an important exponent of the North Indian classical dance tradition.

- She was reported to have died in Mumbai at 82 years of age.
- The Jaipur gharana is noted for technically demanding footwork and rhythmic compositions.
- Kathak is among India's recognised classical dance traditions.

Exam Pointer: Static GK: Kathak originated in northern India; its major gharanas include Jaipur and Lucknow.

Filmmaker Singeetham Srinivasa Rao Dies OBITUARIES

Indian filmmaker **Singeetham Srinivasa Rao** died during the October 2026 reporting period, in October 2026, after a career known for experimentation and films across multiple Indian languages.

- The report cited films including Pushpaka Vimanam, Aditya 369 and Mayuri.
- His work included experimental storytelling and science-fiction themes.
- Pushpaka Vimanam is noted for its dialogue-free storytelling.

Exam Pointer: Static GK: Indian cinema's first full-length feature was Raja Harishchandra, released in 1913; director – Dadasaheb Phalke.

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12. STATE AFFAIRS (DETAILED DIGEST)

Section 12

Uttar Pradesh Approves PRAGATI Robotics and AI Park STATE AFFAIRS

The **Uttar Pradesh Cabinet** approved the **PRAGATI Robotics and AI Park** in Greater Noida on 27 October 2026 to support innovation, technology entrepreneurship and domestic capabilities in automation and artificial intelligence.

- The proposed park is located in Greater Noida, Gautam Buddha Nagar district.
- It aims to bring together research, companies and advanced technology facilities.
- Project approval is not equivalent to completion of park construction.

Exam Pointer: Static GK: Uttar Pradesh capital – Lucknow; Greater Noida is part of the National Capital Region.

Tamil Nadu Launches Thuli Rainwater Conservation Campaign STATE AFFAIRS

The **Tamil Nadu government** launched the **Thuli** campaign on 21 October 2026 to raise public awareness of rainwater-harvesting systems, their maintenance and their role in groundwater conservation.

- The programme focuses on the condition and upkeep of rainwater-harvesting structures.
- Rainwater harvesting can increase local recharge and reduce runoff.
- Public awareness activities are planned at community and institutional levels.

Exam Pointer: Static GK: Tamil Nadu capital – Chennai; the state made rainwater-harvesting structures mandatory for many buildings in 2003.

Punjab Launches SANGAT Mental Health Clubs STATE AFFAIRS

The **Punjab government** introduced **SANGAT Mental Health Clubs** across 40 colleges in October 2026 to support student well-being, awareness and prevention of substance misuse in educational institutions.

- The programme was linked to the Yudh Nashean Virudh campaign.
- Clubs are intended to involve college communities in mental-health and prevention activities.
- The initial rollout cited 40 colleges.

Exam Pointer: Static GK: Punjab capital – Chandigarh; Article 21 of the Constitution protects life and personal liberty.

Goa Unveils AI Policy and Konkani Language Initiative STATE AFFAIRS

The **Goa government** unveiled artificial-intelligence initiatives at the Goa AI Tech Conclave on 22–23 October 2026, including policy proposals and work towards a **Konkani language model**.

- Reported initiatives included an AI policy, AI hackathon and centre of excellence.
- A language model for Konkani would support local-language digital applications.
- The event is distinct from formal deployment of every announced project.

Exam Pointer: Static GK: Goa capital – Panaji; Konkani is listed in the Eighth Schedule of the Constitution.

Karnataka Announces Textile and Apparel Policy 2026–31 STATE AFFAIRS

The **Karnataka government** notified a **Textile and Apparel Policy for 2026–31**, aiming to stimulate investment, jobs and competitiveness across garment-making and related textile activities. The programme is part of the state's reported policy and development agenda.

- The policy period spans five years from 2026 through 2031.
- The sector includes spinning, fabric production, apparel and technical textiles.
- Investment policy incentives require detailed eligibility criteria under the government notification.

Exam Pointer: Static GK: Karnataka capital – Bengaluru; textile production encompasses natural and man-made fibres.

Mizoram Introduces Four Digital Public Finance Systems STATE AFFAIRS

Mizoram Chief Minister **Lalduhoma** launched four digital financial-management initiatives in Aizawl in October 2026, designed to strengthen budget transparency, treasury processing and transfer of government benefits.

- The systems included MIWAS, e-Budget, e-Sanction and support for direct benefit transfer.
- Digitisation is intended to improve auditability and workflow tracking.
- The launch took place in Mizoram's capital Aizawl.

Exam Pointer: Static GK: Mizoram capital – Aizawl; statehood – 20 February 1987.

Gujarat Ambaji Mohanthal Receives GI Recognition STATE AFFAIRS

Ambaji Mohanthal, a traditional sweet associated with Ambaji Temple in Gujarat, received a **Geographical Indication** tag during October 2026, highlighting the importance of regional culinary heritage.

- Ambaji Temple is a major pilgrimage site in Banaskantha district.
- GI protection identifies products whose reputation or qualities are linked to geographical origin.
- The tag recognises a product name, not blanket ownership of every recipe.

Exam Pointer: Static GK: GI registration is governed by the Geographical Indications of Goods Act, 1999; GI Registry – Chennai.

Ladakh Organic Farming Initiative Reaches Reported Milestone STATE AFFAIRS

The October report reported that **Ladakh** was declared India's first fully organic Union Territory, recognising efforts to promote chemical-free agriculture adapted to high-altitude conditions. The declaration focused on the Union Territory's agricultural production methods.

- The reported declaration date was 25 October 2026.
- Organic practices limit specified synthetic fertilisers and pesticides.
- The region has distinct farming challenges because of altitude, climate and water availability.

Exam Pointer: Static GK: Ladakh became a Union Territory – 31 October 2019; headquarters – Leh and Kargil administrations.

Sikkim Holds First Himalayan Yak Festival STATE AFFAIRS

Sikkim hosted its first **Himalayan Yak Festival** in Gnathang Valley on 28 October 2026, highlighting the cultural and livelihood importance of yaks and the need for high-altitude conservation.

- Yak husbandry supports mountain communities through milk, fibre and transport-related activities.
- Gnathang is in a high-altitude part of Sikkim.
- The festival also aimed to promote responsible mountain tourism.

Exam Pointer: Static GK: Sikkim capital – Gangtok; yak scientific name – Bos grunniens.

Odisha Launches MICE Incentive Portal for Tourism STATE AFFAIRS

The **Odisha government** launched a dedicated **MICE incentive portal** during the 2026 Odisha Travel Bazaar to promote business events, conference tourism and related investment. The programme is part of the state's reported policy and development agenda.

- MICE stands for Meetings, Incentives, Conferences and Exhibitions.
- The portal aims to facilitate information about support for eligible events.
- The announcement was linked to the seventh Odisha Travel Bazaar.

Exam Pointer: Static GK: Odisha capital – Bhubaneswar; Konark Sun Temple is a UNESCO World Heritage Site.

Bihar Museum Features in Global Museum Rankings STATE AFFAIRS

The October report said **Bihar Museum** in Patna was recognised in a 2026 international museum ranking, drawing attention to collections on Bihar's art and history.

- The report cited first place in Asia and ninth position worldwide.
- Bihar Museum is located in Patna.
- The institution highlights archaeological, artistic and historical material linked to the region.

Exam Pointer: Static GK: Bihar capital – Patna; ancient Pataliputra was an important capital in Indian history.

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13. IMPORTANT DAYS (DETAILED DIGEST)

Section 13

International Day of Older Persons IMPORTANT DAYS

International Day of Older Persons was observed on **1 October 2026** to highlight older people's rights, health and inclusion. Population ageing also increases the need for accessible services, social protection and age-friendly communities.

- The observance was established by the United Nations General Assembly.
- Age-friendly policies include health care, mobility and protection from abuse.
- The day is annual and separate from World Senior Citizens Day.

Exam Pointer: Static GK: UN General Assembly Resolution 45/106 established the observance in 1990; UN headquarters – New York.

International Coffee Day IMPORTANT DAYS

International Coffee Day was observed on **1 October 2026** to recognise coffee producers, traders and coffee-growing communities. The occasion also emphasised fairer incomes, supply-chain sustainability and resilience in the global coffee industry.

- The International Coffee Organization leads activities linked to the day.
- Coffee is an important traded agricultural commodity.
- Arabica and Robusta are major commercial coffee types.

Exam Pointer: Static GK: International Coffee Organization headquarters – London; International Coffee Day first observed globally – 2015.

Gandhi Jayanti and International Non-Violence Day IMPORTANT DAYS

Gandhi Jayanti and International Non-Violence Day was observed on **2 October 2026** to commemorate the birth of Mahatma Gandhi and promote non-violence. The national and UN observances connect Gandhi's philosophy with peaceful methods of social and political change.

- Mahatma Gandhi was born on 2 October 1869 in Porbandar.
- The UN designated 2 October as International Day of Non-Violence in 2007.
- Gandhi Jayanti is one of India's national holidays.

Exam Pointer: Static GK: Gandhi was born – 2 October 1869; UNGA resolution on International Day of Non-Violence – 61/271.

World Animal Day IMPORTANT DAYS

World Animal Day was observed on **4 October 2026** to promote animal welfare and responsible protection of animals. The annual campaign connects companion-animal welfare with conservation and humane treatment of wild and farmed species.

- World Animal Day falls on 4 October every year.
- Animal welfare includes avoiding unnecessary suffering and protecting habitats.
- It is an awareness observance rather than a UN-designated public holiday.

Exam Pointer: Static GK: World Animal Day first organised – 1925; Indian Wildlife Protection Act – 1972.

World Teachers Day IMPORTANT DAYS

World Teachers Day was observed on **5 October 2026** to recognise the role and professional status of teachers. The 2026 commemoration marked 60 years of the ILO–UNESCO Recommendation on the Status of Teachers.

- Official 2026 theme: Standing with teachers: 60 years of protecting the profession, advancing its status and shaping our futures.
- UNESCO and ILO jointly promote standards relating to the teaching profession.
- The observance is distinct from India's Teachers Day on 5 September.

Exam Pointer: Static GK: World Teachers Day first celebrated – 1994; ILO–UNESCO Recommendation adopted – 1966.

World Habitat Day IMPORTANT DAYS

World Habitat Day was observed on **5 October 2026** to highlight the importance of safe and adequate shelter. Observed on the first Monday of October, the day focuses on housing access, sustainable settlements and urban living conditions.

- World Habitat Day in 2026 fell on 5 October, the first Monday.
- UN-Habitat supports global work on human settlements.
- The day launches the wider Urban October observance.

Exam Pointer: Static GK: World Habitat Day first celebrated – 1986; UN-Habitat headquarters – Nairobi.

World Cerebral Palsy Day IMPORTANT DAYS

World Cerebral Palsy Day was observed on **6 October 2026** to increase understanding of cerebral palsy and disability inclusion. Awareness activities emphasised accessibility, independent living, early support and community participation for affected people and their families.

- Cerebral palsy is a group of conditions affecting movement and posture.
- The day encourages inclusion and access to services.
- It is an international advocacy observance.

Exam Pointer: Static GK: World Cerebral Palsy Day – 6 October annually; UNICEF headquarters – New York.

World Cotton Day IMPORTANT DAYS

World Cotton Day was observed on **7 October 2026** to recognise the economic and social importance of cotton. The occasion connects farming livelihoods with textile supply chains and sustainable production practices across cotton-producing countries.

- Cotton is a natural plant fibre widely used in textiles.
- World Cotton Day initiatives involve trade and development institutions.
- India is one of the world's major cotton-producing countries.

Exam Pointer: Static GK: World Cotton Day – 7 October; WTO headquarters – Geneva.

Indian Air Force Day IMPORTANT DAYS

Indian Air Force Day was observed on **8 October 2026** to commemorate the establishment of the Indian Air Force. The observance honours service personnel and the role of air power in national defence and disaster-response operations.

- The Indian Air Force was founded on 8 October 1932.
- IAF is one of India's three armed services.
- Ceremonial events showcase professional achievements and operational capabilities.

Exam Pointer: Static GK: Indian Air Force founded – 1932; IAF headquarters – New Delhi.

World Post Day IMPORTANT DAYS

World Post Day was observed on **9 October 2026** to highlight postal services and their contribution to connectivity. The occasion recognises how national postal networks enable communication, financial inclusion, logistics and delivery of public services.

- 9 October marks the founding of the Universal Postal Union in 1874.
- UPU is a specialised agency of the United Nations.
- National Postal Week was observed in India during 9–15 October.

Exam Pointer: Static GK: Universal Postal Union founded – 1874; headquarters – Bern, Switzerland.

World Mental Health Day IMPORTANT DAYS

World Mental Health Day was observed on **10 October 2026** to promote mental-health awareness and access to care. The observance drew attention to prevention, support services, stigma reduction and the importance of mental well-being in everyday life.

- The World Federation for Mental Health initiated the observance.
- Mental health is an integral component of overall health.
- The day is observed globally every year on 10 October.

Exam Pointer: Static GK: WHO founded – 1948; headquarters – Geneva; World Mental Health Day first observed – 1992.

World Migratory Bird Day IMPORTANT DAYS

World Migratory Bird Day was observed on **10 October 2026** to highlight the conservation of migratory bird species. The October observance emphasised protection of flyways, wetlands and other habitats used during long-distance seasonal movement.

- The autumn observance in 2026 fell on 10 October.
- Migratory birds often cross international boundaries.
- Conservation depends on connected habitats along flyways.

Exam Pointer: Static GK: Convention on Migratory Species signed – 1979 in Bonn; CMS secretariat – Bonn.

International Day of the Girl Child IMPORTANT DAYS

International Day of the Girl Child was observed on **11 October 2026** to advance girls rights, education and empowerment. UN campaigns emphasised the importance of equal opportunities, safety and participation by girls in family, school and public life.

- The day is established by the United Nations.
- Education and healthcare are central areas of concern.
- It is observed annually on 11 October.

Exam Pointer: Static GK: UNGA Resolution 66/170 designated the day in 2011; first observance – 2012.

World Arthritis Day IMPORTANT DAYS

World Arthritis Day was observed on **12 October 2026** to increase awareness of arthritis and related musculoskeletal diseases. The annual event encouraged timely diagnosis, appropriate treatment and measures that help maintain mobility and quality of life.

- Arthritis is a broad term for conditions causing joint inflammation or pain.
- Early assessment can help manage symptoms and limit disability.
- The day is observed annually on 12 October.

Exam Pointer: Static GK: World Arthritis Day began – 1996; WHO headquarters – Geneva.

International Day for Disaster Risk Reduction IMPORTANT DAYS

International Day for Disaster Risk Reduction was observed on **13 October 2026** to promote action to reduce disaster losses and strengthen resilience. The official 2026 theme was Resilience Starts at Home, calling attention to safer housing and household preparedness.

- The theme emphasises risk-informed construction and early warnings.
- The UN Office for Disaster Risk Reduction leads global advocacy.
- Disaster risk includes hazard, exposure and vulnerability.

Exam Pointer: Static GK: Sendai Framework period – 2015–2030; UNDRR headquarters – Geneva.

World Standards Day IMPORTANT DAYS

World Standards Day was observed on **14 October 2026** to recognise the value of technical standards in safety and trade. The observance highlighted how shared specifications improve product compatibility, industrial quality and confidence across international supply chains.

- ISO, IEC and ITU are major international standardisation institutions.
- Standards can cover equipment safety, data formats and quality procedures.
- The day is observed on 14 October annually.

Exam Pointer: Static GK: ISO headquarters – Geneva; BIS is the national standards body of India.

International Day of Rural Women IMPORTANT DAYS

International Day of Rural Women was observed on **15 October 2026** to recognise rural women's contributions to agriculture and communities. The observance drew attention to fair access to resources, education, finance and decision-making in rural development.

- The day is observed annually under a UN General Assembly designation.
- Rural women contribute substantially to agriculture and food systems.
- Equal access to land and services is an important development concern.

Exam Pointer: Static GK: UNGA Resolution 62/136 designated the day; first observance – 2008.

Global Handwashing Day IMPORTANT DAYS

Global Handwashing Day was observed on **15 October 2026** to encourage handwashing with soap to prevent infectious disease. Public-health messages focused on accessible hygiene facilities and consistent handwashing practices in schools, homes and workplaces.

- Handwashing with soap is a low-cost preventive public-health intervention.
- The day encourages water, sanitation and hygiene awareness.
- The observance occurs every year on 15 October.

Exam Pointer: Static GK: Global Handwashing Day established – 2008; UNICEF headquarters – New York.

World Students Day IMPORTANT DAYS

World Students Day was observed on **15 October 2026** to honour the birth anniversary of A P J Abdul Kalam. In India, the annual remembrance also celebrates learning, scientific curiosity and the contributions students can make to national development.

- A. P. J. Abdul Kalam was born on 15 October 1931.
- He served as the 11th President of India from 2002 to 2007.
- He was a scientist known for involvement in India's space and missile programmes.

Exam Pointer: Static GK: A. P. J. Abdul Kalam born – 1931 in Rameswaram; Bharat Ratna awarded – 1997.

World Food Day IMPORTANT DAYS

World Food Day was observed on **16 October 2026** to raise awareness of hunger, nutrition and food security. The 2026 campaign linked innovation and more sustainable agrifood systems with the challenge of feeding growing populations.

- 16 October commemorates FAO's establishment in 1945.
- The 2026 theme was Innovate today. Nourish tomorrow.
- Food security involves availability, access, utilisation and stability.

Exam Pointer: Static GK: FAO established – 16 October 1945; headquarters – Rome, Italy.

International Day for the Eradication of Poverty IMPORTANT DAYS

International Day for the Eradication of Poverty was observed on **17 October 2026** to focus global attention on poverty and deprivation. The observance promotes policies that improve access to decent work, social protection, education and public services for vulnerable communities.

- The UN designated the observance in 1992.
- Poverty has income and multidimensional aspects.
- The day is recognised every year on 17 October.

Exam Pointer: Static GK: UNGA Resolution 47/196 established the day; first UN observance – 1993.

World Menopause Day IMPORTANT DAYS

World Menopause Day was observed on **18 October 2026** to improve understanding of menopause and midlife health. Health organisations use the occasion to discuss informed care, evidence-based treatment and support for physical and emotional well-being.

- The observance takes place annually on 18 October.
- Menopause is defined retrospectively after 12 consecutive months without menstruation.
- Awareness promotes access to appropriate individualised advice.

Exam Pointer: Static GK: International Menopause Society founded – 1978; WHO headquarters – Geneva.

World Osteoporosis Day IMPORTANT DAYS

World Osteoporosis Day was observed on **20 October 2026** to promote bone-health awareness and fracture prevention. The campaign highlighted the importance of screening, nutrition, physical activity and treatment of people at increased risk of fragility fractures.

- Osteoporosis reduces bone strength and increases fracture risk.
- The day is observed internationally on 20 October.
- Bone health is affected by age, nutrition and activity.

Exam Pointer: Static GK: International Osteoporosis Foundation founded – 1998; osteoporosis is associated with fragility fractures.

National Police Commemoration Day IMPORTANT DAYS

National Police Commemoration Day was observed on **21 October 2026** to honour Indian police personnel who died in service. The annual observance recalls the courage of police forces and sacrifices made in protecting public safety and national security.

- The date commemorates the 1959 police encounter at Hot Springs, Ladakh.
- Central and state police organisations hold remembrance events.
- The day is observed throughout India on 21 October.

Exam Pointer: Static GK: Police Commemoration Day commemorates 21 October 1959; CRPF established – 1939.

International Snow Leopard Day IMPORTANT DAYS

International Snow Leopard Day was observed on **23 October 2026** to promote conservation of the snow leopard. The day raises awareness of the species' mountain habitat, threats from poaching and conflict, and the need for regional cooperation.

- Snow leopards inhabit high mountains of Central and South Asia.
- The species is classified as Vulnerable by the IUCN.
- Conservation includes community participation and habitat protection.

Exam Pointer: Static GK: International Snow Leopard Day – 23 October; snow leopard scientific name – Panthera uncia.

United Nations Day IMPORTANT DAYS

United Nations Day was observed on **24 October 2026** to mark the establishment of the United Nations. The observance focuses on international cooperation, peace, human rights and sustainable development under the organisation's founding Charter.

- The UN Charter entered into force on 24 October 1945.
- The United Nations has six principal organs.
- UN Day is observed annually on 24 October.

Exam Pointer: Static GK: United Nations founded – 1945; headquarters – New York; founding membership – 51 countries.

ITBP Raising Day IMPORTANT DAYS

ITBP Raising Day was observed on **24 October 2026** to commemorate the establishment of the Indo-Tibetan Border Police. The occasion recognises the force's role in guarding high-altitude frontiers and carrying out internal-security and rescue duties.

- ITBP was raised on 24 October 1962.
- The force operates under the Ministry of Home Affairs.
- It is one of India's Central Armed Police Forces.

Exam Pointer: Static GK: ITBP established – 1962; ITBP headquarters – New Delhi.

Indian Army Infantry Day IMPORTANT DAYS

Indian Army Infantry Day was observed on **27 October 2026** to honour the contribution of the Indian Army infantry. The observance remembers the arrival of Indian troops in Srinagar in 1947 and commemorates infantry service and sacrifices.

- The date commemorates Indian Army operations in Kashmir in October 1947.
- Infantry troops conduct land combat and hold terrain.
- Infantry Day is observed each year on 27 October.

Exam Pointer: Static GK: First Indian troops landed at Srinagar airfield – 27 October 1947; Indian Army Day – 15 January.

World Day for Audiovisual Heritage IMPORTANT DAYS

World Day for Audiovisual Heritage was observed on **27 October 2026** to recognise the importance of preserving audiovisual records. The UNESCO-linked observance stresses safeguarding historical film, sound and broadcast material for education and future generations.

- Audiovisual heritage includes recorded sound and moving images.
- Long-term preservation requires migration, archiving and conservation.
- UNESCO coordinates international awareness of documentary heritage.

Exam Pointer: Static GK: UNESCO headquarters – Paris; World Day for Audiovisual Heritage – 27 October.

World Stroke Day IMPORTANT DAYS

World Stroke Day was observed on **29 October 2026** to raise awareness of strokes and emergency treatment. The campaign encouraged recognition of warning signs and prompt medical attention, as rapid intervention can reduce disability and prevent deaths.

- Stroke arises from interruption of blood supply or bleeding in the brain.
- FAST is a common mnemonic for Face, Arms, Speech and Time.
- The day is observed annually on 29 October.

Exam Pointer: Static GK: World Stroke Organization founded – 2006; World Stroke Day – 29 October.

International Day of Care and Support IMPORTANT DAYS

International Day of Care and Support was observed on **29 October 2026** to recognise care work and caregivers. The UN observance highlighted equitable, sustainable care arrangements and the importance of both paid and unpaid care in societies and economies.

- The day is observed on 29 October every year.
- Care systems include childcare, elder care and disability support.
- Unpaid care affects employment and social-protection outcomes.

Exam Pointer: Static GK: United Nations headquarters – New York; Sustainable Development Goal 5 concerns gender equality.

National Unity Day IMPORTANT DAYS

National Unity Day was observed on **31 October 2026** to commemorate Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel. The Indian observance celebrates national integration and the role Patel played in the political unification of princely states after Independence.

- The day is also known as Rashtriya Ekta Diwas.
- Sardar Patel was born on 31 October 1875.
- He served as India's first Deputy Prime Minister and Home Minister.

Exam Pointer: Static GK: Statue of Unity – Kevadia, Gujarat; height – 182 metres; Sardar Patel died – 1950.

World Cities Day IMPORTANT DAYS

World Cities Day was observed on **31 October 2026** to encourage sustainable urban development and adequate housing. The 2026 global observance was hosted in Fuzhou, China, under the theme Regenerating the City: Adequate Housing for All.

- World Cities Day closes the annual Urban October campaign.
- The theme addressed housing access, renewal of existing city areas and inclusivity.
- The global observance involved UN-Habitat and host authorities in China.

Exam Pointer: Static GK: UNGA Resolution 68/239 established the day; first observance – 2014; SDG 11 concerns sustainable cities.

World Savings Day IMPORTANT DAYS

World Savings Day was observed on **31 October 2026** to promote savings and household financial planning. The day focuses on financial security, responsible money management and the contribution of saving institutions to economic participation.

- World Savings Day is also known as World Thrift Day.
- Its origin is associated with the International Thrift Congress held in Milan in 1924.
- The observance falls on 31 October internationally.

Exam Pointer: Static GK: World Savings Day established – 1924; Milan is in Italy; RBI headquarters – Mumbai.

Breast Cancer Awareness Month IMPORTANT DAYS

Breast Cancer Awareness Month was observed on **1–31 October 2026** to promote early detection and awareness of breast cancer. The month-long campaign supports access to screening, timely diagnosis, evidence-based treatment and information about warning signs.

- The campaign is observed annually throughout October.
- Early diagnosis can improve treatment options and outcomes.
- Public-health messaging emphasises professional evaluation of concerning symptoms.

Exam Pointer: Static GK: WHO headquarters – Geneva; IARC headquarters – Lyon, France.

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14. MONTHLY REVISION QUIZ (MCQS)

Solve before checking the answer key

Q1. What was the approved outlay for Pradhan Mantri Viksit Gram Swaraj Yojana?
A) ₹7,395.55 crore
B) ₹5,395.55 crore
C) ₹9,395.55 crore
D) ₹11,395.55 crore

Q2. Which agency is associated with the Integrated Transport and Logistics Authority approval?
A) Election Commission of India
B) Union Cabinet
C) NITI Aayog only
D) State Bank of India

Q3. How much is the Khelo India Sports Goods Manufacturing Scheme outlay?
A) ₹1,056.67 crore
B) ₹1,356.67 crore
C) ₹1,856.67 crore
D) ₹2,856.67 crore

Q4. Which regulator launched the NPS Central digital platform?
A) Reserve Bank of India
B) SEBI
C) IRDAI
D) PFRDA

Q5. Which entity partnered with SEBI on a clearing-regulation cooperation MoU?
A) Bank of England
B) Bank of Japan
C) European Central Bank
D) Asian Development Bank

Q6. What was the World Bank forecast for India growth in FY2026-27 in October 2026?
A) 6.1%
B) 7.1%
C) 8.1%
D) 9.1%

Q7. What percentage of IDBI Bank equity was included in the restructuring sale?
A) 50.72%
B) 55.72%
C) 60.72%
D) 65.72%

Q8. What was the wheat MSP for Rabi Marketing Season 2027-28?
A) ₹2,410
B) ₹2,510
C) ₹2,710
D) ₹2,610

Q9. Where was the first BIMSTEC Home Ministers Meeting held?
A) New Delhi
B) Dhaka
C) Kathmandu
D) Colombo

Q10. What is the capital of Costa Rica, where India opened a resident mission?
A) Panama City
B) San José
C) Managua
D) San Salvador

Q11. How many Next-Generation Corvettes were approved for the Indian Navy?
A) Six
B) Seven
C) Eight
D) Ten

Q12. The GARUDA SHAKTI 2026 military exercise was conducted with which country?
A) Japan
B) Thailand
C) Malaysia
D) Indonesia

Q13. The NVS-03 satellite forms part of which Indian navigation system?
A) NavIC
B) GPS
C) Galileo
D) BeiDou

Q14. Where is the Indian Institute of Science located?
A) Hyderabad
B) Bengaluru
C) Chennai
D) Pune

Q15. What is the title of UNEP Emissions Gap Report 2026?
A) Towards Net Zero
B) The Climate Promise
C) The Point of Return
D) One Earth, One Future

Q16. In which state is Kuno National Park located?
A) Rajasthan
B) Gujarat
C) Maharashtra
D) Madhya Pradesh

Q17. Who was named FICCI President-Elect for 2026-27?
A) Vijay Sankar
B) Anant Goenka
C) Sunil Kumar
D) Sudhakar Dalela

Q18. Who was appointed the next Indian Ambassador to Nepal?
A) Bimal Patel
B) Sudhakar Dalela
C) S. C. L. Das
D) Narendra Bhooshan

Q19. Which bank received the 2026 World's Best Consumer Bank award in the edition?
A) Bank of India
B) HDFC Bank
C) State Bank of India
D) Punjab National Bank

Q20. How many medals did India reportedly win at Asian Para Games 2026?
A) 104
B) 108
C) 110
D) 114

Q21. Who won the women's singles title at the 2026 French Open badminton final against P. V. Sindhu?
A) An Se-young
B) Akane Yamaguchi
C) Carolina Marin
D) Chen Yufei

Q22. Roshan Kumari was associated with which Indian classical dance?
A) Odissi
B) Kathak
C) Kuchipudi
D) Manipuri

Q23. Which state launched the Thuli rainwater conservation campaign?
A) Kerala
B) Karnataka
C) Tamil Nadu
D) Andhra Pradesh

Q24. On which date is World Cities Day observed?
A) 24 October
B) 27 October
C) 29 October
D) 31 October

Q25. World Teachers Day 2026 marked the anniversary of which recommendation?
A) 1966 ILO–UNESCO Recommendation concerning the Status of Teachers
B) 1989 Convention on the Rights of the Child
C) 1948 Universal Declaration of Human Rights
D) 1972 World Heritage Convention

Answers & Explanations Key

Q1. [A] **Exp:** The scheme was approved with a **₹7,395.55 crore** outlay for FY2026-27 to FY2030-31.

Q2. [B] **Exp:** The **Union Cabinet** approved creation of the Integrated Transport and Logistics Authority on 6 October 2026.

Q3. [C] **Exp:** The Cabinet approved **₹1,856.67 crore** for the Khelo India Sports Goods Manufacturing Scheme.

Q4. [D] **Exp:** The **PFRDA** introduced NPS Central for National Pension System subscribers.

Q5. [A] **Exp:** **SEBI** signed a regulatory-cooperation MoU with the **Bank of England**.

Q6. [B] **Exp:** The World Bank projected **7.1%** growth in its October 2026 India Development Update.

Q7. [C] **Exp:** The reported IDBI Bank strategic sale covered a **60.72%** stake.

Q8. [D] **Exp:** The CCEA-approved wheat MSP for RMS 2027-28 was **₹2,610** per quintal.

Q9. [A] **Exp:** India hosted the inaugural **BIMSTEC Home Ministers Meeting** in New Delhi.

Q10. [B] **Exp:** India operationalised its resident diplomatic mission in **San José**, Costa Rica.

Q11. [C] **Exp:** The Cabinet Committee on Security approved **eight** next-generation corvettes.

Q12. [D] **Exp:** **GARUDA SHAKTI** is an India–Indonesia special-forces exercise.

Q13. [A] **Exp:** NVS-03 is associated with India's regional satellite-navigation system, **NavIC**.

Q14. [B] **Exp:** The **Indian Institute of Science** is located in Bengaluru.

Q15. [C] **Exp:** UNEP published the **2026 Emissions Gap Report** under the title *The Point of Return*.

Q16. [D] **Exp:** **Kuno National Park** is in Madhya Pradesh.

Q17. [A] **Exp:** **Vijay Sankar** was selected FICCI President-Elect for 2026-27.

Q18. [B] **Exp:** The next Indian Ambassador to Nepal was named as **Sudhakar Dalela**.

Q19. [C] **Exp:** **State Bank of India** received the World's Best Consumer Bank 2026 distinction.

Q20. [D] **Exp:** The edition reports **114 medals** at the 2026 Asian Para Games.

Q21. [A] **Exp:** **An Se-young** defeated P. V. Sindhu in the final.

Q22. [B] **Exp:** **Roshan Kumari** was a noted exponent of Kathak.

Q23. [C] **Exp:** The **Thuli** rainwater awareness campaign was launched in Tamil Nadu.

Q24. [D] **Exp:** **World Cities Day** is observed every year on 31 October.

Q25. [A] **Exp:** World Teachers Day 2026 marked 60 years of the **1966 ILO–UNESCO Recommendation**.

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