

**Current Affairs • 4 October 2026****19 min**

READING TIME

8

KEY STORIES

24

IN BRIEF

5 + 1

MCQS + MAINS

GS2 • 19

GS3 • 21

PAPER MIX

01 — TODAY IN 2 MINUTES

The 5 stories you can't skip

- 1 Supreme Court judge says disenfranchising millions violates Article 14 and 326**
Why it matters: Basic Structure and Fundamental Rights: a GS2 case study on the constitutional sanctity of the right to vote.
GS2 • POLITY & CONSTITUTION P M
- 2 India moves beyond advocacy to engage Kyiv and Moscow on Ukraine conflict**
Why it matters: India's shift from neutral advocacy to active mediation: a key GS2 case study on Strategic Autonomy.
GS2 • INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS M
- 3 Armed forces submit Agnipath scheme recommendations to Department of Military Affairs**
Why it matters: Human resource management and operational readiness in defense: a GS3 Internal Security and Defense policy case study.
GS3 • INTERNAL SECURITY P M
- 4 Jaishankar meets Admiral Paparo to discuss India-U.S. maritime cooperation**
Why it matters: India-U.S. security and Quad cooperation: a key GS2 International Relations topic.
GS2 • INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS P
- 5 Zelenskyy announces readiness for trilateral talks with US and Russia**
Why it matters: Trilateral diplomacy and the role of middle powers in conflict mediation: a GS2 International Relations case study.
GS2 • INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS M

NUMBER OF THE DAY

13 crore

Number of names reportedly excluded from draft rolls across three phases.

What to know, in 60 seconds each

8 of 40 notes · picked for exam value

GS2 · POLITY & CONSTITUTION

P

M

Supreme Court judge says disenfranchising millions violates Article 14 and 326

Why in news: Justice Ujjal Bhuyan of the Supreme Court stated that disenfranchising millions of Indian citizens violates Article 14 and Article 326, arguing that voting is central to the Basic Structure doctrine.

REMEMBER

- Basic Structure Doctrine: Voting is considered central to this doctrine.
- Article 14: Right to Equality violated by disenfranchisement.
- 13 crore: Number of names reportedly excluded from draft rolls across three phases.

MAINS ANGLE *Examine the constitutional implications of voter disenfranchisement and discuss the significance of the right to vote as a component of the Basic Structure of the Constitution.*

USE : Basic Structure Doctrine Right to Equality

Universal Adult Franchise Electoral Roll Integrity

Full note → satyadheesh.in/upsc/note/130692

GS3 · INTERNAL SECURITY

P

M

Armed forces submit Agnipath scheme recommendations to Department of Military Affairs

Why in news: The Army, Navy, and Air Force submitted recommendations to the Department of Military Affairs regarding the Agnipath scheme as the first batch of Agniveers completes their four-year tenure in October 2026.

REMEMBER

- Agnipath scheme: Recruitment into Army, Navy, and Air Force with a four-year tenure launched in June 2022.
- Seva Nidhi package: ₹11.71 lakh provided to 75% of Agniveers exiting the scheme.
- Retention ratio: Up to 25% of Agniveers are retained after the four-year tenure.

MAINS ANGLE *Discuss the structural and operational implications of the Agnipath scheme on the long-term readiness and human resource management of India's armed forces.*

USE : Human Resource Management Operational Readiness

Fiscal Sustainability Institutional Memory

Full note → satyadheesh.in/upsc/note/130680

GS2 · INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS

M

India moves beyond advocacy to engage Kyiv and Moscow on Ukraine conflict

Why in news: External Affairs Minister S. Jaishankar stated at the Munich Leaders' Meeting that India is moving beyond advocacy to engage both Kyiv and Moscow on the Ukraine conflict.

REMEMBER

- Strategic Autonomy: India's evolving role from a neutral advocate to an active mediator.
- Food Diplomacy: Focus on grain exports and energy supplies in the Ukraine conflict.
- Black Sea: Region identified for shipping safety and grain export focus.

MAINS ANGLE *Discuss India's evolving role from a neutral advocate to an active mediator in the Ukraine conflict. How does this align with India's strategic autonomy?*

USE : Strategic Autonomy Multi-alignment Mediation

Energy Security

Full note → satyadheesh.in/upsc/note/130661

GS2 · INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS

P

Jaishankar meets Admiral Paparo to discuss India-U.S. maritime cooperation

Why in news: External Affairs Minister S. Jaishankar met U.S. Indo-Pacific Command Commander Admiral Samuel J. Paparo to discuss deepening the Major Defense Partnership and Quad cooperation.

REMEMBER

- Admiral Samuel J. Paparo — Commander of the U.S. Indo-Pacific Command
- Major Defense Partnership — A framework for India-U.S. security and maritime cooperation
- Quad Cooperation — A multilateral framework for regional stability and maritime security

MAINS ANGLE *Examine how the deepening of the India-U.S. Major Defense Partnership and Quad cooperation contributes to maritime security and regional stability in the Indo-Pacific.*

USE : Maritime Security Indo-Pacific

Major Defense Partnership Quad Cooperation

Full note → satyadheesh.in/upsc/note/130672

Zelenskyy announces readiness for trilateral talks with US and Russia

Why in news: President Volodymyr Zelenskyy announced Ukraine's readiness for trilateral talks with the US and Russia this month, while India's External Affairs Minister S.

REMEMBER

- Kyiv — Capital of Ukraine where Zelenskyy announced readiness for trilateral talks.
- Munich Security Conference — Venue where India's mediation role was discussed.
- October 2026 — Washington's target date for initiating technical-level talks.

MAINS ANGLE Discuss the evolving role of middle powers like India in mediating global conflicts and the geopolitical implications of trilateral negotiations in the Ukraine-Russia crisis.

USE : Strategic Autonomy Mediation Trilateral Diplomacy Geopolitical Alignment

Full note → satyadheesh.in/upsc/note/130639

IAF targets 42 squadrons requiring 36-40 annual jet inductions

Why in news: Air Chief Marshal AP Singh stated the IAF requires 36–40 annual jet inductions to reach its target of 42 squadrons amid delays in Tejas Mark-1A production and ongoing MRFA negotiations with France.

REMEMBER

- Multi-Role Fighter Aircraft (MRFA) — programme for procuring 114 Rafale jets from France.
- 42 squadrons — the target strength for the Indian Air Force.
- 30 squadrons — the current fighter squadron count of the IAF.

MAINS ANGLE Analyze the challenges in achieving the IAF's squadron expansion targets and the strategic importance of indigenous production versus international procurement.

USE : Indigenization Defense Procurement Multi-Role Fighter Aircraft Strategic Autonomy

Full note → satyadheesh.in/upsc/note/130363

Seychelles secures world's first ocean debt conversion for conservation

Why in news: The Leonardo DiCaprio Foundation and other funders backed a world's first ocean debt conversion deal with Seychelles to turn \$21.6 million in foreign debt into conservation funding.

REMEMBER

- Debt-for-nature swap — converting foreign debt into funding for marine conservation efforts.
- Seychelles — the first nation to participate in an ocean debt conversion deal.
- \$21.6 million — the total amount of foreign debt converted into conservation funding.

MAINS ANGLE Discuss the potential of 'debt-for-nature' swaps as a viable mechanism for financing marine conservation in developing and island nations.

USE : Debt-for-nature swap Marine conservation Sovereign debt Blue economy

Full note → satyadheesh.in/upsc/note/130461

Centre considers ₹5,129 crore Sawalkot hydropower project in J&K

Why in news: The Union Power Secretary announced that the Centre is considering the ₹5,129 crore Sawalkot hydropower project in J&K following India's suspension of the Indus Water Treaty.

REMEMBER

- NHPC — The agency behind the Sawalkot hydropower project initiative.
- 800 megawatts — The power generation capacity of the Sawalkot project.
- ₹5,129 crores — The estimated cost of the Sawalkot hydropower project.

MAINS ANGLE Discuss the implications of suspending the Indus Water Treaty on India's energy security and regional hydro-politics.

USE : Energy Security Transboundary Water Hydro-politics Infrastructure Development

Full note → satyadheesh.in/upsc/note/130285

Everything else, one line each

GS2 · POLITY · GOVERNANCE · SOCIAL JUSTICE · IR

Ukraine drone strike: Russia launched 135 drones targeting Kyiv, Sumy, and Dnipro infrastructure during German Chancellor's visit.

Labor migration: Russia plans to recruit approximately 70,000 Indian skilled workers this year.

Sheikh Hasina's arrival: India's High Commissioner clarified she arrived in India on a Bangladeshi military aircraft, not Indian forces.

BCI protest row: Supreme Court ruled that the Bar Council of India lacks authority to take punitive action against protesting students.

ICMR-NIE study estimates 5,726 annual rabies deaths vs. Union Health Ministry's 54 report

Deccan Declaration: Launched at LAMBCON 2026 to establish Hyderabad as a Formula-Free City.

NEHS pre-authorisation: Telangana's New Employees Health Scheme received pre-authorisation for 15,395 treatments totaling ₹104.63 crore.

CURE Act: Telangana enacts Act to automate land mutations and cap property tax increases at 10% for a 2,053 sq. km region.

Voter re-enrollment: Kerala to re-enroll 8.97 lakh voters removed during Special Intensive Revision starting October 2026.

EC officials to visit Goa, Uttarakhand, Punjab and Manipur for election preparedness

Central Secretariat Library: Supreme Court reviews relocation of 135-year-old library housing 8.5 lakh books during Central Vista redevelopment.

GS3 · ECONOMY · S&T · ENVIRONMENT · SECURITY

MAP WORK

Places in news

Black Sea	Region identified for shipping safety and grain export focus.
Seychelles	the first nation to participate in an ocean debt conversion deal.
Desert National Park, Rajasthan	Site for the release of Great Indian Bustards.
Kyiv	Capital of Ukraine where Zelenskyy announced readiness for trilateral talks.
Pivnichnyi Bridge	a major bridge located in Kyiv, Ukraine

Shaktikanta Das says Viksit Bharat by 2047 is achievable with 7.9 per cent growth

FPI outflows: FPIs sold Rs 45,536 crore in equity in September due to high US yields and crude prices.

Lunar reactors: NASA, China, and Russia are developing nuclear reactors to power permanent lunar bases due to long lunar nights.

Mercury Pollution: IIT Hyderabad hosted the 17th International Conference on Mercury as a Global Pollutant to review the Minamata Convention.

Revenue receipts: Telangana state consistently failed to meet budget estimates for revenue receipts between 2022 and 2025.

Amul dairy plant: Foundation stone laid for a ₹400-crore plant in Toopran, Telangana, to promote White Revolution 2.0.

Great Indian Bustard: Two captive-bred male birds released into Rajasthan's Desert National Park as part of a collaborative conservation effort.

PMAY-G 2.0: Union government to sanction 6 lakh additional houses for Andhra Pradesh under the scheme.

Repo rate hike: RBI may increase the repo rate by 0.25% on October 7, 2026, to mitigate inflation from the West Asia crisis.

BESS project: MNRE approved a 50 MW/100 MWh Battery Energy Storage System at Kasaragod solar park to meet Kerala's evening peak demand.

Nuclear arsenal: Bulletin of the Atomic Scientists estimates India's nuclear warhead count at up to 190.

Over 90% of Indian Candida auris isolates resist azole-based antifungals, study finds

IAF aircraft tender: Lockheed Martin and TASL bid USD 10.5 billion for 60 transport aircraft, including 48 to be manufactured in India.

5 questions, 5 minutes

Answers at the bottom, upside down

1 With reference to the Supreme Court's observations on voter disenfranchisement, consider the following statements:

1. The Supreme Court upheld the exclusion of 20 crore names from the draft rolls.
2. Disenfranchising millions of citizens violates Article 14 and Article 326.
3. The right to vote is considered a component of the Basic Structure doctrine.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- (a) 2 only (b) 1 and 2 only
(c) 1 and 3 only (d) 2 and 3 only

2 Which region was identified as a focus area for shipping safety and grain exports in the Ukraine conflict?

- (a) South China Sea (b) Black Sea
(c) Red Sea (d) Mediterranean Sea

3 With reference to the Agnipath scheme, consider the following statements:

1. Up to 25% of Agniveers are retained after completing their tenure.
2. The scheme involves a five-year tenure for Agniveers.
3. The Seva Nidhi package provides ₹15 lakh to exiting personnel.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- (a) 1 only (b) 3 only
(c) 1 and 2 only (d) 2 and 3 only

4 With reference to the India–U.S. Major Defense Partnership, consider the following statements:

1. The partnership focuses on maritime cooperation and regional stability.
2. The discussions were exclusively limited to digital transformation without any maritime focus.
3. Admiral Samuel J. Paparo is the Commander of the U.S. Atlantic Command.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- (a) 1 only (b) 1 and 3 only
(c) 2 and 3 only (d) 1, 2 and 3

5 Which city serves as the capital of Ukraine where the announcement regarding trilateral talks was made?

- (a) Kyiv (b) Bucharest
(c) Minsk (d) Warsaw

MAINS PRACTICE

Write one answer today

GS2 · POLITY & CONSTITUTION

Examine the constitutional implications of voter disenfranchisement and discuss the significance of the right to vote as a component of the Basic Structure of the Constitution.

USE: Basic Structure Doctrine Right to Equality Universal Adult Franchise Electoral Roll Integrity Constitutionalism

ANSWERS · 1 (d) 2 (b) 3 (a) 4 (a) 5 (a)



TELEGRAM



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