

**Current Affairs • October 2026****32 min**

READING TIME

12

KEY STORIES

54

IN BRIEF

10 + 3

MCQS + MAINS

GS1 • 1

GS2 • 42

GS3 • 77

PAPER MIX

01 – THE MONTH IN 2 MINUTES**The 6 stories you can't skip****1 Union Cabinet approves ₹1.86 lakh crore Green Energy Corridor Phase-III to integrate renewable power**

Why it matters: The Union Cabinet approved the ₹1.86 lakh crore Green Energy Corridor Phase-III (GEC-III) to integrate renewable power into the national grid.

GS3 • ECONOMY

P

M

2 EC directs officers to enroll eligible voters after 13.3 crore names deleted

Why it matters: The Election Commission directed Chief Electoral Officers to conduct a special drive to enroll eligible voters following the deletion of approximately 13.3 crore names from voter lists.

GS2 • POLITY & CONSTITUTION

P

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

Why it matters: External Affairs Minister S.

GS2 • INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS

M

4 IAF targets 42 squadrons requiring 36-40 annual jet inductions

Why it matters: Defense procurement and indigenization: a GS3 case study on balancing domestic production and strategic imports.

GS3 • INTERNAL SECURITY

P

M

5 India orders Apple to remove Bitchat from App Store under Section 69A

Why it matters: Digital sovereignty and content regulation: a GS3 and Ethics case study on state security vs. privacy.

GS3 • SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY

P

M

6 Supreme Court dismisses Centre's plea against Calcutta High Court order on Great Nicobar project

Why it matters: The Supreme Court dismissed the Centre's plea against a Calcutta High Court order upholding Public Interest Litigations (PILs) alleging violations of the Forest Rights Act in the Great Nicobar Island project.

GS2 • GOVERNANCE

P

M

FIGURES WORTH REMEMBERING**42 squadrons**

the target strength for the Indian Air Force.

30 squadrons

the current fighter squadron count of the IAF.

85%

Percentage of Bitchat downloads accounted for by

800 megawatts

The power generation capacity of the Sawalkot

India between July 17 and July 23.

project.

P.2 KEY STORIES » IN BRIEF + PLACES » TEST YOURSELF

P = PRELIMS • M = MAINS

What to know, in 60 seconds each

12 of 177 notes · picked for exam value

GS3 · ECONOMY

P

M

Union Cabinet approves ₹1.86 lakh crore Green Energy Corridor Phase-III to integrate renewable power

Why in news: The Union Cabinet approved the ₹1.86 lakh crore Green Energy Corridor Phase-III (GEC-III) to integrate renewable power into the national grid.

REMEMBER

- GEC-III total outlay: ₹1.86 lakh crore
- BESS capacity target: 50 GWh
- Renewable power evacuation target: 135 GW by FY2032–33

MAINS ANGLE Discuss the significance of integrating renewable energy into the national grid and the role of storage systems in achieving India's 2030 energy targets.

USE : Renewable Energy Green Energy Corridor

Battery Energy Storage System Viability Gap Funding

Full note → satyadheesh.in/news/130847

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

- Munich Leaders' Meeting: Held in New Delhi
- August 31: Date of talks between Narendra Modi and Vladimir Putin
- 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/news/130661

GS2 · POLITY & CONSTITUTION

P

EC directs officers to enroll eligible voters after 13.3 crore names deleted

Why in news: The Election Commission directed Chief Electoral Officers to conduct a special drive to enroll eligible voters following the deletion of approximately 13.3 crore names from voter lists.

REMEMBER

- Approximately 13.3 crore names were deleted from voter lists
- Form 6: The specific form used for enrolling eligible voters

MAINS ANGLE Discuss the importance of maintaining an accurate and inclusive electoral roll in ensuring the integrity of the democratic process in India.

USE : Universal Adult Franchise Electoral Integrity

Constitutional Mandate Voter Awareness

Full note → satyadheesh.in/news/129344

GS3 · INTERNAL SECURITY

P

M

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/news/130363

India orders Apple to remove Bitchat from App Store under Section 69A

Why in news: The Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology ordered Apple to remove Bitchat from its App Store under Section 69A of the Information Technology Act.

REMEMBER

- Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology (MeitY) — Nodal ministry for IT regulations in India.
- Section 69A of the Information Technology Act — Provision used to order the removal of Bitchat.
- 85% — Percentage of Bitchat downloads accounted for by India between July 17 and July 23.

MAINS ANGLE Discuss the balance between state security measures under Section 69A and the fundamental right to freedom of speech and privacy in the digital age.

USE : Digital Sovereignty Platform Liability Right to Privacy Content Regulation

Full note → satyadheesh.in/news/130116

India plans Gaganyaan flight in 2027 as 746 people from 52 countries visited space

Why in news: India plans its Gaganyaan human spaceflight mission for 2027 as the world observes World Space Week.

REMEMBER

- Sputnik 1: The first satellite to orbit Earth, launched by the Soviet Union.
- Outer Space Treaty: Entered into force on October 10, 1967, establishing space as a peaceful domain.
- US and China have sent 369 and 29 people to space respectively.

MAINS ANGLE Discuss the significance of the Outer Space Treaty in ensuring the peaceful use of outer space and the challenges of establishing a legal boundary for space.

USE : Space Governance Outer Space Treaty Human Spaceflight Sputnik

Full note → satyadheesh.in/news/130861

Supreme Court dismisses Centre's plea against Calcutta High Court order on Great Nicobar project

Why in news: The Supreme Court dismissed the Centre's plea against a Calcutta High Court order upholding Public Interest Litigations (PILs) alleging violations of the Forest Rights Act in the Great Nicobar Island project.

REMEMBER

- Great Nicobar Island: Project site under litigation regarding Forest Rights Act
- Forest Rights Act: Legislation cited in PILs regarding the Great Nicobar project

MAINS ANGLE Examine the conflict between large-scale infrastructure development and the protection of indigenous forest rights under the Forest Rights Act.

USE : Judicial Review Forest Rights Act Environmental Governance Infrastructure Development

Full note → satyadheesh.in/news/131064

Supreme Court judge says disenfranchising millions violates Article 14 and Article 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

- 13 crore names were 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/news/130692

Jaishankar meets Admiral Paparo to discuss India-U.S. security and 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
- The visit by Admiral Paparo to India lasted five days from October 3 to 8, 2026
- Major Defense Partnership: A framework for India-U.S. security and maritime cooperation

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/news/130672

India identifies 28 geographical features on SoI map in Ladakh

Why in news: The Government of India identified 28 geographical features on the official Survey of India (SoI) map following PLA troop movements along the LAC since April 2020.

REMEMBER

- Survey of India (SoI): The national survey and mapping agency of the Government of India.
- Ladakh: A Union Territory of India sharing borders with China, Pakistan, and Afghanistan.
- Line of Actual Control (LAC): Approximately 3,488 km long.

MAINS ANGLE *Discuss the significance of accurate cartographic mapping in maintaining territorial integrity and managing border disputes in the context of the LAC.*

USE: territorial integrity cartographic sovereignty LAC

border management

Full note → satyadheesh.in/news/129798

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/news/130285

Piyush Goyal meets Jamieson Greer to discuss interim trade agreement amid US tariff changes

Why in news: Commerce Minister Piyush Goyal met U.S. Trade Representative Jamieson Greer to discuss an interim trade agreement following changes in U.S. tariff policies.

REMEMBER

- Jamieson Greer: U.S. Trade Representative
- India is seeking competitive advantages over ASEAN countries, China, and Bangladesh
- Milwaukee: Location of the trade discussion

MAINS ANGLE *Discuss the challenges and opportunities for India in navigating shifting U.S. tariff policies to secure competitive trade advantages in the global market.*

USE: Trade Liberalization Tariff Policy Bilateral Cooperation

Competitive Advantage

Full note → satyadheesh.in/news/128774

Everything else, one line each

54 more notes · full versions online

GS1 · HISTORY · SOCIETY · GEOGRAPHY

2026 marks lowest monsoon in a decade as El Nino causes drought threshold deficit

GS2 · POLITY · GOVERNANCE · SOCIAL JUSTICE · IR

White House Accord: A voluntary pact with Meta, Nvidia, Google, OpenAI, xAI, and Anthropic to establish AI safety guardrails.

Russia launches 135 drones striking Kyiv, Sumy and Dnipro; one death reported

Ocean debt conversion: Seychelles converted \$21.6 million in foreign debt into funding to increase protected areas to 30%.

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

The Ministry of Education approved five Centres of Excellence for Classical Assamese, Bengali, Pali

National Tribunals Commission: Rules published for the NTC to oversee 16 tribunals following the Tribunals Reforms Bill 2024.

Maninder Sidhu and Piyush Goyal aim to scale Canada and India bilateral trade

Kaliningrad blockade: Russia issued a memo to NATO threatening its entire arsenal, including nuclear weapons, over potential blockades.

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

Vijay launches 'Vettri Payanam' offering no-fare travel for 84.32 lakh women and transgender persons

ICMR study estimates 5,726 annual rabies deaths despite Health Ministry recording only 54

Panchayati Raj elections: Four-phase elections for 14,403 village panchayats to be held from October 23 to November 17.

AP Reservation: State filed a Special Leave Petition in the Supreme Court challenging a High Court order on 34% BC reservation.

Strait of Hormuz rescue: India coordinated the rescue of five nationals from the MT Kazimah III after it was struck by a projectile.

Supreme Court orders blocking services for motorists with ₹49,194.05 crore in unpaid fines

Karnataka to use ₹2,000 crore ADB loan to strengthen 500 public schools

KSRTC to host vending machines and incinerators at 14 terminals for menstrual needs

Montana Governor Greg Gianforte leads 30-person delegation to India and Sri Lanka for trade

Hegseth announces six reforms including Elon Musk-led Project Meridian at Marine Corps Base Quantico

Telangana CEO orders penalties for applicants making knowingly false statements in voter forms

Constitution Bench may not hear merits of 2003 resolution to arrest The Hindu editors

GS3 · ECONOMY · S&T · ENVIRONMENT · SECURITY

India raises toy tariffs to 70% as trade deficit with China hits \$112bn

Karl Deisseroth, Peter Hegemann, and Georg Nagel awarded Nobel Prize in Physiology or Medicine

RBI Governor Sanjay Malhotra's hawkish speech signals higher rates amid \$4.5 billion capital outflows

Army, Navy and Air Force submit Agnipath scheme recommendations to Department of Military Affairs

Jessica Watkins becomes first Black woman to lead crew to orbit in record flight

Households without biometric Aadhaar authentication to receive only 5kg or 10kg cylinders

80% of Mumbaiers refuse 0.4% MDR on UPI payments above ₹2,000

Crude oil prices: India's crude oil basket jumped 28.66% to \$116.04 per barrel in September.

Supreme Court rules out nationwide firecracker ban, accepts limited relaxation for green crackers

External debt: India's external debt rose by \$15.4 billion to reach \$778.2 billion by end-June 2024.

India proposes \$25 billion pool to support Deep Tech startups and reduce foreign dependence

Rural investment: Andhra Pradesh announced ₹1.30 lakh crore for rural development and ₹1 lakh crore for Rayalaseema horticulture.

The Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change, Rajasthan Forest Department

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

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

Masayoshi Son warns of "super dangerous" superintelligence as AI targets 20% of global GDP

BVR-19 photocatalyst uses sulfur bonds to eliminate expensive metal catalysts for green hydrogen

20 of 21 experts expect RBI rate hike as crude oil exceeds \$100

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

Quantum computing: Andhra Pradesh to launch quantum computing in Amaravati by 2027 in collaboration with IBM, TCS, and L&T.

Drought relief: Karnataka requested ₹7,142.64 crore from NDRF for crop losses and water issues across 177 taluks.

Tigress T138 released into Buxa Tiger Reserve to establish self-sustaining population

USBRL project: Speed limit on Katra–Banihal section increased to 100 kmph for Vande Bharat Express.

Tamil Nadu launches first booth-less toll plaza using FASTag, RFID and ANPR technology

The Telangana Government announced the release of two out of five pending dearness allowance (DA) instalments worth ₹2,500 crore to address arrears since July 1, 2023

Shoonya MD Sarvjeet Singh Virk highlighted a SEBI FY25–26 study revealing that 87.7% of individual equity derivative traders incurred net losses

Less than two years after massive clean-up, water hyacinth takes over large swathes of Ooty lake

Kerala to launch ‘Brand Wayanad’ with ₹50 crore Tribal University and Heritage Centre

Extreme heat links to premature births and underweight babies, UNFCCC's Simon Stiell warns

149 Wayanad township houses to be completed by October 31 for landslide survivors

Wet-bulb temperature of 32–35° C can be lethal as Chennai humidity rises

High-rise buildings and asphalt cause terrestrial stiling and intensify heat in Indian cities

MAP WORK

Places in news

Pahalgam	Location of the 2025 attack leading to the Indus Water Treaty suspension.
Ladakh	A Union Territory of India sharing borders with China, Pakistan, and Afghanistan.
Seychelles	the first nation to participate in an ocean debt conversion deal.
Bishkek	Location of the meeting between PM Modi and Vladimir Putin
Kaliningrad	A Russian exclave on the Baltic Sea bordering Poland and Lithuania

10 questions, 10 minutes

Answers at the bottom, upside down

-
- 1** What is the target number of fighter squadrons for the Indian Air Force?
- ☐ a 36 ☐ b 42
☐ c 50 ☐ d 60
-
- 2** With reference to the removal of Bitchat from Indian app stores, consider the following statements:
1. India accounted for 95% of Bitchat downloads between July 17 and July 23.
 2. The order was issued by the Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology.
 3. The app was removed from the App Store and Google Play following user protests.
- Which of the statements given above is/are correct?
- ☐ a 2 only ☐ b 3 only
☐ c 1 and 3 only ☐ d 2 and 3 only
-
- 3** What is the estimated power generation capacity of the Sawalkot hydropower project?
- ☐ a 800 megawatts ☐ b 1200 megawatts
☐ c 500 megawatts ☐ d 1000 megawatts
-
- 4** With reference to the Survey of India (Sol) and the Ladakh border, consider the following statements:
1. The Line of Actual Control (LAC) with China is approximately 3,488 km long.
 2. The government identified 40 geographical features in Ladakh following PLA troop movements.
 3. The Survey of India is the national survey and mapping agency of the Government of India.
- Which of the statements given above is/are correct?
- ☐ a 1 only ☐ b 3 only
☐ c 1 and 3 only ☐ d 2 and 3 only
-
- 5** Which legislative proposal was introduced as a counter-measure to the White House Accord on Super Intelligence?
- ☐ a AI Ethics Framework Bill ☐ b Technological Oversight Act
☐ c Digital Sovereignty Act ☐ d Ban Artificial Superintelligence Act
-
- 6** What was the target percentage of protected areas to be achieved by 2020 through the Seychelles conservation funding?
- ☐ a 20% ☐ b 30%
☐ c 40% ☐ d 50%
-
- 7** In which city did Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Vladimir Putin meet on August 31?
- ☐ a Yerevan ☐ b Tashkent
☐ c Astana ☐ d Bishkek
-
- 8** What is the monthly remuneration received by the Chairperson of the National Tribunals Commission?
- ☐ a ₹2.5 lakh ☐ b ₹3.5 lakh
☐ c ₹1.5 lakh ☐ d ₹2.0 lakh
-

9 With reference to India's economic data for Q1 FY27, consider the following statements:

1. The Real GDP growth rate was recorded at 7.8%
2. The manufacturing sector grew at a rate of 12.1%
3. The services sector saw a growth rate of 12.1%

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

10 With reference to India's external debt and macroeconomic data, consider the following statements:

1. India's total external debt reached \$778.2 billion by June 2024.
2. Services trade exports in August 2024 were \$35.5 billion.
3. The debt-to-GDP ratio moderated to 25.8% as of June 2024.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

MAINS PRACTICE

Mains questions to practise

GS3 · ECONOMY

Discuss the significance of integrating renewable energy into the national grid and the role of storage systems in achieving India's 2030 energy targets.

USE: Renewable Energy Green Energy Corridor Battery Energy Storage System Viability Gap Funding Grid Integration

GS2 · POLITY & CONSTITUTION

Discuss the importance of maintaining an accurate and inclusive electoral roll in ensuring the integrity of the democratic process in India.

USE: Universal Adult Franchise Electoral Integrity Constitutional Mandate Voter Awareness Administrative Efficiency

GS2 · INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS

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 Food Diplomacy

(c) 10 (d) 6 (a) 8 (d) 7 (b) 9 (d) 5 (c) 4 (a) 3 (d) 2 (b) 1 · ANSWERS



TELEGRAM



WEBSITE

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