CURRENT AFFAIRS — 2 November 2026

Monday, 2 November 2026 • Asia/Kolkata (IST) • Bihar + National • BPSC Prelims & Mains digest

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DAILY CURRENT AFFAIRS FOR BPSC CCE

TODAY AT A GLANCE — 10 THINGS TO REMEMBER

- Bihar paddy procurement 2026-27 began **1 Nov** in **19 North Bihar districts**; South Bihar from **15 Nov**.
- Paddy MSP 2026-27: **₹2,441** (common) and **₹2,461** (Grade-A) per quintal.
- Cyclone **Arnab** rain: **Simri (Buxar) 87.6 mm** highest; CM orders **crop-damage survey**.
- Disqualification sought against independent MLCs **Bansidhar Brajwasi** and **Rahul Raj** under the **Tenth Schedule**.
- Bihar spends about **₹23,000 crore/yr** on power subsidy; CM urges well-off to give up **125 free units**.
- **JP Ganga Path** extension: **Digha-Sherpur-Bihta, 35.65 km**; Patna-Koilwar in about **30 min**.
- Northern bullet-train corridor **Delhi-Guwahati via Siliguri (~1,500 km)**; **Patna** a named station.
- October GST: gross **₹2,31,290 crore (+22.9%)**, net **₹2,03,356 crore (+25.6%)**.
- DAC in-principle nod to **Project-18A** destroyers: **>₹75,000 crore**, **>10,000 tonnes**.
- India joins **Ibero-American Conference** as **Associate Observer**; Madrid summit **4-5 Nov**.

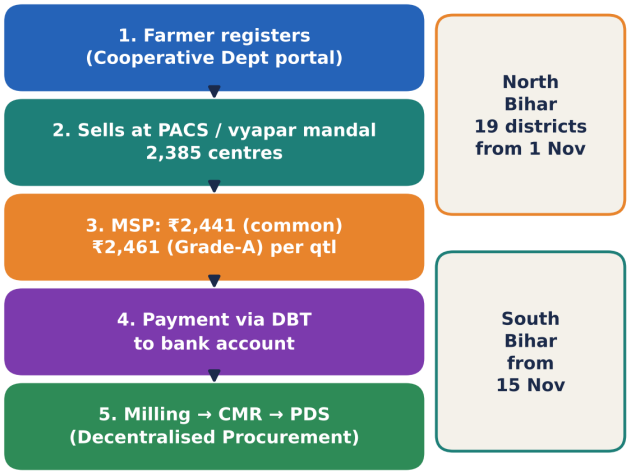
SECTION A — BIHAR SPECIAL: Schemes, Policy, Administration & State Economy

Bihar opens kharif paddy procurement at new MSP through 2,385 PACS

BIHAR **BPSC: Prelims + Mains GS-II (Bihar Economy & Agriculture)**

Syllabus Linkage	Mains GS-II: **Bihar economy - agriculture, cooperatives, food management**. Prelims: **MSP, CACP, PACS, decentralised procurement**.
Context	Paddy procurement for **Kharif Marketing Season 2026-27** began on **1 November** in **19 districts of North Bihar**. The Cooperative Department has notified **2,385 PACS and vyapar mandals** as purchase centres; South Bihar procurement is being readied from **15 November**.
Key Facts	■ MSP 2026-27: **₹2,441/qtl (common)**, up **₹72**; **₹2,461/qtl (Grade-A)** - approved by the Union Cabinet on **13 May 2026**. ■ **2,385 PACS + vyapar mandals** are purchase centres; Cooperation Minister **Ram Kripal Yadav** promised a transparent process with accountability for lapses. ■ The State has sought a higher procurement target of **50 lakh MT** (against **35 lakh MT**). ■ Two-phase start: **North Bihar - 1 Nov**; **South Bihar - 15 Nov** (later harvest).
Way Fwd	Timely **DBT payment**, moisture-testing at every PACS and enough **milling/storage capacity** are needed so that small farmers do not sell below MSP to traders.
Concept	**MSP** is recommended by **CACP** and approved by the **CCEA**. **PACS** form the base tier of the 3-tier short-term cooperative credit structure (**PACS - DCCB - StCB**). Bihar follows **Decentralised Procurement (DCP)** - the State buys, mills and distributes rice under the **PDS**.

Bihar Paddy Procurement 2026-27



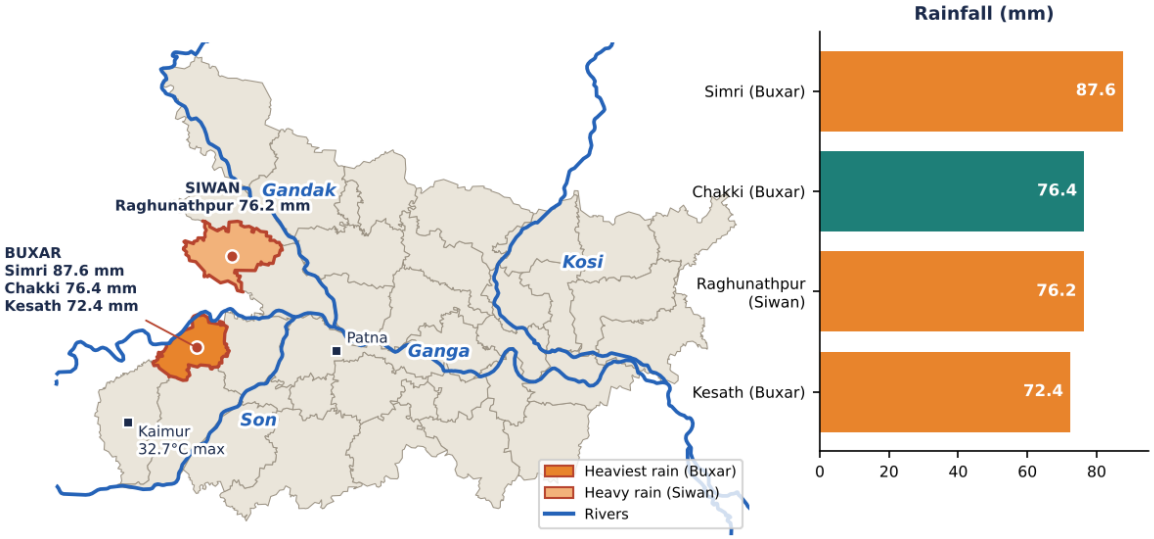
Target sought: 50 lakh MT (vs 35 lakh MT)

Cyclone Arnab rain hits crops; CM orders damage survey

BIHAR **BPSC: Prelims + Mains GS-II (Bihar Geography & Disaster Management)**

Syllabus Linkage	Mains GS-II: **Bihar geography - climate, agriculture, disasters**. Prelims: **tropical cyclones, naming, SDRF norms**.
Context	Two days of unseasonal rain from the weakening **Cyclonic Storm Arnab** damaged standing **paddy, sugarcane, potato and vegetables** in parts of Bihar. On **1 November**, all districts were placed in the **green zone**; CM **Samrat Choudhary** ordered a survey of crop loss and prompt compensation.
Key Facts	■ Highest 24-hr rainfall: **Simri (Buxar) 87.6 mm**, **Chakki (Buxar) 76.4 mm**, **Raghunathpur (Siwan) 76.2 mm**, **Kesath (Buxar) 72.4 mm**. ■ Highest maximum on 31 Oct: **Kaimur 32.7°C**; Patna max near **31°C**, min near **22°C**. ■ Residual effect of the cyclone may last till **4 November**; normal weather thereafter. ■ Officials to identify affected farmers and ensure **prompt compensation**; festive markets also slowed.
Way Fwd	Fast-track **input-subsidy** payment via DBT, use **satellite/drone-based crop assessment** and widen enrolment in the zero-premium **Bihar Rajya Fasal Sahayata Yojana**.
Concept	Bay of Bengal cyclones are named from the list of the **WMO/ESCAP Panel on Tropical Cyclones** (**13 member countries**, list of **169 names** adopted in **2020**). Under **SDRF norms**, input subsidy is given when crop loss is **33% or more**.

Cyclone Arnab Rain in Bihar - Heaviest-hit Districts (24 hrs, 31 Oct-1 Nov 2026)



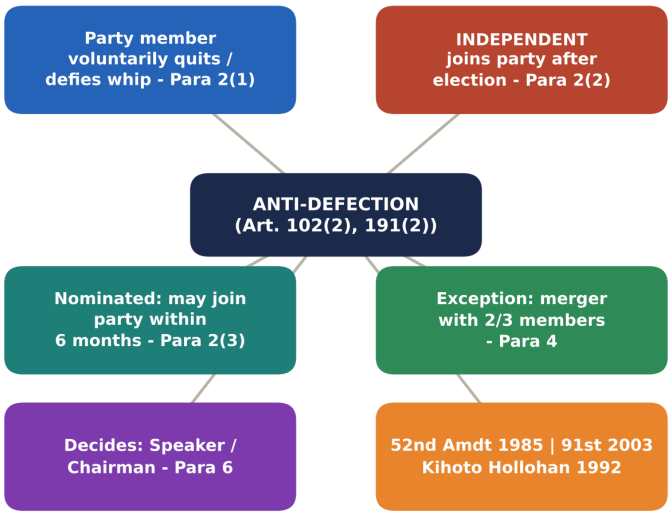
All districts green zone on 1 Nov; residual effect till 4 Nov; CM orders crop-damage survey.

Anti-defection plea against two independent MLCs who 'joined' BJP

POLITY BPSC: Prelims + Mains GS-II (Indian Polity & Bihar Legislature)

Syllabus Linkage	Mains GS-II: **State Legislature, Tenth Schedule, Legislative Council**. Prelims: **Art. 169, 171, 191(2); Kihoto Hollohan**.
Context	Leader of Opposition **Tejashwi Yadav** sought disqualification of two **independent MLCs** elected in the recent biennial Council polls - **Bansidhar Brajwasi (Tirhut Graduates)** and **Rahul Raj (Saran Teachers)** - after they announced joining the **BJP** within a week of election. The BJP says they are only 'extending support'.
Key Facts	■ **Para 2(2), Tenth Schedule**: an independent member who **joins a party after election** is disqualified. ■ **Para 6(1)**: the **Chairman of the Legislative Council** decides disqualification questions. ■ **Article 191(2)**: a member disqualified under the Tenth Schedule ceases to be a member of the State Legislature. ■ Of the **8 seats** polled, BJP and JD(U) contested **4 each**; BJP won **2**, JD(U) **1**.
Way Fwd	Time-bound decisions by presiding officers (SC has suggested **3 months**) and a clear test of 'joining' vs 'supporting' would curb post-poll switching.
Concept	The **Tenth Schedule** was added by the **52nd Amendment (1985)**; the **91st Amendment (2003)** deleted the 'split' exception, keeping only **merger (2/3)**. **Kihoto Hollohan (1992)** made the Speaker/Chairman's decision subject to **judicial review**. Under **Art. 171**, **1/12** of Council members each come from **graduates'** and **teachers'** constituencies.

Tenth Schedule - Quick Map



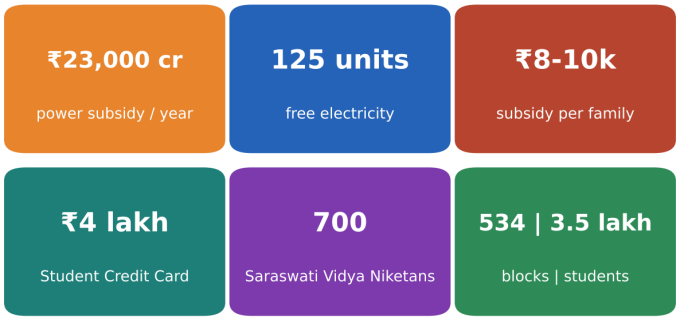
CM urges well-off to give up 125 free power units; ₹23,000 cr subsidy

BIHAR BPSC: Prelims + Mains GS-II (Bihar Economy & Public Finance)

Syllabus Linkage	Mains GS-II: **Bihar's fiscal position, subsidies, education schemes**. Prelims: **state schemes and figures**.
Context	Speaking at the **Pataliputra National Youth Parliament 2.0** in Patna, CM **Samrat Choudhary** asked affluent households and **income-tax payers** to voluntarily give up the **125 units of free electricity**, now available to all categories, so the money can fund development.
Key Facts	■ State spends about **₹23,000 crore a year** on power subsidy - about **₹8,000-10,000 per family**. ■ **Student Credit Card**: up to **₹4 lakh** for higher education; about **₹18,000 crore** spent annually (as stated). ■ **700 model schools - Saraswati Vidya Niketan** - across **534 blocks**, enrolling about **3.5 lakh** children. ■ **Vidyarthi Sathi App** connects students to a teacher for doubt-solving, reportedly within **one minute**.
Way Fwd	A voluntary **'give-it-up'** option, better **targeting** of subsidies and cutting **AT&C losses** of DISCOMs can free fiscal space for capital spending.

Concept	The **'Give It Up'** campaign (**2015**) for **LPG subsidy** is the national precedent. Subsidies are **committed revenue expenditure**; States must also respect **FRBM** deficit limits (fiscal deficit target **3% of GSDP**).

Bihar Welfare Numbers in Focus



JP Ganga Path to be extended 35.65 km from Digha to Bihta

BIHAR **BPSC: Prelims + Mains GS-II (Bihar Infrastructure)**

Syllabus Linkage	Mains GS-II: **Bihar infrastructure & urban development**. Prelims: **bridges on Ganga and Son, Patna geography**.
Context	The **Road Construction Department** has proposed the **Digha-Sherpur-Bihta** corridor, an elevated road along the **Ganga and Son** banks up to the **Koilwar Bridge** approach, on the design of the existing **Digha-Didarganj JP Ganga Path**.
Key Facts	■ Length **35.65 km**; will link with the **Sherpur-Dighwara Ganga Bridge** and **Digha JP Setu**. ■ An **11-km Maner-Pareb** stretch to be widened to **four lanes** and integrated. ■ Patna-Koilwar travel in about **30 minutes**, saving about **1.5 hours**. ■ Alternative entry for **UP-origin traffic** to Patna, Saran and Vaishali; connects **four districts**.
Way Fwd	Flood-safe design on the **Ganga-Son floodplain**, a fixed cost and timeline, and integration with **Patna Metro** and the ring road will decide its value.
Concept	**Koilwar Bridge (Abdul Bari Setu)** over the **Son** (opened **1862**) links Patna and Bhojpur. **Digha-Sonpur JP Setu** is a **rail-road bridge** over the Ganga. The Son joins the Ganga near **Maner**.

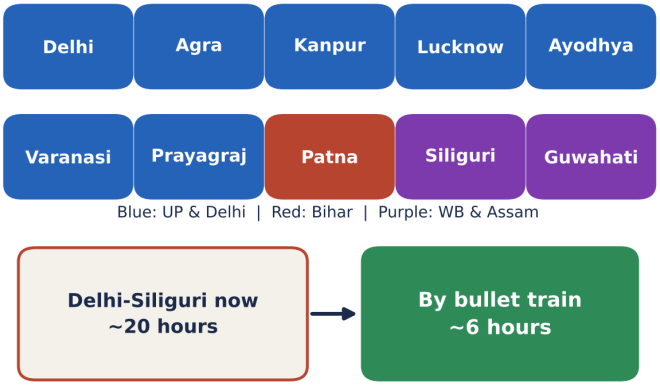
Delhi-Guwahati bullet-train corridor approved; Patna on route

BIHAR **BPSC: Prelims + Mains GS-II (Infrastructure & Role of S&T)**

Syllabus Linkage	Mains GS-II: **infrastructure, regional development of Bihar, role of technology**. Prelims: **high-speed rail facts**.
Context	PM **Narendra Modi** approved the **Northern Bullet Train Corridor** from **Delhi to Guwahati via Siliguri**, announced by Railway Minister **Ashwini Vaishnaw** in **Varanasi** while flagging off the **Varanasi-New Delhi Vande Bharat Sleeper**.
Key Facts	■ Length about **1,500 km** across **UP, Bihar, West Bengal** and into **Assam**. ■ Delhi-Siliguri journey to fall from about **20 hours to about 6 hours**. ■ Named stations: **Delhi, Agra, Kanpur, Lucknow, Ayodhya, Varanasi, Prayagraj, Patna, Siliguri, Guwahati**. ■ **Patna** is the only Bihar station named; fares promised 'well below airfares'.
Way Fwd	Bihar should push for added stops (e.g., in **North Bihar**), early **land acquisition** and station-area development to capture growth gains.
Concept	India's first high-speed line is the **Mumbai-Ahmedabad (MAHSR, ~508 km)** built with **Japanese Shinkansen** technology by **NHSRCL**. The **Siliguri Corridor ('Chicken's Neck')** links the Northeast with the rest of India.

Northern Bullet Train Corridor

Delhi → Guwahati via Siliguri | ~1,500 km



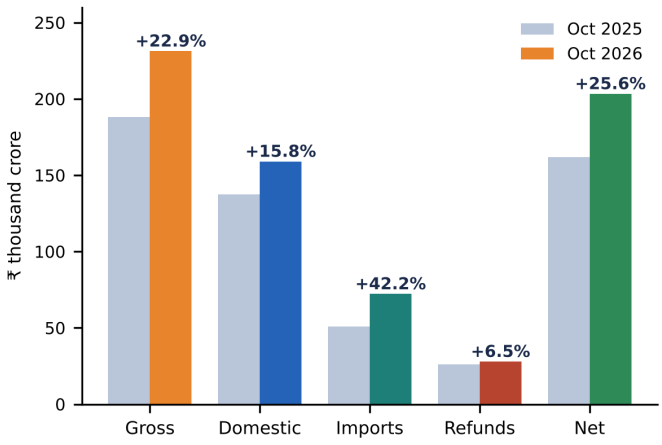
SECTION B — DATA POINT OF THE DAY

GROSS GST COLLECTION, OCTOBER 2026

₹2,31,290 crore

Up **22.9%** year-on-year; import revenue grew **42.2%** and net GST **25.6%** to **₹2,03,356 crore** (official data, 1 Nov 2026). **Why it matters:** GST is **destination-based**, so consumption-heavy States such as **Bihar** gain from higher collections; **SGST** alone was **₹51,340 crore** in October.

GST: October 2026 vs October 2025



SECTION C — NATIONAL & WORLD: Polity, Economy, Sci-Tech & IR

October GST jumps 22.9% to ₹2.31 lakh crore

ECONOMY **BPSC: Prelims + Mains GS-II (Indian Economy)**

Syllabus Linkage	Mains GS-II: **Indian economy - taxation, Centre-State fiscal relations**. Prelims: **GST articles, CGST/SGST/IGST**.
Context	Official data released on **1 November** show gross GST of **₹2,31,290 crore** in **October 2026**, the second-highest monthly collection, driven by festive demand and a sharp rise in **import revenue**.
Key Facts	■ Gross GST **₹2,31,290 crore (+22.9%)** vs **₹1,88,125 crore** in Oct 2025. ■ Domestic revenue **₹1,59,044 crore (+15.8%)**; imports **₹72,246 crore (+42.2%)**. ■ Refunds **₹27,934 crore (+6.5%)**; **net GST ₹2,03,356 crore (+25.6%)**. ■ Apr-Oct FY27: gross **₹14,77,569 crore (+13.2%)**, net **₹12,69,486 crore (+12.6%)**.
Way Fwd	Consumption-led States like **Bihar** gain from destination-based GST; better **compliance** and a stable rate structure can sustain the trend.
Concept	GST came via the **101st Amendment (2016)** and began on **1 July 2017**. **Art. 246A** - concurrent power to levy GST; **Art. 269A** - IGST on inter-State supply; **Art. 279A** - **GST Council**. GST is a **destination-based** tax.

DAC clears Project-18A next-generation stealth destroyers

DEFENCE **BPSC: Prelims + Mains GS-II (Role of Science & Technology)**

Syllabus Linkage	Mains GS-II: **role of S&T in defence and self-reliance**. Prelims: **DAC, AoN, warship classes**.
Context	The **Defence Acquisition Council (DAC)**, chaired by Defence Minister **Rajnath Singh**, gave in-principle approval to **Project-18A**, a new class of large stealth guided-missile destroyers designed by the Navy's **Warship Design Bureau**.
Key Facts	■ Estimated cost **more than ₹75,000 crore**. ■ Displacement **above 10,000 tonnes** - far larger than the **Visakhapatnam class (~7,400 t)**. ■ Builder to be chosen by **competitive bidding**; delivery **5-10 years** after contract. ■ **82%** of DAC-cleared proposals are reserved for **domestic industry**.
Way Fwd	Faster shipyard capacity, indigenous **radars, engines and BrahMos** integration will decide whether timelines hold in the **Indian Ocean Region**.
Concept	**AoN (Acceptance of Necessity)** by the **DAC** is the first step of capital acquisition under **DAP 2020**. Earlier destroyer lines: **P-15A Kolkata** and **P-15B Visakhapatnam** classes, built at **Mazagon Dock**.

India joins Ibero-American Conference as Associate Observer

IR **BPSC: Prelims + Mains GS-II (International Relations)**

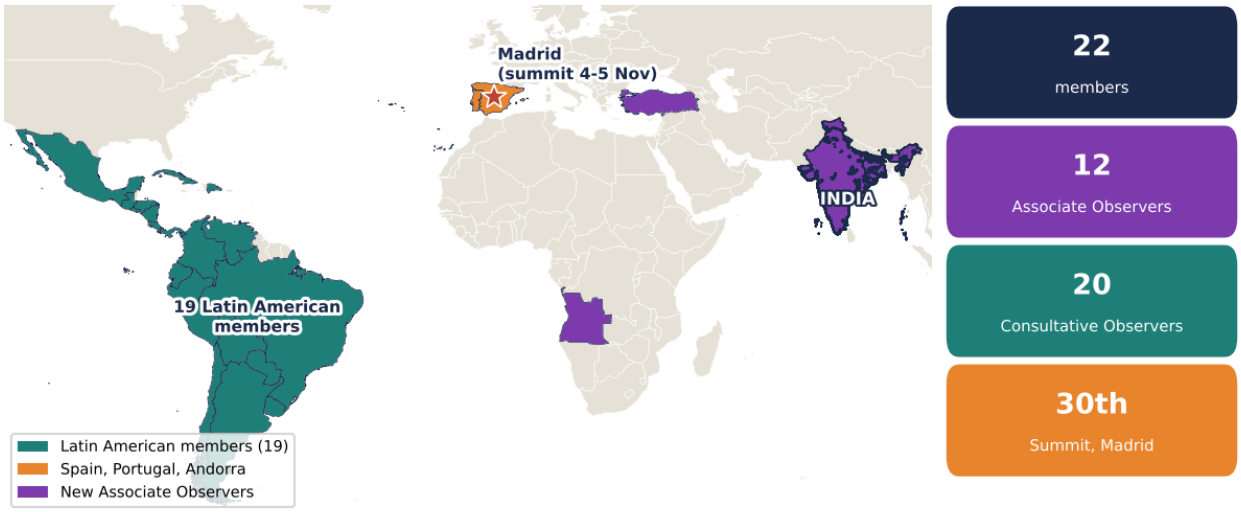
Syllabus Linkage	Mains GS-II: **India and the world - Latin America outreach**. Prelims: **groupings, members, venues**.
Context	MoS External Affairs **Pabitra Margherita** visits **Spain (3-5 Nov)** for the **30th Ibero-American Summit** in **Madrid (4-5 Nov)**, where India takes part for the first time as an **Associate Observer**.
Key Facts	■ Grouping has **22 members**: **19 Latin American** + **Spain, Portugal, Andorra**. ■ **Angola, India and Turkey** admitted as new **Associate Observers** on **24 Sept** in New York. ■ Conference now has **12 Associate Observers** and **20 Consultative Observers**. ■ Visit marks the **India-Spain Dual Year of Culture, Tourism and AI**.
Way Fwd	Use the platform for **critical minerals (lithium)**, pharma and digital public infrastructure ties with Latin America.
Concept	The **Ibero-American Conference** began with the **1991 Guadalajara (Mexico)** summit; its secretariat **SEGIB** is in **Madrid**. 'Ibero' refers to the **Iberian Peninsula** (Spanish/Portuguese-speaking world).

Bengaluru-Mumbai Vande Bharat Sleeper flagged off

SCI-TECH **BPSC: Prelims (Infrastructure & Technology)**

Syllabus Linkage	Mains GS-II: **role of indigenous technology in transport**. Prelims: **Vande Bharat facts, ICF, Kavach**.
Context	Railway Minister **Ashwini Vaishnaw** flagged off the **16-coach Bengaluru-Mumbai Vande Bharat Sleeper** on **1 November**, a day after the **Varanasi-New Delhi** sleeper service; regular runs begin **2-3 November**.
Key Facts	■ **16 coaches**; regular services from **2 and 3 November** in opposite directions. ■ **Varanasi-New Delhi Vande Bharat Sleeper** flagged off on **31 October** in Varanasi. ■ Sleeper version extends semi-high-speed comfort to **overnight** long-distance routes. ■ First Vande Bharat (chair car) ran **New Delhi-Varanasi** in **2019**.
Way Fwd	A Vande Bharat Sleeper for **Patna-Delhi** and other Bihar routes, with **Kavach** on all trunk lines, would serve Bihar's large migrant traffic.
Concept	Vande Bharat trains are **self-propelled EMU** train-sets designed at **ICF Chennai** under **Make in India**. **Kavach** is the indigenous **Automatic Train Protection** system developed by **RDSO**.

Ibero-American Conference: 22 Members & India's New Associate-Observer Status



SECTION D — PRELIMS RAPID-FIRE

1. Air Marshal **Ashutosh Dixit** took over as the **29th Chief of the Air Staff** on **31 Oct 2026**, succeeding **AP Singh**.	**2.** Bihar land registry: all **141 registry offices** paperless since **17 Aug 2026**; **Nalanda** offices average about **110** digital deeds a day.
3. Pataliputra Sports Complex (Kankarbagh, Patna) gets Bihar's first **World Athletics Class-1** 400 m, **8-lane EPDM** track.	**4.** Kharif MSP 2026-27: **maize ₹2,410/qtl** (up **₹10**); paddy **₹2,441/qtl**.
5. Indigenous **500 MW Prototype Fast Breeder Reactor (Kalpakkam)** has achieved **first criticality**.	**6. IDBI Bank** employees' unions hold a two-day nationwide hunger strike on **2-3 Nov** against the bank's **privatisation**.

SECTION E — PRACTICE CORNER

Q1. With reference to the Tenth Schedule of the Constitution, consider the following statements: 1. An independent member who joins a political party after election is disqualified. 2. A nominated member may join a political party within six months of taking his seat. 3. The Tenth Schedule was inserted by the 91st Constitutional Amendment. Which of the statements given above is/are correct?
(a) 1 only
(b) 1 and 2 only
(c) 2 and 3 only
(d) 1, 2 and 3

Answer: (b) — Statements 1 and 2 reflect **Para 2(2)** and **Para 2(3)**. The Tenth Schedule was inserted by the **52nd Amendment (1985)**; the **91st (2003)** only removed the split exception.

Q2. The Koilwar Bridge (Abdul Bari Setu), which the proposed JP Ganga Path extension will connect to, is built over which river?
(a) Gandak
(b) Son
(c) Punpun
(d) Kosi

Answer: (b) — The Koilwar Bridge spans the **Son** between **Patna and Bhojpur** districts; it opened in **1862**.

Mains Practice: Decentralised paddy procurement through PACS is meant to ensure MSP for Bihar's small farmers. Examine its achievements and the challenges that remain. (BPSC Mains GS-II, ~38 marks)

Hint: Intro: **DCP model**, **2,385 PACS**, MSP **₹2,441**. Body: reach to small farmers, DBT, PDS link vs. low target (**35 vs 50 lakh MT** sought), milling and storage gaps, moisture norms, payment delays, weather shocks (Cyclone Arnab). Way forward: FPO-PACS link, more godowns, e-procurement. Conclude with farm-income angle.

ONE-LINE REVISION: Paddy MSP **₹2,441** via **2,385 PACS** | Tenth Schedule **Para 2(2)** for independents | GST **₹2,31,290 cr (+22.9%)** | **Project-18A >10,000 t** | India = **Ibero-American Associate Observer**.

*Compiled & simplified by the **StudyForGS.com** Research Team* | **▶ YouTube: @Study_ForGS** | **➤ Telegram: t.me/studyforgeneralstudies**