CURRENT AFFAIRS — 3 NOVEMBER 2026

Tuesday, 3 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

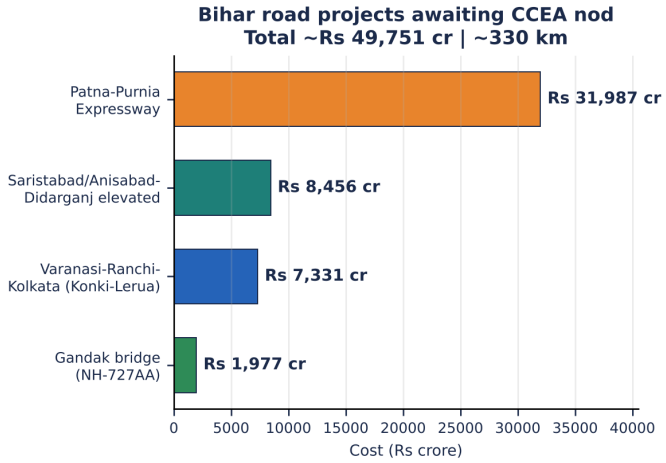
- Bihar CM met Union Road Minister for **₹49,751 cr** road projects (~**330 km**)
- **Patna-Purnia Expressway** (4-lane greenfield) costs **₹31,987 cr**
- Bullet-train corridor: **5** proposed Bihar stations — **Buxar, Patna, Begusarai, Khagaria, Katihar**
- **'Healthy Liver, Healthy Bihar'**: **26 lakh** people (30+) to be screened in **18 months**
- Patna HC: SC certificate with **husband's name** no bar to reservation
- **Sonepur Planning Area**: **575 villages**, **7 blocks**, **20-year** master plan
- Bihar spends ~**₹23,000 cr/yr** on power subsidy (**125 free units**)
- PM: India to add **500 GW** non-fossil capacity in **10-11 years**
- **VB-G RAM G** grievances: inquiry in **7 days**, resolution in **15 days**
- **₹53,866 cr** deal: **8 corvettes** — **GRSE 5, GSL 3**

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

Bihar seeks Centre's nod for ₹49,751-crore road projects; Patna-Purnia Expressway leads

BIHAR — BPSC: Prelims + Mains GS-II (Bihar Economy & Infrastructure)

Syllabus Linkage	GS-II: **Bihar economy** — infrastructure, **PPP**, Centre-State coordination. Prelims: **NH numbers, expressways, rivers crossed**.
Context	Chief Minister **Samrat Choudhary** met Union Road Transport & Highways Minister **Nitin Gadkari** in New Delhi (**2 Nov 2026**) seeking quick approval for four projects that have cleared the **PPP Appraisal Committee** and now await **CCEA** approval.
Key Facts	■ Four projects: ~**330 km**, **₹49,751 crore** combined. ■ **Patna-Purnia Expressway** — 4-lane greenfield, **₹31,987.11 cr**; **Saristabad/Anisabad-Didarganj** 6-lane elevated road (Patna) — **₹8,455.86 cr**. ■ **Varanasi-Ranchi-Kolkata** greenfield (**Konki-Lerua** section) — **₹7,331.40 cr**; **Gandak bridge (NH-727AA)** Manuapul (Bettiah) to Tiwaripatti (UP) — **₹1,976.77 cr**. ■ Also sought: **Gorakhpur-Siliguri** and **Raxaul-Haldia** expressways (Nepal trade, **Haldia port** link); 4-laning of **Muzaffarpur-Barauni (NH-122)**. ■ Six more NH DPRs: **323 km, ₹13,015 cr**, incl. **Vikramshila Setu** approach road.
Way Fwd	Fast-track **land acquisition** and CCEA clearance; integrate expressways with **logistics parks** and the bullet-train corridor to unlock **north-east Bihar (Seemanchal)**.
Concept	**CCEA** (Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs, chaired by the **PM**) approves large investment projects. **Greenfield** = new alignment on fresh land; **brownfield** = upgrading an existing road. **Vikramshila Setu** spans the **Ganga at Bhagalpur**.



Delhi-Varanasi-Siliguri bullet train: 5 proposed stations across 8 Bihar districts

BIHAR — BPSC: Prelims + Mains GS-II (Bihar Geography & Infrastructure)

Syllabus Linkage	GS-II: **Bihar geography**, transport & regional development; role of **S&T**. Prelims: **districts, rivers, HSR corridors**.
Context	Railway Minister **Ashwini Vaishnaw** announced in **Varanasi (31 Oct 2026)** the PM's approval for the **~1,500 km Northern High-Speed Rail Corridor** (Delhi-Agra-Lucknow-Varanasi-**Patna**-Siliguri, towards Guwahati). Alignment, stations and DPR are still being finalised.
Key Facts	■ **8 Bihar districts** under study: **Buxar, Bhojpur, Patna, Begusarai, Khagaria, Katihar, Purnia, Kishanganj**. ■ **5 proposed stations**: **Buxar, Patna, Begusarai, Khagaria, Katihar**; Patna site considered near **AIIMS, Phulwarisharif**. ■ Potential top speed **320 km/h** (Shinkansen-type); **Patna-Delhi** in about **4.5 hours** vs 13-15 hours now. ■ **Union Budget 2026-27** announced **7 new high-speed corridors**.
Way Fwd	Early **DPR & land survey**, flood-resilient design across the **Ganga-Kosi plains**, and station-area development to create urban growth hubs.
Concept	India's first HSR is **Mumbai-Ahmedabad (508 km)**, built by **NHSRCL** with **Japanese (JICA)** support. The route crosses the **Ganga, Gandak and Kosi** basins — north Bihar's most **flood-prone** belt.

Bihar on the move: Bullet-train corridor & key road projects



KEY NUMBERS

~1,500 km
Northern HSR corridor

320 km/h
potential top speed

~4.5 hrs
Patna-Delhi (est.)

Rs 31,987 cr
Patna-Purnia Expressway

Rs 49,751 cr
4 road projects (~330 km)

'Healthy Liver, Healthy Bihar' — campaign at a glance

26 lakh	18	38	25,000	150
people (30+) to screen	months timeline	districts covered	health staff trained	master trainers

'Healthy Liver, Healthy Bihar': 26 lakh to be screened for fatty liver in 18 months

HEALTH BPSC: Prelims + Mains GS-II (Bihar Health Initiatives)

Syllabus Linkage	GS-II: **Bihar welfare & health** schemes; **NCDs**. Prelims: **Ayushman Arogya Mandir, ASHA, Jeevika**.
Context	Bihar's Health Department (review chaired by Health Minister **Nishant**, reported **3 Nov 2026**) launched a statewide drive to screen people **above 30** for **fatty liver disease** with technical partner **ILBS, New Delhi**.
Key Facts	■ Target: **~26 lakh** people in **18 months**, all **38 districts**. ■ Delivered via the **NCD programme** and **Ayushman Arogya Mandirs**. ■ **ASHA, ANMs, CHOs** and **Jeevika Didis** for door-to-door awareness. ■ **~25,000** health staff to be trained through **150 master trainers**; reviews by **DMs**, Divisional Commissioners and the **Health Minister**.
Way Fwd	Link screening with **diabetes-hypertension** checks, **digital health records (ABHA)** and lifestyle counselling for sustained impact.
Concept	Non-alcoholic fatty liver disease is now termed **MASLD** (Metabolic dysfunction-Associated Steatotic Liver Disease). **ILBS** is an autonomous institute of the **Delhi Government**.

Patna HC: Married woman can't be denied SC quota because her certificate bears husband's name

POLITY BPSC: Prelims + Mains GS-II (Polity — Judiciary & Reservation)

Syllabus Linkage	GS-II: **Indian polity** — **Art 15(4), 16(4)**, role of **High Court**, **BPSC** (Art 315-323). Prelims: case facts.
Context	A **division bench** of Justices **Mohit Kumar Shah** and **Sourendra Pandey** dismissed BPSC's appeal and directed it to appoint **Dr Sushma Sharan** as Assistant Professor (Obstetrics & Gynaecology) under the **SC women's quota**.
Key Facts	■ Recruitment: **BPSC Advt No. 20/2017** — **13 SC seats**, **5** reserved for women. ■ BPSC had treated her as **unreserved** since her caste certificate carried her **husband's name**, not her father's. ■ Court: advertisement had **no condition** requiring the father's name; both father and husband are **SC**. ■ Held: a candidate should not lose **legitimate reservation** over a **technical discrepancy**; caste is by **birth**, a certificate only records it.
Way Fwd	Recruiting bodies should state **document norms clearly** in advertisements and allow **curable defects** to be fixed before rejection.
Concept	In **Valsamma Paul v. Cochin University (1996)** the SC held a woman does **not acquire** reserved status by marriage — caste is by birth. **Art 16(4)** permits reservation in public posts for backward classes.

Sonepur Planning Area expanded to 575 villages across 7 blocks; 20-year master plan

BIHAR BPSC: Prelims + Mains GS-I/II (Bihar Culture & Urban Development)

Syllabus Linkage	GS-II: **urbanisation in Bihar**; GS-I: **Sonepur (Harihar Kshetra) Mela**. Prelims: **Saran district, Gandak-Ganga confluence**.
Context	The **Urban Development & Housing Department** notified the boundaries of the expanded **Sonepur Planning Area** (**3 Nov 2026**); a **20-year master plan** for housing, commerce, industry and transport is under preparation.
Key Facts	■ **575 revenue villages** in **7 blocks**: **Maker, Parsa, Dariyapur, Garkha, Amnour, Sonepur, Dighwara**. ■ Includes **Sonepur Municipal Council** and **Dighwara Nagar Panchayat**. ■ Boundaries defined in all four directions, incl. **Pahleja** near the Ganga. ■ Sonepur lies opposite **Hajipur/Patna** — a natural satellite-town node.

Way Fwd	Protect **floodplains and Mela grounds** while zoning growth; align the plan with Patna's **Greenfield Satellite Township** policy.
Concept	**Sonepur Mela** (Harihar Kshetra), held from **Kartik Purnima** at the **Gandak-Ganga** confluence, is among Asia's largest cattle fairs. Planning areas are notified under the **Bihar Urban Planning & Development Act, 2012**.

CM urges affluent consumers to give up 125 free power units; subsidy bill ~₹23,000 crore

ECONOMY **BPSC: Prelims + Mains GS-II (Bihar Economy — Public Finance & Energy)**

Syllabus Linkage	GS-II: **Bihar's fiscal position**, subsidies, **energy sector**; education schemes. Prelims: **Student Credit Card, Saat Nischay**.
Context	At the **Pataliputra National Youth Parliament 2.0** in Patna, CM **Samrat Choudhary** appealed to **income-tax payers** and well-off households to **voluntarily give up** the **125-unit free electricity** benefit, which currently covers all categories.
Key Facts	■ Power subsidy: ~**₹23,000 crore a year**, i.e. ~**₹8,000-10,000 per family**. ■ **Bihar Student Credit Card**: up to **₹4 lakh** for higher studies. ■ **700 model schools** (Saraswati Vidya Niketans) in **534 blocks**, ~**3.5 lakh** children. ■ **Vidyarthi Sathi App** connects students with a teacher within a minute.
Way Fwd	Move towards **targeted subsidies** (like LPG 'Give It Up'), backed by **smart prepaid meters** and rooftop solar to cut the fiscal load.
Concept	**Student Credit Card** (launched **2 Oct 2016**) is part of **Saat Nischay** ('Aarthik Hal, Yuvaon ko Bal'). The national **'Give It Up'** campaign (**2015**) asked LPG users to surrender subsidy voluntarily.

SECTION B • DATA POINT OF THE DAY

~₹23,000 crore

Bihar's annual electricity subsidy bill (125 free units for all consumers)

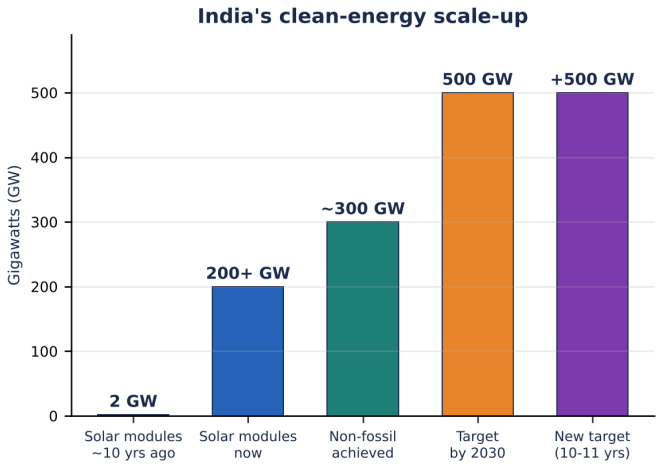
Roughly **₹8,000-10,000 per family per year**, as stated by the Chief Minister on **2 Nov 2026**. For scale: the state's **₹11,096.55-crore** power-network upgrade approved on **28 Oct** is less than half of one year's subsidy.

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

PM sets new goal: 500 GW more non-fossil capacity in 10-11 years

ENVIRONMENT **BPSC: Prelims + Mains GS-II (Economy, Energy & S&T)**

Syllabus Linkage	GS-II: **energy security**, role of **S&T** in development. Prelims: **Panchamrit, ISA, PM Surya Ghar, KUSUM**.
Context	Inaugurating the **Bharat Renewable Energy Summit & Expo 2026** at **Bharat Mandapam, New Delhi (2 Nov)** — held alongside the **9th ISA Assembly** — PM **Modi** said clean energy cushioned India against the **West Asia crisis**.
Key Facts	■ Non-fossil share already **over 50%** of installed capacity (Paris goal met in **2025**, 5 years early); ~**300 GW** towards **500 GW by 2030**. ■ Solar module capacity up from ~**2 GW** to **200+ GW**; cells ~**40 GW**. ■ **PM Surya Ghar**: **65 lakh+** homes in ~2 years (target **1 crore**); **KUSUM** helps **30 lakh+** farmers. ■ Green hydrogen target **50 lakh tonnes** by 2030; RE investment to exceed **₹20 lakh crore** by 2030.
Way Fwd	Scale **storage (BESS, pumped hydro)** and **transmission** (~₹2 lakh crore planned); for Bihar, expand **floating & canal-top solar**.
Concept	**Panchamrit (COP26, Glasgow 2021)**: **500 GW** non-fossil by 2030, **50%** energy from RE, **net zero by 2070**. **ISA** (launched **2015**, Paris) is headquartered in **Gurugram**.



Centre notifies VB-G RAM G grievance rules: 15-day resolution deadline

POLITY **BPSC: Prelims + Mains GS-II (Governance & Rural Development)**

Syllabus Linkage	GS-II: **welfare schemes**, accountability, **social audit**, Panchayati Raj. Prelims: **VB-G RAM G Act 2025**.
Context	The **Ministry of Rural Development** notified grievance redressal rules (**2 Nov 2026**) under the **Viksit Bharat - Guarantee for Rozgar and Ajeevika Mission (Gramin)** Act, which replaced **MGNREGA**. Some draft provisions (May 2026) were dropped.
Key Facts	■ Complaints to a **Grievance Redressal Officer** — in person, **Speed Post**, digital portal or helpline. ■ Physical complaints uploaded online within **1 working day**; inquiry within **7 days**; resolution within **15 days**, else **escalation**. ■ Dropped: **mandatory FIR** on prima facie fraud, **ATRs** before Gram/District Panchayats, a **weekly grievance day**. ■ Act guarantees **125 days** of wage employment per rural household.

Way Fwd	Strengthen **social audits** and **Gram Sabha** oversight so that dropped safeguards do not weaken accountability, especially in high-demand states like **Bihar**.

Concept	Right to work flows from **DPSP Art 41** (right to work) and **Art 43** (living wage). **Social audit** was pioneered under MGNREGA (**2005**) and is conducted by the **Gram Sabha**.

VB-G RAM G grievance clock (Rules notified 2 Nov 2026)

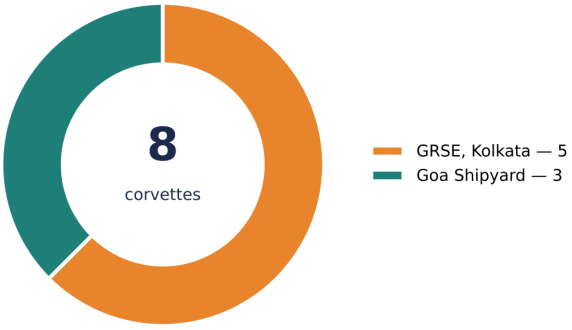


₹53,866-crore deal: Navy to get 8 Next Generation Corvettes from GRSE and GSL

DEFENCE BPSC: Prelims + Mains GS-II (S&T — Defence Indigenisation)

Syllabus Linkage	GS-II: role of **S&T** in defence, **Atmanirbhar Bharat**. Prelims: **DPSUs, ship types, HQ locations**.
Context	The **Ministry of Defence** signed contracts on **2 Nov 2026** in New Delhi for **eight Next Generation Corvettes (NGC)** — the first project where the **Navy designs** the ships indigenously and **DPSUs** build them after competitive selection.
Key Facts	■ Total value **₹53,866.50 crore**. ■ **GRSE (Kolkata)** to build **5**; **Goa Shipyard Ltd** to build **3**. ■ Roles: **anti-submarine & anti-surface warfare**, coastal defence, littoral ops, **maritime surveillance**. ■ Jobs: ~**72 lakh** person-days in shipyards + ~**460 lakh** in ancillaries/**MSMEs** over **10 years**.
Way Fwd	Ensure **timely delivery**, high **indigenous content** and integration with **Indian Ocean** surveillance networks.
Concept	A **corvette** is a small, fast warship below a **frigate** in size. **DAP 2020** gives top priority to the **Buy (Indian-IDDM)** category; **GRSE** and **GSL** are DPSUs under the **MoD**.

Next Generation Corvettes
Rs 53,866.5 crore deal (2 Nov 2026)

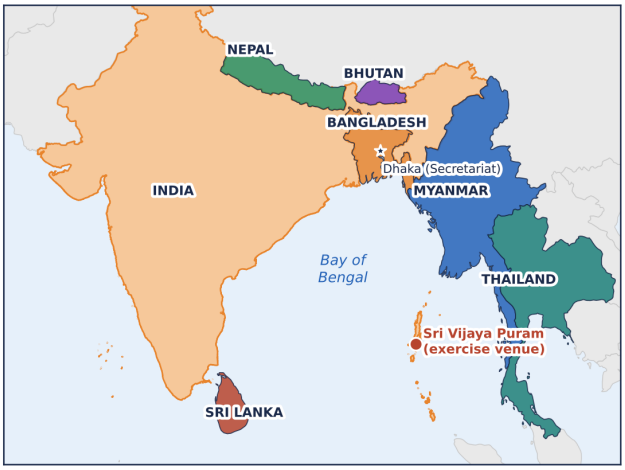


First BIMSTEC Maritime Security Exercise concludes at Sri Vijaya Puram

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

Syllabus Linkage	GS-II: **India & neighbourhood**, regional groupings, **Act East**. Prelims: **BIMSTEC members, secretariat, charter**.
Context	Hosted by the **Andaman & Nicobar Command** at **Sri Vijaya Puram** from **30 Oct to 3 Nov 2026**, the exercise brought together **all seven BIMSTEC members**; it was announced at the **6th BIMSTEC Summit (Bangkok, April 2025)**.
Key Facts	■ Format: **3-day tabletop** phase + **2-day harbour** phase. ■ Members: **India, Bangladesh, Bhutan, Nepal, Sri Lanka, Myanmar, Thailand**. ■ Focus: **Bay of Bengal** maritime security, piracy, HADR, information sharing. ■ **Bihar link**: landlocked Bihar's trade route via **Nepal (Raxaul)** and **Haldia/Kolkata ports** ties into BIMSTEC connectivity.
Way Fwd	Institutionalise the exercise annually and link it with the **BIMSTEC Master Plan for Transport Connectivity**.
Concept	**BIMSTEC** was formed by the **Bangkok Declaration (1997)**; secretariat in **Dhaka**; its **Charter** entered into force in **May 2024**. **Andaman & Nicobar Command (2001)** is India's only **tri-service** theatre command.

BIMSTEC: 7 members, 1st Maritime Security Exercise



Delhi-NCR: GRAP Stage II invoked as AQI turns 'very poor'; SC allows green crackers for two days

ENVIRONMENT BPSC: Prelims + Mains GS-II (Environment & S&T)

Syllabus Linkage	GS-II: **pollution control**, judiciary & environment. Prelims: **AQI categories, GRAP stages, CAQM**.
Context	With Delhi's air quality slipping to the **'very poor'** band due to calm winds and **farm fires**, **GRAP Stage II** curbs were invoked; the **Supreme Court** separately permitted **green crackers** in Delhi-NCR for **two days**.
Key Facts	■ **'Very poor'** AQI = **301-400**; Stage II restricts **diesel generators**, steps up dust control & public transport. ■ GRAP has **4 stages**: Poor (201-300), Very Poor, **Severe (401-450)**, Severe+ (**>450**). ■ **Green crackers** (developed by **CSIR-NEERI**) cut emissions by roughly **30%**. ■ Bihar link: **Patna, Muzaffarpur, Hajipur** also see winter AQI spikes.
Way Fwd	Year-round **airshed-level** planning, crop-residue alternatives (**bio-CNG, ex-situ use**) and stronger **NCAP** funding for Bihar cities.

Concept	**GRAP** is enforced by the **Commission for Air Quality Management (CAQM)**, a statutory body under the **CAQM Act, 2021**. **NCAP (2019)** targets cutting PM levels by **40% by 2026** (vs 2017).

SECTION D • PRELIMS RAPID-FIRE

1. Bihar • Transport	**Bharat Taxi** (cooperative, 'Sarathi-Malik' model) to launch in Bihar by **Nov-end** — **Patna, Gaya, Vaishali, Muzaffarpur**; ~**2,005** drivers enrolled.
2. Bihar • Fisheries	'**Fresh Catch**' fish kiosks: **100** outlets under **Saat Nischay-3**; first opened by the CM at **Mithapur, Patna**; ~**₹11 lakh** each.
3. Bihar • Floods	Bihar Cabinet (**28 Oct**): **₹1.99 cr** flood-plain zoning study of **Kosi, Gandak, Son** with **NIH Roorkee**; **24 dams** to be assessed under **Dam Safety Act, 2021**.
4. World • Elections	**Iliana Iotova** became **Bulgaria's first elected woman President** (**57.58%** in runoff).
5. Sports	**Manisha Bhanwala** won India's **first women's gold** at the **Senior World Wrestling Championships** (**Astana**).
6. Appointment	**Dinesh Vitthalrao Ganvir** is the **55th Director General** of the **Geological Survey of India**.

SECTION E • PRACTICE CORNER — BPSC Pattern

Q1. With reference to the first BIMSTEC Maritime Security Exercise (Oct-Nov 2026), consider the following statements: 1. It was hosted by the Andaman & Nicobar Command at Sri Vijaya Puram. 2. The BIMSTEC Secretariat is located in Kathmandu. 3. All seven member countries participated. Which of the statements given above are correct?

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

Answer: (b) — The exercise was hosted by the **Andaman & Nicobar Command** with **all seven** members. The BIMSTEC Secretariat is in **Dhaka**, not Kathmandu (Kathmandu hosts the SAARC Secretariat).

Q2. Which institution is the technical partner of Bihar's 'Healthy Liver, Healthy Bihar' campaign launched in November 2026?

(a) AIIMS Patna (b) Institute of Liver and Biliary Sciences (ILBS), New Delhi (c) IGIMS Patna (d) PGIMER Chandigarh

Answer: (b) — **ILBS, New Delhi** is the technical partner; the drive aims to screen **~26 lakh** people above 30 in **18 months** across all **38 districts**.

Mains Practice: Expressways and high-speed rail can change Bihar's growth trajectory, but geography and land issues pose challenges. Discuss with reference to recent proposals. (BPSC Mains GS-II, ~250 words)

Hint: Intro: Bihar's connectivity gap (landlocked, flood-prone). Body: Patna-Purnia Expressway (₹31,987 cr), Raxaul-Haldia & Gorakhpur-Siliguri, 5 proposed HSR stations; benefits — Seemanchal integration, logistics, tourism (Bodh Gaya, Vikramshila). Challenges — land acquisition, Kosi-Gandak floods, PPP viability, CCEA delays. Conclude: flood-resilient design, station-area development, Centre-State coordination.

ONE-LINE REVISION: Remember: **₹49,751 cr** roads • **5** Bihar HSR stations • **26 lakh** liver screenings • **575** Sonepur villages • **500 GW** new RE goal • **7/15-day** VB-G RAM G grievance clock • **8** corvettes (GRSE 5 + GSL 3).

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