CURRENT AFFAIRS — 06 November 2026

Friday, 06 November 2026 • Asia/Kolkata (IST) • Bihar + National • BPSC Prelims & Mains digest

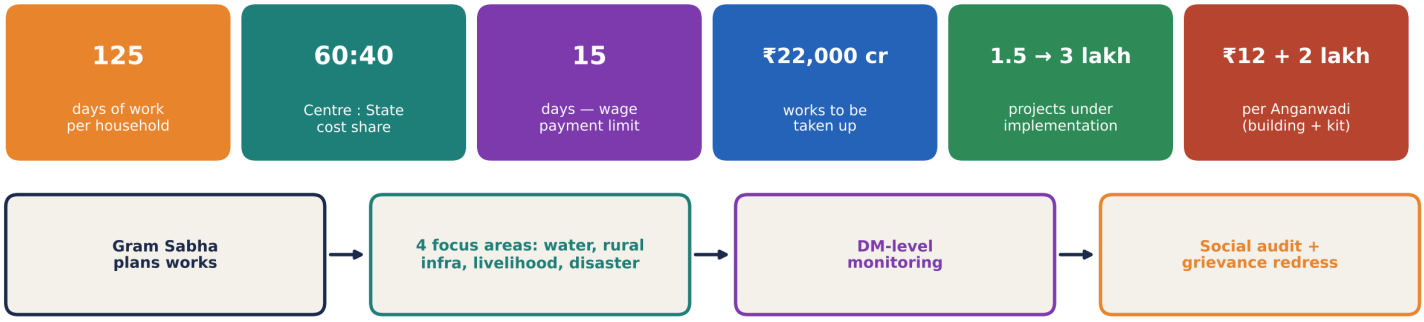
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TODAY AT A GLANCE — 10 THINGS TO REMEMBER

- Bihar gets **₹10,845 cr** of the **₹1,09,019 cr** advance tax devolution (UP first: **₹19,208 cr**).
- **VB-G RAM G**: **125 days** of guaranteed rural work, Centre–state cost sharing of **60:40**.
- Bihar target: projects under VB-G RAM G to double from **1.5 lakh** to **3 lakh**.
- Bihar's clean-energy roadmap is worth **₹2.57 lakh cr**: **24 GW** of RE + **6 GWh** of storage by **2030**.
- Bihar's peak power demand has grown from **~700 MW** (2005) to **~10,000 MW** today.
- **Patna–Purnia Expressway (NE-9)**: **245 km**, **₹12,052 cr**, six districts.
- Bihar's GST in October 2026 was **₹1,827 cr**, up **24%**; the all-India gross was **₹2.31 lakh cr** (**+22.9%**).
- Cabinet VGF of **₹14,500 cr** for **92 GWh** of storage: **60 GWh** pumped hydro + **30 GWh** BESS.
- Fast Track Special Courts extended to **2031**; courts to rise from **779** to **850**.
- Nepal PM **Balendra Shah's** first bilateral India visit is due from **22 Nov**; **7** Bihar districts border Nepal.

SECTION A | BIHAR SPECIAL — state schemes, policy, administration & state economy

VB-G RAM G IN BIHAR — REVIEW OF 5 NOV 2026 (CM Samrat Choudhary)



CM reviews VB-G RAM G: rural works to double to 3 lakh projects

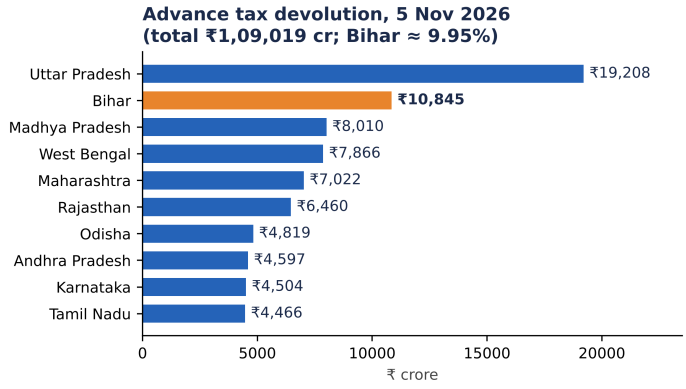
BIHAR — BPSC: Prelims + Mains GS-II (Bihar Economy & Rural Development)

Syllabus Linkage	**GS-II**: Bihar economy, rural employment and poverty; Prelims: centrally sponsored schemes, the right-to-work law.
Context	On **5 Nov 2026**, CM **Samrat Choudhary** chaired a review of the **Viksit Bharat – Guarantee for Rozgar and Ajeevika Mission (Gramin)**, the law that replaced MGNREGA. He told officials to speed up asset creation, with district magistrates (DMs) monitoring progress.
Key Facts	■ **125 days** of guaranteed wage work per rural household per year; Centre:state cost sharing of **60:40**. ■ Wages are to be paid within **15 days**; projects worth **₹22,000 crore** are to be taken up. ■ Projects under implementation are to rise from **1.5 lakh** to **3 lakh**. ■ Each **Anganwadi** centre gets **₹12 lakh** for its building plus **₹2 lakh** for furniture and learning material. ■ There are four focus areas: **water security**, rural infrastructure, livelihoods and **disaster management**, with **social audits** to check the work.
Way Fwd	Converge the mission with **Jal-Jeevan-Hariyali** and flood-season planning in north Bihar, use geo-tagging of assets, and keep wage payments on time.
Concept	**Social audit**: verification of works by the **Gram Sabha**, a practice that comes from MGNREGA (2005). **Centrally Sponsored Scheme (CSS)**: a scheme the Centre co-funds and the states implement.

Bihar gets ₹10,845 crore as Centre advances November tax devolution

ECONOMY — BPSC: Prelims + Mains GS-II (Fiscal Federalism & Bihar Economy)

Syllabus Linkage	**GS-II**: Centre–state financial relations and Bihar's finances; Prelims: **Art. 270** and **Art. 280**, the Finance Commission.
Context	On **5 Nov 2026**, the Finance Ministry released the November instalment of **₹1,09,019 crore** five days early (the normal date is 10 Nov), citing the festive season and the need to speed up states' **capital spending**.
Key Facts	■ Top shares: **UP ₹19,208 cr**, **Bihar ₹10,845 cr** (~**9.95%**), MP ₹8,010 cr, WB ₹7,866 cr. ■ Under the **16th Finance Commission**, states get **41%** of the divisible pool. ■ Criteria weights: **income distance 42.5%**, population **17.5%**, and area, forest, demographic performance and contribution to GDP at **10%** each. ■ Budget estimate (BE) of states' share for **FY27**: **₹15.26 lakh crore**; H1 releases totalled nearly **₹7 lakh crore**.
Way Fwd	Bihar should front-load capex on roads, bridges and flood works, and push its own tax revenue so it relies less on central transfers.
Concept	**Income distance**: the gap between a state's per-capita income and that of the richest state; a poorer state like Bihar gains more. The **16th FC** (Chair: **Arvind Panagariya**) covers **2026–31**.



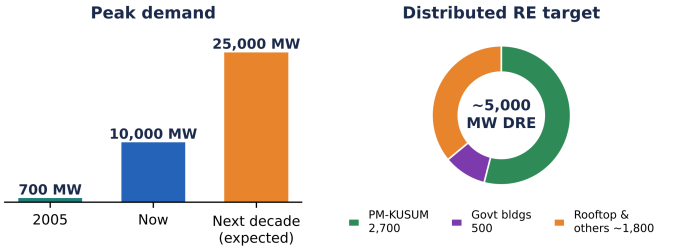
₹2.57 lakh crore clean-energy roadmap: Bihar targets 24 GW by 2030

BIHAR — BPSC: Prelims + Mains GS-II (Bihar Economy – Energy)

Syllabus Linkage	**GS-II**: infrastructure and energy in Bihar, and the role of science and technology; Prelims: PM-KUSUM, PM Surya Ghar.
Context	At a national renewable energy summit at **Bharat Mandapam, New Delhi** (**4 Nov**), Bihar showcased an investment pipeline of **₹2,57,316 crore** across generation, transmission and distribution. Projects worth **₹78,400 crore** are already underway.

Key Facts	■ The **Bihar Renewable Energy Policy 2025** targets **24 GW** of RE and **6 GWh** of storage by **2030**. ■ Peak demand: **~700 MW (2005)** → **~10,000 MW** now → **~25,000 MW** expected within a decade. ■ Flagship: the **301 MW Kajra solar** project (Lakhisarai) with a **523 MWh BESS**. ■ Distributed RE target of **~5,000 MW**: **2,700 MW** under PM-KUSUM, **500 MW** on government buildings, and rooftops for **15 lakh** homes. ■ Nearly **1 crore smart meters** have been installed; both discoms are profitable.
Way Fwd	Bihar has little land for large solar parks, so it should push **floating solar** on reservoirs, agri-solar and **pumped storage** in Kaimur and Rohtas, and get investors to sign power purchase agreements (PPAs) quickly.
Concept	**BESS**: a battery energy storage system that shifts daytime solar power to the evening peak. **AT&C loss**: aggregate technical and commercial loss in power distribution.

Bihar power: ₹2.57 lakh cr roadmap • 24 GW RE by 2030



Patna–Purnia Expressway (NE-9) set for launch during PM's proposed Bihar visit

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

Syllabus Linkage	**GS-II**: Bihar's geography, transport infrastructure and regional development (the Kosi–Seemanchal region); Prelims: districts and the route.
Context	An NDA meeting chaired by the CM reviewed preparations for PM **Narendra Modi's** proposed visit around **20–21 Nov**, which marks one year of the state government. Construction of the **Patna–Purnia Expressway** is slated to begin, and an event is planned at the **Rajapakar (Vaishali)** industrial park.
Key Facts	■ Bihar's **greenfield** six-lane expressway: **~245 km**, cost **~₹12,052 crore**, design speed **120 km/h**. ■ The route runs from **Mirnagar (NH-22, Vaishali)** to **Chand Bhatti (NH-27, Purnia)**. ■ Districts on the route: **Vaishali, Samastipur, Darbhanga, Saharsa, Madhepura, Purnia**. ■ It cuts travel from Patna to Purnia from **7–8 hours** to about **3 hours**, and will link to the **Patna Ring Road**.
Way Fwd	The alignment crosses the **Kosi** floodplain, so it needs enough cross-drainage and embankment-safe design. Logistics parks along the corridor can lift the economy of the Seemanchal region.
Concept	A **greenfield** project is built on new land with no existing road, while a **brownfield** project upgrades an existing one. The **Kosi** is called the '**Sorrow of Bihar**' because it frequently changes course.

Patna–Purnia Expressway (NE-9): ~245 km, ~₹12,052 cr



Bank accounts mandatory for all government-school students by 31 December

SOCIETY BPSC: Prelims + Mains GS-II (Bihar – Education & Financial Inclusion)

Syllabus Linkage	**GS-II**: welfare delivery in Bihar and education initiatives; Prelims: DBT, PM Jan Dhan Yojana (**2014**).
Context	On **5 Nov**, the state government directed that every government-school student must have a bank account, either individual or joint, so that scholarships and scheme benefits reach them directly through **DBT**.
Key Facts	■ A special campaign runs until **31 December**. ■ **Headmasters** will coordinate with local banks, giving priority to students eligible for scholarships. ■ Schools will keep students' **birth certificates** on record so that no child is left out.
Way Fwd	Link the accounts to Aadhaar-seeded DBT, run doorstep **bank-mitra** camps and add **financial-literacy** modules to classes.
Concept	**DBT** (2013) sends benefits directly to bank accounts and cuts leakage. **JAM trinity**: Jan Dhan + Aadhaar + Mobile.

155 festival special buses for Chhath; traffic fines via UPI apps from 16 Nov

BIHAR BPSC: Prelims + Mains GS-II (Bihar Administration & Culture)

Syllabus Linkage	**GS-I**: Bihar's culture (the Chhath festival, migration); **GS-II**: state transport administration and e-governance.
Context	Transport Minister **Damodar Rawat** flagged off **155** inter-state special buses from the **Phulwarisharif** depot in Patna for migrants returning for Diwali and **Chhath**. The services run from **5 to 20 Nov**.
Key Facts	■ **32** buses are run by BSRTC and **123** under **PPP**; the fleet is to rise to **200**. ■ Routes: **Delhi 77**, Haryana 60, Jharkhand 12, UP 3, West Bengal 3. ■ E-challans can be paid through **BBPS** on UPI apps from **16 Nov** (proposed), with API integration by NIC.
Way Fwd	Make festival transport a permanent, demand-based plan, and include all transport payments in the digital system.
Concept	**Chhath**: a festival of sun worship (Kartik Shukla Shashthi) with offerings at dusk and dawn, central to Bihar's identity. **BBPS**: the Bharat Bill Payment System run by NPCI.

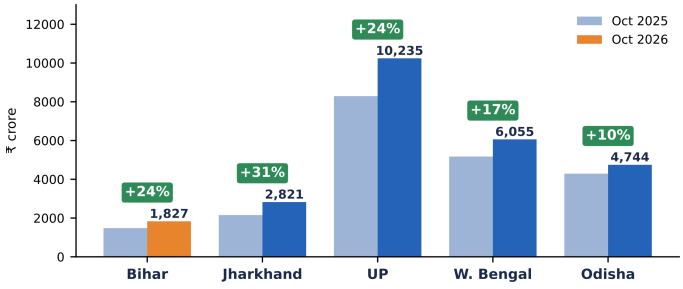
SECTION B | DATA POINT OF THE DAY

BIHAR'S GST COLLECTION, OCTOBER 2026

₹1,827 crore (+24% YoY)

This is up from **₹1,478 crore** in October 2025. All-India gross GST was **₹2,31,290 crore** (**+22.9%**), the second-highest monthly figure since **July 2017**. Import GST jumped **42.2%** and domestic GST rose **15.8%**. Net GST was **₹2,03,356 crore** (**+25.6%**).

GST revenue: Oct 2025 vs Oct 2026 (₹ crore)
All-India gross ₹2,31,290 cr (+22.9%)



SECTION C | NATIONAL & WORLD — polity, economy, IR, energy

INDIA–NEPAL: PM Balendra Shah's first bilateral visit (from 22 Nov 2026) — the Bihar frontier



KEY NUMBERS

- **22–25 Nov** — proposed visit; talks on 23 Nov
- **$2 bn** — Nepal's ask after the 26 Aug floods
- **7 districts** — W & E Champaran, Sitamarhi, Madhubani, Supaul, Araria, Kishanganj
- **1954 / 1959** — Kosi / Gandak agreements
- **1996** — Mahakali Treaty (Pancheshwar)
- **Open border** — 1950 Peace & Friendship Treaty

Nepal PM Balendra Shah's first India visit from 22 Nov: aid, power and pending disputes on the agenda

IR BPSC: Prelims + Mains GS-II (India & Neighbours; Bihar Border)

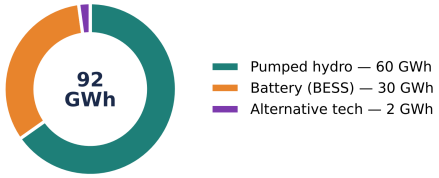
Syllabus Linkage	**GS-II**: India's foreign policy with its neighbours; Bihar's geography (the Indo-Nepal border, Kosi and Gandak treaties); Prelims: border districts.
Context	After Foreign Secretary **Vikram Misri's** two-day visit to Kathmandu (ending **5 Nov**), Nepal PM **Balendra Shah**, in office since **27 Mar 2026**, is set for a four-day visit from **22 Nov**, with talks with PM Modi on **23 Nov**.
Key Facts	■ Nepal is seeking **$2 billion** after the **26 Aug** floods in the Rasuwa–Bhotekoshi area: **$1 bn** in credit lines, **$500 mn** in grants and **$500 mn** for reconstruction. ■ Projects on the agenda: the **Lower Arun** hydropower project, the **Siliguri–Charali** petroleum pipeline, the Bhairahawa integrated check post (ICP) and the **Pancheshwar** project (**Mahakali Treaty, 1996**). ■ Unresolved boundary issues: **Kalapani** and **Susta**. ■ **7** Bihar districts border Nepal, from **West Champaran** to **Kishanganj**.
Way Fwd	Joint flood forecasting and **Kosi high dam** studies would directly cut floods in north Bihar. Faster cross-border rail and ICPs at Raxaul and Jogbani would help trade.
Concept	**Kosi Agreement (1954)** and **Gandak Agreement (1959)**: India–Nepal treaties on barrages and irrigation that are central to north Bihar. The **1950** Treaty of Peace and Friendship provides for an **open border**.

Cabinet clears ₹14,500 crore VGF for 92 GWh grid-scale energy storage

ENVIRONMENT BPSC: Prelims + Mains GS-II (Science & Tech – Energy)

Syllabus Linkage	**GS-II**: the role of science and technology in energy security; Prelims: VGF, pumped storage, domestic content.
Context	On **4 Nov 2026**, the Union Cabinet approved a viability gap funding (VGF) scheme for **FY27–FY31** to firm up renewable power and supply round-the-clock electricity. It is expected to attract **₹97,600 crore** of investment.
Key Facts	■ **92 GWh** in total: **60 GWh** pumped hydro, **30 GWh** BESS and **2 GWh** of alternative technologies. ■ Capacity is allocated through **tariff-based competitive bidding**; discoms are eligible. ■ BESS projects need a minimum **domestic content** of **40%**. ■ The scheme adds about **170%** of current grid storage; India needs **411 GWh** by **2031–32**.
Way Fwd	States like Bihar, with a fast-rising evening peak, should bid early. Battery recycling and safety standards need to keep pace.
Concept	**VGF**: a one-time capital grant that makes an otherwise unviable project bankable. **Pumped storage**: water is pumped uphill when power is surplus and released through turbines at peak demand.

Storage VGF ₹14,500 cr (FY27–FY31)
Investment ~₹97,600 cr • 40% domestic content (BESS)



₹2,814 crore capex scheme to refine lithium and nickel at home

ECONOMY BPSC: Prelims + Mains GS-II (Economy – Industry & Resources)

Syllabus Linkage	**GS-II**: industrial policy, mineral security and science and technology; Prelims: critical minerals, KABIL, NCMM.
Context	The Cabinet (**4 Nov**) approved a **30% capital subsidy** to set up processing plants that make battery-grade lithium and nickel compounds. Processing is the main chokepoint in India's supply chain for these minerals.
Key Facts	■ **4 plants**: two lithium plants (**≥30 kt** each) and two nickel plants (**≥50 kt** each); cobalt comes as a by-product. ■ Caps: **₹500 cr** per lithium plant and **₹900 cr** per nickel plant; nodal ministry: **Ministry of Mines**; runs **FY27–FY31**. ■ India's list has **30** critical minerals (**2023**); the **National Critical Mineral Mission (NCMM)** (Jan **2025**) has an outlay of **₹16,300 cr**.
Way Fwd	India needs secure overseas feedstock through **KABIL** (Argentina and Australia), R&D on recycling and strict environmental norms for effluents.
Concept	**Critical minerals** are essential to the economy but face supply risk. **KABIL** (2019) is a joint venture of **NALCO, HCL and MECL**. Bihar link: the **Jamui** gold and **Banka/Gaya** mineral blocks.

Fast Track Special Courts extended to 2031 with ₹3,788 crore outlay

POLITY BPSC: Prelims + Mains GS-II (Polity – Judiciary & Women/Child Safety)

Syllabus Linkage	**GS-II**: the judiciary and justice delivery, and the protection of vulnerable sections; Prelims: the POCSO Act, the Nirbhaya Fund.
Context	The Cabinet (**4 Nov**) continued the **Fast Track Special Courts** for rape and POCSO cases for **five years**, from **1 Apr 2026** to **31 Mar 2031**.
Key Facts	■ Outlay of **₹3,788.04 cr**: Centre **₹2,353.15 cr** (from the **Nirbhaya Fund**) and states **₹1,434.89 cr**. ■ Courts to rise from **779** to **850**; **399** of the current courts are exclusive POCSO courts. ■ The courts have disposed of **4,02,457** cases since **2 Oct 2019**.
Way Fwd	Fill judicial vacancies, strengthen forensic labs and **victim-compensation** schemes, including Bihar's.
Concept	**POCSO Act, 2012**: a gender-neutral law protecting children (under **18**) from sexual offences. **Art. 39A**: free legal aid (a Directive Principle, DPSP).

Bharatiya Vayuyan Niyam, 2026 replaces colonial-era Aircraft Rules from 1 Jan 2027

POLITY BPSC: Prelims + Mains GS-II (Governance – Regulation)

Syllabus Linkage	**GS-II**: governance and regulatory reforms, and the aviation infrastructure (UDAN) relevant to Bihar's airports; Prelims: ICAO, the Chicago Convention.
Context	The Centre has notified new rules under the **Bharatiya Vayuyan Adhiniyam, 2024**, replacing the **Aircraft Rules, 1937**. They take effect from **1 Jan 2027**.
Key Facts	■ The rules cover registration (**'VT'** prefix), airworthiness, licensing, aerodromes and penalties. ■ Airlines must show the **full fare** with a breakdown; the Centre can issue directions in **extraordinary** situations. ■ The rules are aligned with the **ICAO** annexes; the Adhiniyam replaced the **Aircraft Act, 1934**.
Way Fwd	Make the **DGCA** autonomous and well staffed, and define 'extraordinary' fare situations clearly. This will help regional routes (**UDAN**) to Darbhanga and Purnia.
Concept	The **Chicago Convention (1944)** created **ICAO**, headquartered in **Montreal**. The **DGCA** became a statutory body in **2020**.

SECTION D | PRELIMS RAPID-FIRE

QUICK FACT	QUICK FACT
1. The **Kajra** solar-plus-storage project (**301 MW** + **523 MWh**) is in **Lakhisarai** district, Bihar.	**2.** Bihar's Transport Minister is **Damodar Rawat**; BSRTC stands for the Bihar State Road Transport Corporation.
3. The Cabinet approved **VISTAR** (**₹4,371.10 cr**, 2026–31) for statistics reform, including the **8th Economic Census**.	**4.** SC (**5 Nov**): the **24-hour** window for producing a person before a magistrate runs from **detention**, not formal arrest (**Art. 22(2)**).
5. COP31 of the UNFCCC is to be held in **Antalya, Türkiye**, from **9 to 20 Nov 2026**.	**6.** Bihar's Deputy CMs: **Vijay Kumar Chaudhary** and **Bijendra Prasad Yadav**.

SECTION E | PRACTICE CORNER — BPSC pattern

Q1. Consider the following statements about the VB-G RAM G framework recently reviewed in Bihar:
1. It guarantees 125 days of wage employment per rural household per year.
2. The Centre and states share its cost in a 60:40 ratio.
3. It replaced the Mahatma Gandhi NREGA, 2005.
Which of the statements given above are correct?

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

Answer: (d) — All three statements are correct: VB-G RAM G guarantees **125 days** of work, its cost is shared **60:40** between the Centre and the states, and the 2025 Act **replaced MGNREGA**.

Q2. Under the 16th Finance Commission's formula for distributing central taxes among states, which criterion carries the highest weight?

(a) Population
(b) Income distance
(c) Area
(d) Forest cover

Answer: (b) — **Income distance** carries **42.5%**, followed by population at **17.5%**; the other four criteria carry **10%** each. Because of this weighting, a low-income state like **Bihar** gets nearly **10%** of the devolution pool.

MAINS PRACTICE: Bihar aims for 24 GW of renewable energy by 2030 even though its peak demand has risen about fourteen-fold since 2005. Discuss the opportunities and constraints of this transition, and suggest a strategy suited to the state's geography. (BPSC Mains GS-II, 8 marks)

Hint: Start with the data (**700 → 10,000 MW**, the **₹2.57 lakh cr** pipeline). Opportunities: PM-KUSUM, rooftop solar, **Kajra BESS**, the new central storage VGF. Constraints: land scarcity, the flood-prone plains and evening peaks. Strategy: floating and agri-solar, pumped storage in **Kaimur**, and strong discoms. Conclude with jobs and energy security.

ONE-LINE REVISION: Remember **Bihar ₹10,845 cr** (devolution), **125 days and 60:40** (VB-G RAM G), **24 GW by 2030** (Bihar RE), **NE-9 at 245 km** (Patna–Purnia), **92 GWh** (storage VGF) and **7 border districts** (Nepal).

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