CURRENT AFFAIRS — 7 October 2026

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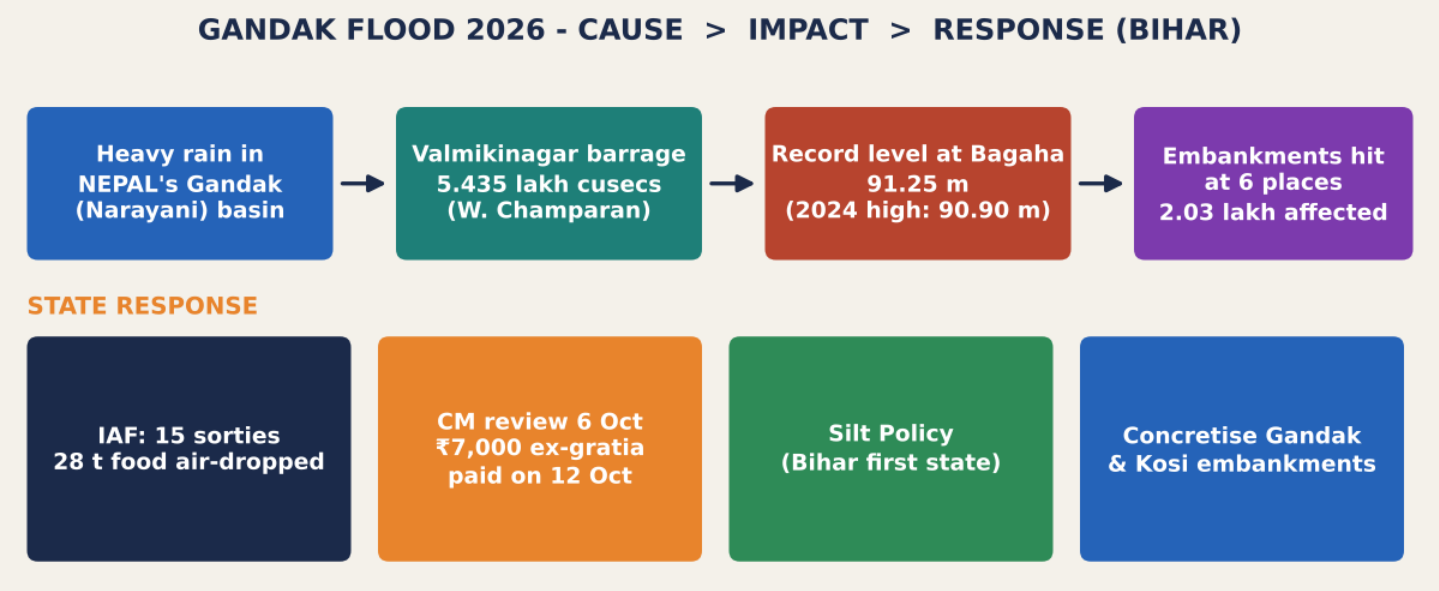
DAILY CURRENT AFFAIRS FOR BPSC CCE

Wednesday, 7 October 2026 • Asia/Kolkata (IST) • Bihar + National • BPSC Prelims & Mains digest

TODAY AT A GLANCE — 10 THINGS TO REMEMBER

- **RBI** hikes **repo to 5.50%** (+25 bps); stance now '**calibrated tightening**'
- Bihar flood: **₹7,000 ex-gratia** per family to be paid on **12 October**
- **Gandak** hit a record **91.25 m** at **Bagaha** gauge; **5.435 lakh cusecs** at Valmikinagar
- Bihar - **first state** with a **silt policy**; Gandak & Kosi embankments to be **concretised**
- Bihar **Green Hydrogen Policy 2026**: **1 lakh t/yr by 2031**, **₹16,000 cr** investment
- CM target: **no forced migration** for wage work from Bihar **by 2030**
- Bihar MLC polls: **4 Graduate + 4 Teachers'** seats; voting **23 Oct**, counting **27 Oct**
- **FSS-1**, Navy's first indigenous **Fleet Support Ship**, launched at **HSL Visakhapatnam**
- **Nobel Physics 2026**: **Francis Halzen** (IceCube neutrino observatory)
- **India-EFTA TEPA** completes **1 year** (in force **1 Oct 2025**); **USD 100 bn** FDI pledge

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



Bihar Floods: CM Reviews Damage, ₹7,000 Ex-Gratia From 12 October

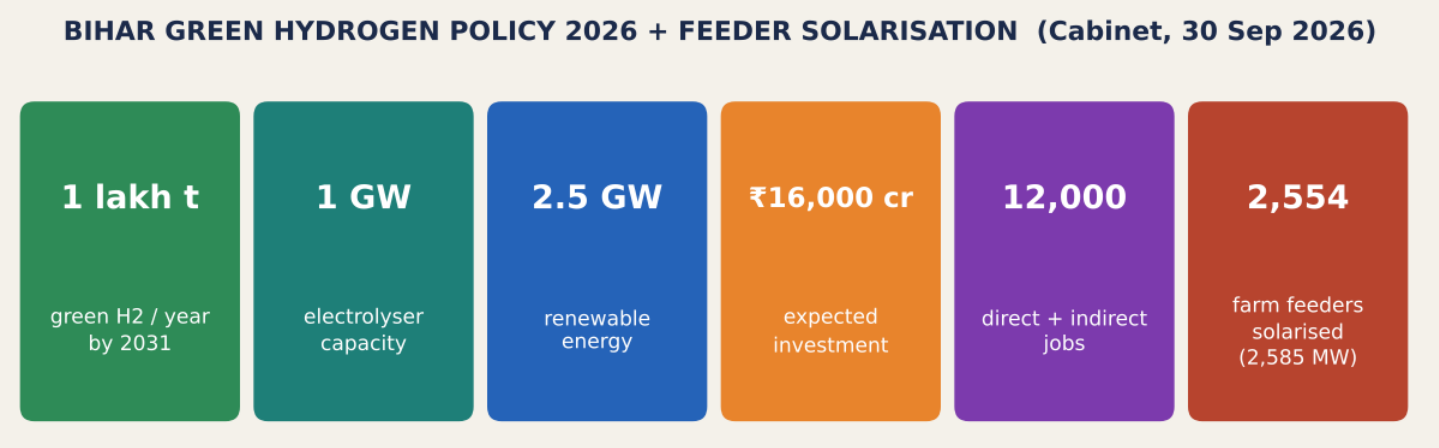
BIHAR BPSC: Prelims + Mains GS-II (Bihar Geography & Disaster Mgmt)

Syllabus Linkage	**GS-II**: Bihar geography - rivers, floods, disaster management. **Prelims**: Gandak/Kosi barrages, flood-prone districts.
Context	On **6 October 2026**, CM **Samrat Choudhary** chaired a flood review at the **Sankalp auditorium**, Patna, and fixed **12 October** for paying **₹7,000** ex-gratia to every affected family before **Dussehra**.
Key Facts	■ Worst-hit: **West Champaran, Saran, Gopalganj**; embankments damaged at **6 places**; about **2.03 lakh** people affected. ■ **Gandak** reached a record **91.25 m** at **Bagaha** (2024 high: **90.90 m**); **5.435 lakh cusecs** at **Valmikinagar barrage** after heavy rain in **Nepal's** catchment. ■ **15 IAF sorties** air-dropped **28 tonnes** of food; **5,600+** dry-ration packets in **Saran**. ■ CM blamed **silt** in riverbeds - Bihar is the **first state** to frame a **silt policy**; Gandak & Kosi embankments to be **concretised**.
Way Fwd	Shift from embankment-only defence to **basin-level planning with Nepal**, desiltation and early-warning; ensure **DBT** relief reaches all within the deadline.
Concept	**Gandak** (Narayani in Nepal) joins the **Ganga at Hajipur-Sonepur**; **Valmikinagar barrage** (1969-70) is under the **India-Nepal Gandak Agreement (1959)**. About **73%** of Bihar's area is flood-prone.

Bihar Green Hydrogen Policy 2026: 1 Lakh Tonnes a Year by 2031

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

Syllabus Linkage	**GS-II**: Bihar economy - industrial & energy policy; role of S&T. **Prelims**: National Green Hydrogen Mission, BREDA.
Context	The state cabinet (meeting of **30 September 2026**, **30 agendas**) approved the **Bihar Green Hydrogen Policy 2026** along with a big push to **solarise farm feeders**.
Key Facts	■ Target: **1 lakh tonnes/year** green hydrogen by **2031**; **1 GW** electrolyser and about **2.5 GW** renewable capacity. ■ Expected investment **₹16,000 crore**; about **12,000** direct and indirect jobs. ■ Nodal agency: **BREDA** (Bihar Renewable Energy Development Agency). ■ Solarisation of **2,554** agricultural feeders: **₹2,761.55 crore** for **2,585 MW**, incl. **₹47.30 crore** incentive to **gram panchayats**.
Way Fwd	Land-locked Bihar must secure **cheap RE, water and offtake** (fertiliser, refinery at **Barauni**) to make hydrogen viable.
Concept	**Green hydrogen** = H2 from **electrolysis of water** using renewable power. India's **National Green Hydrogen Mission (2023)** targets **5 MMT/year by 2030**.

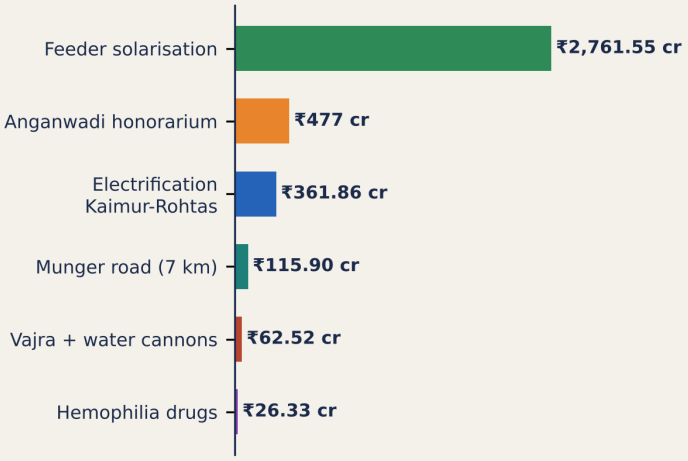


Bihar Cabinet: ATF VAT Cut to Zero, Hemophilia Scheme, Patna Cruise Terminal

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

Syllabus Linkage	**GS-II**: Bihar economy, state finances, welfare schemes. **Prelims**: state schemes, VAT on ATF.
Context	The same **30 September** cabinet cleared welfare, aviation and infrastructure decisions with big-ticket outlays alongside the energy push.
Key Facts	■ **VAT on aviation turbine fuel (ATF)** cut from **5% to 0%** - to attract more flights. ■ **Anganwadi** workers' honorarium **₹477 crore**; **CM Hemophilia Scheme** drugs **₹26.33 crore** (Year 1). ■ Rural electrification of **21,644** households in **Kaimur & Rohtas** (177 villages): **₹361.86 crore**. ■ **86 Vajra** vehicles + **30 water cannons**: **₹62.52 crore**; **cruise terminal** at Patna on **4 acres**.
Way Fwd	Track outcomes - flight additions after the **ATF cut**, and timely drug supply under the hemophilia scheme.
Concept	**ATF** is **outside GST**; states levy **VAT** on it. **Hemophilia** is an inherited **X-linked** bleeding disorder (deficiency of clotting **factor VIII/IX**).

Bihar Cabinet outlays (30 Sep 2026)



CM Sets 2030 Deadline to End Distress Migration From Bihar

SOCIETY BPSC: Mains GS-II (Bihar Economy) + GS-I (Society)

Syllabus Linkage	**GS-II**: Bihar economy - employment, migration, investment. **Essay**: migration & development.
Context	Speaking at **Jamuhar, Dehri-on-Sone** (Rohtas) on **6 October**, CM **Samrat Choudhary** said no one should be **forced to leave Bihar for wage work by 2030**.
Key Facts	■ Goal: create **jobs and investment within Bihar** so out-migration becomes a **choice, not compulsion**. ■ CM appealed to **Bihari entrepreneurs outside the state** to **invest back home**. ■ Links with new state policies - **green hydrogen**, **feeder solarisation**, aviation (**ATF VAT 0%**).
Way Fwd	Needs **labour-intensive manufacturing** (food processing, makhana, textiles), skilling and a **migrant database** to measure progress.
Concept	**Distress migration** = push-driven movement due to lack of livelihood (vs. **aspirational** pull migration). **Remittances** are a major support of Bihar's rural economy.

Pitru Paksha Mela at Gaya: Tent City, e-Pind Daan and Vishnupad Corridor

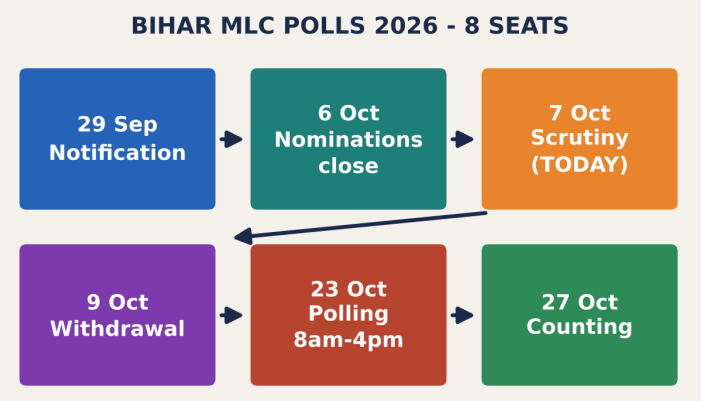
BIHAR BPSC: Prelims + Mains GS-I (Bihar Culture & Heritage)

Syllabus Linkage	**GS-I**: Indian culture with Bihar's role - fairs, pilgrim centres. **Prelims**: Gaya, Falgu, Vishnupad.
Context	The state-run **Pitru Paksha Mela (25 Sep - 10 Oct 2026)** is in its final days at **Gaya ji**, with lakhs of pilgrims from India and abroad performing **Pind Daan**.
Key Facts	■ **2,500-bed tent city** by **BSTDC**; **e-Pind Daan** for remote devotees; **Mahaarti** on the **Falgu**. ■ Upcoming: world-class **Vishnupad Temple corridor** and a **1,000-bed Gayaji Dharamshala** (**₹120 crore**). ■ Gaya's **Falgu** sand sold to pilgrims creates seasonal livelihood.
Way Fwd	Integrate **Gaya-Bodh Gaya-Rajgir-Nalanda** into one **spiritual tourism circuit** with crowd and waste management.
Concept	The present **Vishnupad temple** was rebuilt by **Rani Ahilyabai Holkar** of Indore in **1787**. The **Falgu** (Niranjana + Mohana) flows past Gaya and **Bodh Gaya**.

Bihar Legislative Council Polls: 8 Graduate & Teachers' Seats, Voting on 23 October

POLITY BPSC: Prelims + Mains GS-II (Polity - State Legislature)

Syllabus Linkage	**GS-II**: Indian polity - state legislature, **Article 171**. **Prelims**: composition of Bihar Vidhan Parishad.
Context	**Scrutiny of nominations is today (7 October)** for **8 MLC seats** whose terms end on **16 November 2026**; multi-cornered contests are shaping up.
Key Facts	■ **4 Graduate** seats (Patna, Darbhanga, Tirhut, Kosi) + **4 Teachers'** seats (Patna, Darbhanga, Tirhut, Saran). ■ Withdrawal by **9 Oct**; polling **23 Oct** (8 am-4 pm); counting **27 Oct**. ■ Polls held alongside similar seats in **Karnataka (4)**, **Maharashtra (5)** and **UP (11)**.
Way Fwd	Higher **graduate voter enrolment** and use of **preferential voting** awareness can improve legitimacy of these seats.
Concept	**Art. 171**: of MLC strength, **1/12** elected by **graduates** (3 yrs standing) and **1/12** by **teachers** (3 yrs, not below secondary school); voting by **STV**. Bihar Council has **75** members.



SECTION B — DATA POINT OF THE DAY

5.50%
RBI Repo Rate (7 Oct 2026)

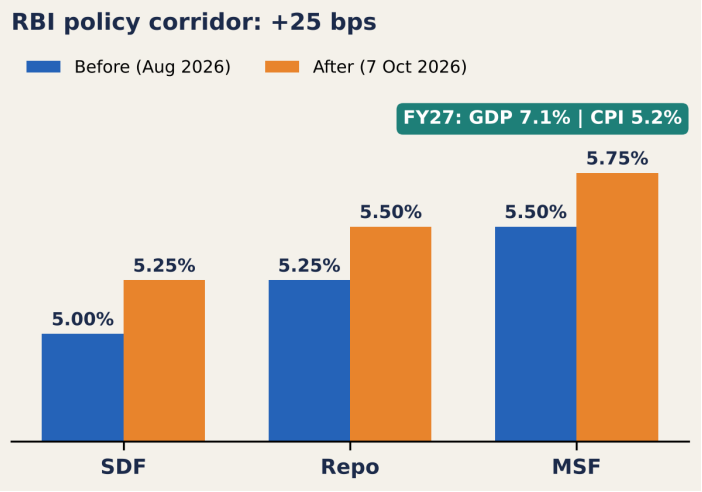
Up **25 bps** from **5.25%** - first hike since **Feb 2023**. Corridor: **SDF 5.25%** to **MSF 5.75%**. FY27: **GDP 7.1%**, **CPI 5.2%**. Costlier loans mean higher EMIs for Bihar's MSMEs and home buyers; FD rates may rise.

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

RBI Raises Repo Rate to 5.50%, First Hike Since 2023

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

Syllabus Linkage	**GS-II**: Indian economy - monetary policy, inflation. **Prelims**: policy rates, MPC, LAF corridor.
Context	Today (**7 October**), the **MPC** under Governor **Sanjay Malhotra unanimously** raised the repo rate by **25 bps** to **5.50%**, citing high **oil prices**, a **weak monsoon** and tighter global conditions.
Key Facts	■ **SDF 5.25%**, **MSF & Bank Rate 5.75%**; first hike since **February 2023** (after **125 bps** of cuts in 2025). ■ Stance changed from **neutral** to **'calibrated tightening'** by a **4-2** vote. ■ FY27 projections: **GDP 7.1%**, **CPI 5.2%** (Q3 **6.0%**, Q4 **5.7%**). ■ Merchandise trade deficit **USD 58.7 bn** (Jul-Aug) on crude & electronics imports.
Way Fwd	Pair tightening with **supply-side food measures** and protect **MSME credit** flow.
Concept	**MPC** (Sec **45ZB**, RBI Act) has **6 members**; inflation target **4% ± 2%** (CPI). **Repo** = rate at which RBI lends to banks; **SDF** is the corridor floor, **MSF** the ceiling.

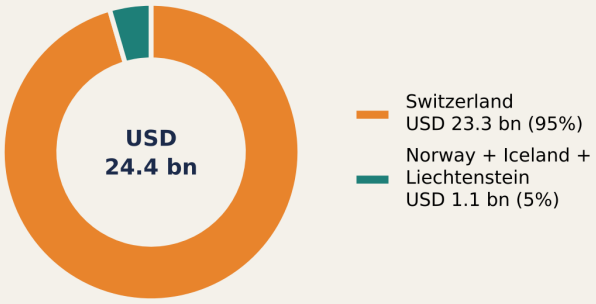


India-EFTA TEPA Turns One; Swiss President's Visit Adds Mobility Pact

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

Syllabus Linkage	**GS-II**: India's foreign trade, FTAs, FDI. **Prelims**: EFTA members, TEPA.
Context	The **Swiss President** visited New Delhi (**5 October**) to mark one year of the **Trade and Economic Partnership Agreement**, in force since **1 October 2025**.
Key Facts	■ TEPA (signed **10 March 2024**) - first FTA with a **binding pledge**: **USD 100 bn** FDI and **10 lakh** direct jobs in **15 years**. ■ India-EFTA trade **USD 24.4 bn** (2024-25), of which **Switzerland USD 23.3 bn**. ■ New: **Migration & Mobility Partnership**; **Young Professionals** quota **300/yr** (expandable to **500**). ■ Irritants: **Section 3(d)** of Patents Act, no **BIT**, **gold**-driven trade gap.
Way Fwd	Operationalise the investment desk, conclude a new **BIT**, and diversify exports beyond gold-led imbalance.
Concept	**EFTA** = **Switzerland, Norway, Iceland, Liechtenstein** (founded **1960**, not in the EU). **Sec 3(d)** bars patents on new forms of known substances (**anti-evergreening**).

India-EFTA trade 2024-25



National Supercomputing Mission: 40 Systems, 68 Petaflops Deployed

SCI-TECH BPSC: Prelims + Mains GS-II (Science & Technology)

Syllabus Linkage	**GS-II**: role and impact of S&T; indigenisation. **Prelims**: PARAM series, C-DAC, NSM.
Context	Official data released on **4 October** show **NSM** has deployed **40 supercomputers** with **68 PF** - about **80%** of systems but **55%** of compute target.
Key Facts	■ Target: **50 systems**, **123+ PF**; split - **13** high-end, **12** mid-range, **15** low-end. ■ Indigenous **Rudra** servers: **6,000** made; used by **16,000+** researchers at **400+** institutions. ■ Launched **April 2015** with **₹4,500 crore**; run by **MeitY & DST**.
Way Fwd	Build indigenous **CPUs/GPUs** and plan an **exascale** system to keep pace globally.
Concept	**1 petaflop = 10^15** floating-point ops/sec. India's first supercomputer **PARAM 8000 (1991)** by **C-DAC** (est. **1988**).

Navy's First Indigenous Fleet Support Ship FSS-1 Launched at Visakhapatnam

DEFENCE BPSC: Prelims + Mains GS-II (Science & Tech - Defence)

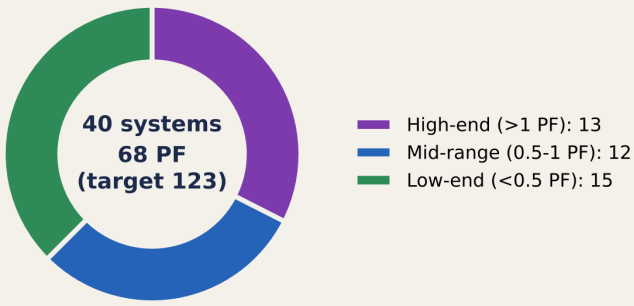
Syllabus Linkage	**GS-II**: role of S&T in defence; Atmanirbhar Bharat. **Prelims**: shipyards, naval platforms.
Context	Defence Minister **Rajnath Singh** launched **FSS-1** at **Hindustan Shipyard Ltd (HSL)** on **6 October** and laid the keel of **FSS-5**.
Key Facts	■ First of **5** fleet support ships; displacement about **43,500 tonnes**; launched **18 months** after steel cutting. ■ Carries fuel, ammunition and stores for **replenishment-at-sea**; extends **blue-water** reach in the **IOR**. ■ HSL upgrades: **Slipway-4**, **300-tonne Goliath crane**; can build ships up to **45,000 DWT**.
Way Fwd	Indigenise **engines and propulsion** and cut cost/time overruns to make Indian yards globally competitive.
Concept	**HSL** began as **Scindia Shipyard (1941)**; first ship **Jala Usha (1948)**; under **MoD since 2010**. **DWT** = cargo + fuel + stores a ship can carry.

Nobel Physics 2026 to Francis Halzen for IceCube Neutrino Astronomy

SCI-TECH BPSC: Prelims + Mains GS-II (Science & Technology)

Syllabus Linkage	**GS-II**: developments in S&T. **Prelims**: Nobel Prizes, particle physics basics.
Context	On **6 October**, the Royal Swedish Academy awarded the Physics prize to **Francis Halzen** (University of Wisconsin-Madison) for detecting **high-energy cosmic neutrinos**.
Key Facts	■ He led the **IceCube Neutrino Observatory** at the **South Pole** - sensors buried in **1 cubic km** of Antarctic ice. ■ Opened **neutrino astronomy** - tracing particles from **distant galaxies**. ■ **Medicine 2026** (5 Oct): **Deisseroth, Hegemann, Nagel** for **optogenetics**. ■ Prize: medal, diploma and about **USD 1.2 mn**; Chemistry, Literature, Peace, Economics follow.
Way Fwd	India's **INO** (Theni, Tamil Nadu) project needs revival to join neutrino research.
Concept	**Neutrinos** are nearly massless, chargeless 'ghost particles' that rarely interact with matter. IceCube detects the **Cherenkov light** of their collisions in ice.

NSM supercomputers deployed



SECTION D — PRELIMS RAPID-FIRE

1. **10th India Mobile Congress** - **7-10 October 2026**, **Yashobhoomi**, New Delhi (DoT + COAI)	2. Bihar **Pitru Paksha Mela 2026** - **25 Sep to 10 Oct**, Gaya ji; **2,500-bed** tent city
3. **Valmikinagar barrage** on the **Gandak** - West Champaran, on the **India-Nepal** border	4. **NABKISAN** (NABARD arm) listed India's **first WASH social bond** - **₹180 crore**, **8.10%** coupon
5. **Indian Air Force Day** - **8 October** (IAF formed in **1932**)	6. **Bihar Vidhan Parishad** - **75** members; **Art. 169** for creation/abolition of Councils

SECTION E — PRACTICE CORNER

Q1. With reference to the RBI's monetary policy of 7 October 2026, consider the following statements: 1. The repo rate was raised to 5.50%. 2. The Standing Deposit Facility (SDF) rate is now the ceiling of the policy corridor. 3. The MPC is constituted under Section 45ZB of the RBI Act, 1934. Which of the statements given above are correct?

(A) 1 and 2 only
(B) 1 and 3 only
(C) 2 and 3 only
(D) 1, 2 and 3

Answer: (B) — Repo is now **5.50%** and the MPC is under **Sec 45ZB**. The **SDF (5.25%)** is the **floor**; the **MSF (5.75%)** is the ceiling.

Q2. The Valmikinagar barrage, where a record flood discharge was recorded in the 2026 Bihar floods, is located on which river?

(A) Kosi
(B) Gandak
(C) Bagmati
(D) Son

Answer: (B) — **Valmikinagar barrage** (West Champaran) is on the **Gandak** (Narayani), built under the **1959 India-Nepal Gandak Agreement**; the **Kosi barrage** is at **Bhimnagar** (Nepal).

MAINS PRACTICE

North Bihar's floods are as much a problem of silt and transboundary rivers as of rainfall. In the light of the 2026 Gandak floods, critically examine Bihar's flood-management strategy and suggest a sustainable way forward. (BPSC Mains GS-II, 38 marks)

Hint: Intro: **73%** area flood-prone; Gandak record **91.25 m**. Body: Nepal catchment, embankment breaches, **silt policy**, concretisation, relief (**₹7,000**, IAF). Critique: embankment trap. Way forward: **India-Nepal** basin plan, desiltation, early warning, flood-plain zoning.

ONE-LINE REVISION: Repo **5.50%** | Gandak **91.25 m** at Bagaha | **₹7,000** flood aid on **12 Oct** | Green H2 **1 lakh t by 2031** | MLC poll **23 Oct** | Nobel Physics - **Halzen**

Compiled & simplified by the StudyForGS.com Research Team
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