

## TODAY AT A GLANCE — 10 THINGS TO REMEMBER

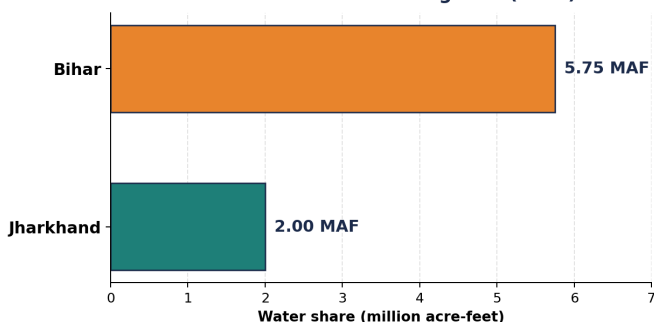
- Bihar-Jharkhand sign Sone river water pact: Bihar 5.75 MAF, Jharkhand 2 MAF.
- RBI drains Rs 6 lakh cr via VRRR; surplus liquidity Rs 11.6 lakh cr; repo 5.25%.
- Bihar cabinet clears AI Mission, EV Policy, 400 e-buses, Rs 15,967 cr roads.
- 18th BRICS Summit at Bharat Mandapam, New Delhi (12-13 Sept).
- Mithila Makhana push: up to Rs 72,750/ha subsidy; national Makhana Board.
- DAC clears Rs 1.10 lakh crore defence procurement.
- Ganga and Punpun above danger mark; Bihar on flood alert.
- PM-KISAN extended to 2030-31 with Rs 3.15 lakh crore outlay.
- Gaya's Pitri Paksha Mela begins 25 Sept; 2,500-bed tent city planned.
- Cabinet approves raising Supreme Court judge strength by 4.

## SECTION A — BIHAR SPECIAL

### Bihar-Jharkhand End 25-Year Sone River Water Dispute

| [BIHAR]                 | BPSC: Prelims + Mains GS-II (Polity & Bihar Geography)                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |
|-------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Syllabus Linkage</b> | GS-II: Indian polity (inter-state relations, Art. 262) and Bihar geography (rivers); Prelims: Sone as a Ganga right-bank tributary, cooperative federalism.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |
| <b>Context</b>          | On <b>31 August 2026</b> Bihar and Jharkhand signed an MoU ending a <b>25-year dispute</b> over sharing <b>Sone (Son) river</b> water, one of the Ganga's largest <b>right-bank tributaries</b> .                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |
| <b>Key Facts</b>        | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ Water shared: <b>Bihar 5.75 MAF</b> (million acre-feet) and <b>Jharkhand 2 MAF</b>.</li> <li>■ The Sone rises near <b>Amarkantak (Madhya Pradesh)</b> and joins the <b>Ganga near Patna (Maner)</b>.</li> <li>■ <b>Indrapuri Barrage</b> at <b>Dehri</b> (on the Sone) is among Asia's longest barrages and anchors the <b>Sone Canal System</b>.</li> <li>■ Inter-state water disputes fall under <b>Article 262</b> and the <b>Inter-State River Water Disputes Act, 1956</b>.</li> </ul> |
| <b>Way Fwd</b>          | Negotiated pacts can pre-empt long tribunals; Bihar should modernise the ageing Sone Canal network to cut transmission losses.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |
| <b>Concept</b>          | Right-bank tributaries of the Ganga: <b>Son, Yamuna, Chambal</b> . <b>Article 262</b> lets Parliament bar courts from notified inter-state water disputes.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |

Sone River Water-Sharing Pact (2026)



Bar chart of Sone river water allocation: Bihar 5.75 MAF versus Jharkhand 2 MAF.

### Bihar Cabinet Clears AI Mission, EV Policy & Mega Road Plan

| [BIHAR]                 | BPSC: Prelims + Mains GS-II (Bihar Economy & Governance)                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |
|-------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Syllabus Linkage</b> | GS-II: Bihar economy (infrastructure, industrial policy) and governance/e-governance; Prelims: state schemes and budgets.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |
| <b>Context</b>          | The <b>Nitish Kumar</b> cabinet approved proposals to push infrastructure, clean mobility and technology, including a state <b>AI Mission</b> , an <b>EV Policy</b> and a large road-building plan.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |
| <b>Key Facts</b>        | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ Approved a <b>Rs 15,967 crore</b> road/infrastructure plan and induction of <b>400 electric buses</b> for city transport.</li> <li>■ Cleared a <b>Bihar AI Mission</b> and an <b>Electric Vehicle (EV) Policy</b> for green mobility and skilling.</li> <li>■ Earlier packages added <b>biogas plants, solar subsidies</b> and a <b>DA hike</b> for state employees.</li> <li>■ Backs the goal of <b>one crore jobs</b> under the <b>Bihar Industrial Investment Promotion Policy</b>.</li> </ul> |
| <b>Way Fwd</b>          | Success hinges on charging infrastructure, timely fund release and PPP execution capacity.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |
| <b>Concept</b>          | State AI/EV policies operationalise national missions ( <b>IndiaAI, PM E-DRIVE/FAME</b> ) at the sub-national level.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |

#### Bihar Cabinet: Key Approvals

|                                          |                              |                                      |                                    |
|------------------------------------------|------------------------------|--------------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| <b>Rs 15,967 cr</b><br>Road / infra plan | <b>400</b><br>Electric buses | <b>AI Mission</b><br>Tech & skilling | <b>EV Policy</b><br>Green mobility |
|------------------------------------------|------------------------------|--------------------------------------|------------------------------------|

Stat tiles of Bihar cabinet decisions: Rs 15,967 cr roads, 400 e-buses, AI Mission, EV Policy.

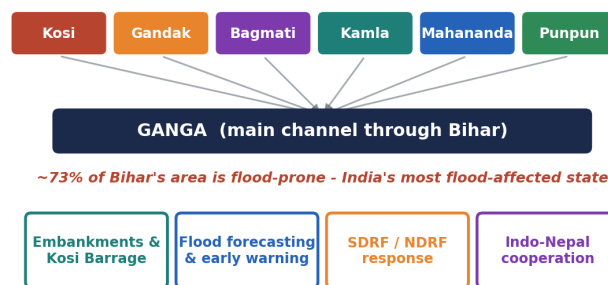
## Makhana Development Scheme Boosts Bihar Fox-Nut Farmers

| [BIHAR]                 | BPSC: Prelims + Mains GS-II (Bihar Economy - Agriculture)                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |
|-------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Syllabus Linkage</b> | GS-II: Bihar economy (agriculture, allied sectors, GI products); Prelims: GI tags, Makhana Board, agri subsidies.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |
| <b>Context</b>          | Bihar is scaling up its <b>Makhana (fox-nut / gorgon nut)</b> economy through a development scheme, farmer subsidies and the new national <b>Makhana Board</b> .                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |
| <b>Key Facts</b>        | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ <b>Mithila Makhana</b> holds a <b>GI tag</b> (granted <b>2022</b>); Bihar grows nearly <b>85-90%</b> of India's makhana.</li> <li>■ The development scheme gives up to <b>Rs 72,750 per hectare</b> subsidy to farmers.</li> <li>■ A <b>Makhana Board</b> (announced in <b>Union Budget 2025-26</b>) supports processing, branding and exports.</li> <li>■ Grown mainly in <b>Darbhanga, Madhubani, Purnia, Katihar, Saharsa</b> (Mithila/Kosi region).</li> </ul> |
| <b>Way Fwd</b>          | Cold-chain, mechanised popping and startup R&D can raise value-addition and farmer income.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |
| <b>Concept</b>          | <b>GI (Geographical Indication)</b> is protected under the <b>GI of Goods (Registration &amp; Protection) Act, 1999</b> .                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |

## Ganga, Punpun Above Danger Mark; Bihar on Flood Alert

| [BIHAR]                 | BPSC: Prelims + Mains GS-II (Bihar Geography - Disaster Mgmt)                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |
|-------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Syllabus Linkage</b> | GS-II: Bihar geography (rivers, floods) and disaster management; Prelims: north-Bihar rivers, embankments.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |
| <b>Context</b>          | Several rivers including the <b>Ganga</b> and <b>Punpun</b> are flowing <b>above the danger mark</b> , keeping parts of Bihar on flood alert; rail speed on the Jamalpur-Bhagalpur route was cut to <b>30 km/h</b> .                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |
| <b>Key Facts</b>        | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ Bihar is India's <b>most flood-prone state</b>; about <b>73%</b> of its area is flood-affected.</li> <li>■ Chief flood-causing rivers: <b>Kosi</b> ('Sorrow of Bihar'), <b>Gandak, Bagmati, Kamla, Mahananda, Punpun</b>.</li> <li>■ The <b>Kosi</b> carries huge silt from Nepal; flood management involves <b>embankments</b> and the <b>Kosi barrage (Birpur)</b>.</li> <li>■ Response uses the <b>SDRF/NDRF</b> framework and Flood Management Improvement schemes.</li> </ul> |
| <b>Way Fwd</b>          | Real-time flood forecasting, silt management and Indo-Nepal cooperation on the Kosi are key to lasting relief.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |
| <b>Concept</b>          | Most north-Bihar rivers are <b>antecedent, Himalayan, perennial</b> and silt-laden, causing recurrent floods.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |

### Bihar: Flood-Prone Rivers & Management



Schematic of Bihar's flood-prone rivers (Kosi, Gandak, Bagmati, Ganga, Punpun) and management tools.

## Gaya Gears Up for Pitri Paksha Mela 2026

| [BIHAR]                 | BPSC: Prelims + Mains GS-I (Bihar Culture & Heritage)                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |
|-------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Syllabus Linkage</b> | GS-I: Indian culture and Bihar's heritage (pilgrimage, tourism); Prelims: Gaya, Vishnupad, pind-daan.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |
| <b>Context</b>          | <b>Gaya</b> is preparing for the <b>Pitri Paksha Mela 2026</b> , the fortnight when lakhs perform <b>pind-daan</b> (ancestral rites) at the <b>Vishnupad Temple</b> and the <b>Falgu river</b> .                                                                                                                                                                                                         |
| <b>Key Facts</b>        | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ The Mela begins <b>25 September 2026</b>; authorities plan a <b>2,500-bed tent city</b>, helplines and transport.</li> <li>■ Nearby <b>Bodh Gaya (Mahabodhi Temple)</b> is a <b>UNESCO World Heritage Site</b> on the Buddhist circuit.</li> <li>■ The seasonal <b>Falgu (Phalgu)</b> now has the <b>Gayaji Dam</b> rubber dam for year-round water.</li> </ul> |
| <b>Way Fwd</b>          | Crowd management, sanitation and heritage-tourism branding can lift religious-tourism revenue.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |
| <b>Concept</b>          | Bihar's heritage triad for exams: <b>Nalanda, Vikramshila</b> (ancient learning) and <b>Bodh Gaya</b> (Buddhism).                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |

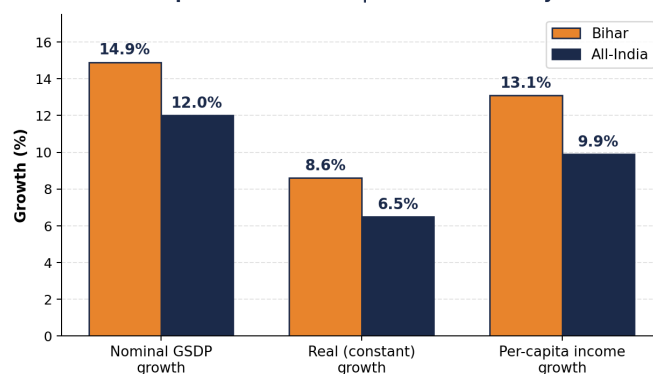
### SECTION B — DATA POINT OF THE DAY

#### Bihar's Economy (Economic Survey 2025-26)

**GSDP Rs 9.91 lakh cr | 14.9% growth**

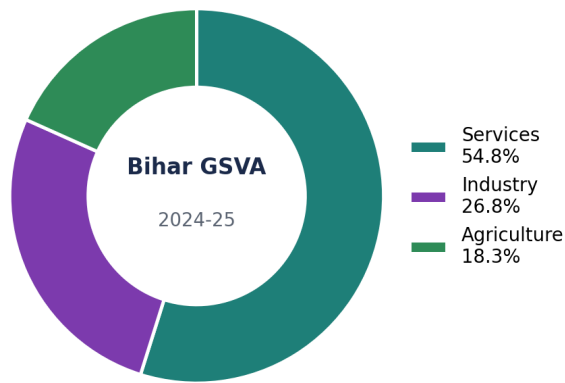
Bihar's GSDP touched **Rs 9,91,997 crore** (2024-25, current prices), growing **14.9%** against India's **12.0%**; per-capita income rose to **Rs 76,490**. Sectoral share of GSA: services **54.8%**, industry **26.8%**, agriculture **18.3%**.

#### Bihar Outpaces the Nation | Economic Survey 2025-26



Bihar vs all-India growth rates (Economic Survey 2025-26).

## Sectoral Composition of Bihar's Economy



Sectoral composition of Bihar's GSVA, 2024-25.

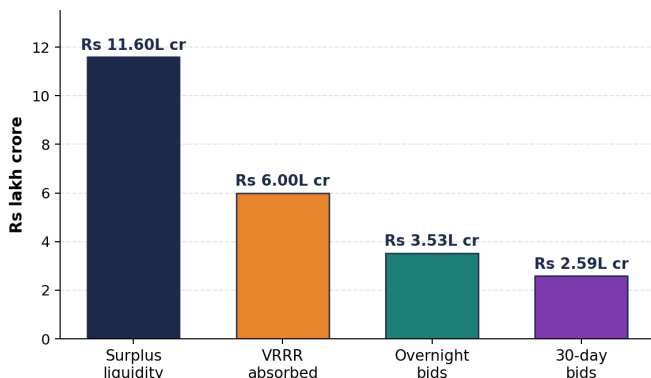
## SECTION C — NATIONAL &amp; WORLD

## RBI Drains Rs 6 Lakh Crore to Mop Up Surplus Liquidity

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

|                         |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |
|-------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Syllabus Linkage</b> | GS-II: Indian economy (monetary policy, banking); Prelims: repo, VRRR, SDF/MSF, LAF corridor.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |
| <b>Context</b>          | The <b>RBI</b> withdrew about <b>Rs 6 lakh crore</b> from the banking system on <b>7 September 2026</b> via a <b>Variable Rate Reverse Repo (VRRR)</b> as surplus liquidity ballooned.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |
| <b>Key Facts</b>        | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Surplus liquidity had reached <b>Rs 11.6 lakh crore</b>, nearly <b>4%</b> of banking-system deposits.</li> <li>RBI accepted <b>Rs 3.53 lakh crore</b> in overnight and <b>Rs 2.59 lakh crore</b> in 30-day bids.</li> <li>The <b>repo rate</b> stands at <b>5.25%</b> with a <b>neutral</b> stance; <b>SDF 5.00%</b>, <b>MSF 5.50%</b>.</li> <li>FY27 <b>GDP growth</b> projection was raised to <b>6.7%</b>; the inflation forecast was cut.</li> </ul> |
| <b>Way Fwd</b>          | Liquidity absorption keeps overnight rates near the repo, preserving monetary-policy transmission.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |
| <b>Concept</b>          | <b>VRRR</b> absorbs liquidity; the <b>LAF corridor</b> = <b>SDF (floor) &lt; repo &lt; MSF (ceiling)</b> .                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |

## RBI Liquidity Operations | Repo held at 5.25%

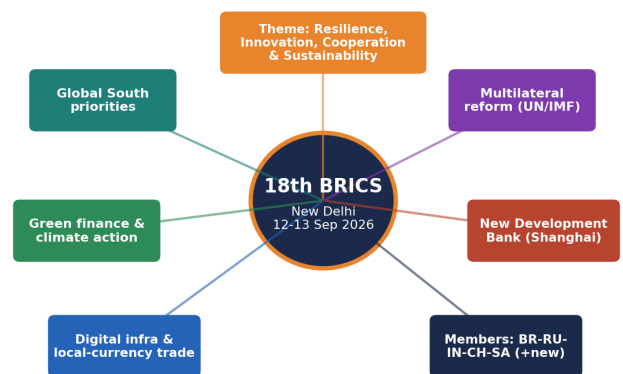


Bar chart of RBI liquidity: Rs 6 lakh cr VRRR, Rs 11.6 lakh cr surplus, repo 5.25%.

## India to Host 18th BRICS Summit at Bharat Mandapam

|                         |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
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| <b>[IR]</b>             | <b>BPSC: Prelims + Mains GS-II (International Relations)</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |
| <b>Syllabus Linkage</b> | GS-II: India and the world (groupings, summits); Prelims: BRICS members, NDB, chairship, theme.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
| <b>Context</b>          | As the <b>2026 BRICS Chair</b> , India hosts the <b>18th BRICS Summit at Bharat Mandapam, New Delhi on 12-13 September 2026</b> .                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |
| <b>Key Facts</b>        | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>India's chairship theme: <b>'Building for Resilience, Innovation, Cooperation and Sustainability'</b>.</li> <li>Founding members: <b>Brazil, Russia, India, China, South Africa</b>; the grouping later expanded.</li> <li>Agenda pillars: <b>Global South</b>, climate action, digital infrastructure, green finance, multilateral reform, local-currency trade.</li> <li>The <b>New Development Bank (NDB)</b> is BRICS's flagship bank (HQ <b>Shanghai</b>, est. <b>2014</b>).</li> </ul> |
| <b>Way Fwd</b>          | India can use the summit to voice Global South priorities and push UN/IMF reform.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |
| <b>Concept</b>          | BRIC (2006) became <b>BRICS</b> with South Africa ( <b>2010</b> ); works via consensus, no charter.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |

## 18th BRICS Summit 2026 - India's Chairship



Mind map of the 18th BRICS Summit 2026: theme and agenda pillars.

## Defence Council Clears Rs 1.10 Lakh Crore Procurement

|                         |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |
|-------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>[DEFENCE]</b>        | <b>BPSC: Prelims + Mains GS-II (Science &amp; Tech in Defence)</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |
| <b>Syllabus Linkage</b> | GS-II: role and impact of science & technology (defence indigenisation); Prelims: DAC, Acceptance of Necessity.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |
| <b>Context</b>          | The <b>Defence Acquisition Council (DAC)</b> , chaired by the Defence Minister, accorded <b>Acceptance of Necessity</b> for procurements worth about <b>Rs 1.10 lakh crore</b> .                                                                                                                                                                                                            |
| <b>Key Facts</b>        | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Approvals include <b>CBRN reconnaissance vehicles, radars, advanced light helicopters</b> and <b>marine gas turbines</b>.</li> <li>Strong thrust on <b>Atmanirbharta</b> (self-reliance) and <b>Make-in-India</b> in defence.</li> <li><b>Acceptance of Necessity (AoN)</b> is the first step in the defence capital-acquisition process.</li> </ul> |
| <b>Way Fwd</b>          | Faster contract-signing and private-sector participation can cut import dependence.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |
| <b>Concept</b>          | <b>DAC</b> is the apex defence-procurement body under the <b>Ministry of Defence</b> .                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |

## PM-KISAN Extended up to 2030-31 with Rs 3.15 Lakh Crore

### [ECONOMY]

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

|                         |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |
|-------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Syllabus Linkage</b> | GS-II: Indian economy (agriculture, DBT schemes); Prelims: PM-KISAN quantum, coverage, JAM.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |
| <b>Context</b>          | The Union Cabinet extended <b>PM-KISAN</b> (income support to farmers) up to <b>2030-31</b> with a total outlay of <b>Rs 3.15 lakh crore</b> .                                                                                                                                                                                                            |
| <b>Key Facts</b>        | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>PM-KISAN gives <b>Rs 6,000/year</b> in <b>three Rs 2,000 instalments</b> via <b>DBT</b> to eligible farmer families.</li> <li>Launched in <b>2019</b>; among the world's largest <b>DBT</b> schemes.</li> <li>Bihar has a large beneficiary base given its <b>~54%</b> agriculture-dependent workforce.</li> </ul> |
| <b>Way Fwd</b>          | Land-record digitisation (e-KYC, Aadhaar seeding) can plug exclusion/inclusion errors.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |
| <b>Concept</b>          | <b>DBT</b> cuts leakages using the <b>JAM trinity</b> (Jan Dhan-Aadhaar-Mobile).                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |

## Cabinet Approves Raising Supreme Court Judge Strength by 4

### [POLITY]

**BPSC: Prelims + Mains GS-II (Indian Polity - Judiciary)**

|                         |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
|-------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Syllabus Linkage</b> | GS-II: Indian polity (judiciary, Art. 124); Prelims: SC composition, collegium, sanctioned strength.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |
| <b>Context</b>          | The Union Cabinet approved a proposal to raise the <b>number of Supreme Court judges by 4</b> , aiming to ease case pendency.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |
| <b>Key Facts</b>        | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>SC strength is fixed by the <b>Supreme Court (Number of Judges) Act, 1956</b>, amended periodically.</li> <li>Judges are appointed by the <b>President</b> through the <b>Collegium</b> (CJI + 4 senior-most judges).</li> <li><b>Article 124</b> governs the establishment and composition of the Supreme Court.</li> </ul> |
| <b>Way Fwd</b>          | More judges plus tech (e-courts, virtual hearings) can cut the large case backlog.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |
| <b>Concept</b>          | Present sanctioned strength was <b>34</b> (CJI + 33 judges); the 1956 Act sets the ceiling.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |

## Rajnath Singh Visits Sri Lanka to Deepen Defence Ties

### [IR]

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

|                         |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |
|-------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Syllabus Linkage</b> | GS-II: India and the neighbourhood; Prelims: Neighbourhood First, SAGAR, IOR.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |
| <b>Context</b>          | Defence Minister <b>Rajnath Singh</b> visited <b>Sri Lanka (8-10 September 2026)</b> to strengthen defence and maritime-security cooperation.                                                                                                                                                                                                                |
| <b>Key Facts</b>        | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Talks covered <b>defence, maritime security</b> and regional cooperation under <b>Neighbourhood First</b>.</li> <li>Sri Lanka is central to India's <b>Indian Ocean Region (IOR)</b> security and the <b>SAGAR</b> vision.</li> <li>Builds on growing India-Sri Lanka connectivity and energy cooperation.</li> </ul> |
| <b>Way Fwd</b>          | Deeper naval exercises and capacity-building can counter external influence in the IOR.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |
| <b>Concept</b>          | <b>SAGAR</b> = Security and Growth for All in the Region (India's maritime doctrine, 2015).                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |

## SECTION D — PRELIMS RAPID-FIRE

- A global credit-rating agency upgraded India's sovereign rating from **BBB+ to A-** (2 Sept 2026).
- ISRO** launched earth-observation satellite **EOS-05** aboard the **GSLV** (4 Sept 2026).
- India logged **7.8% GDP** growth in **Q1 FY27**, the fastest among major economies.
- 8 September** is observed as **International Literacy Day** (UNESCO).
- Bihar's makhana farmers get up to **Rs 72,750/hectare** subsidy under the development scheme.
- Air Vice Marshal Shakti Sharma** became the first non-medical woman **two-star** officer in India's defence forces.

## SECTION E — PRACTICE CORNER

**Q1.** With reference to the Sone (Son) river, consider the following statements:

- It is a right-bank tributary of the Ganga.
  - It originates near Amarkantak.
  - The Indrapuri Barrage is built on it.
- Which of the 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** The Son is a right-bank tributary of the Ganga, rises near Amarkantak (MP), and the Indrapuri Barrage (Dehri) is built on it in Bihar.

**Q2.** The 18th BRICS Summit (2026) is being hosted by which country and at which venue?

- (a) Brazil - Rio de Janeiro  
(b) India - New Delhi (Bharat Mandapam)  
(c) Russia - Kazan  
(d) South Africa - Johannesburg

**Answer: B** India, as the 2026 BRICS Chair, hosts the 18th Summit at Bharat Mandapam, New Delhi (12-13 September 2026).

**Mains Practice:** Inter-state river water disputes remain a recurring challenge to cooperative federalism in India. In this context, examine the significance of the recent Bihar-Jharkhand Sone river water-sharing agreement.  
**Hint:** Cover Article 262 and the ISRWD Act, 1956; limitations of tribunals; the negotiated-MoU model of cooperative federalism; and benefits to south Bihar's Sone Canal command area.

**QUICK REVISION** ▶ Remember: Sone = right-bank Ganga tributary; Bihar 5.75 MAF / Jharkhand 2 MAF; 18th BRICS Summit at Bharat Mandapam, New Delhi; RBI repo 5.25%; Bihar GSDP Rs 9.91 lakh cr, 14.9% growth.

**Compiled & simplified by the StudyForGS.com Research Team**

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