CURRENT AFFAIRS — 12 October 2026

Monday, 12 October 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

- **Patna Metro**: CM sets **2028** completion target; **2 FOBs** on **Nehru Path (Bailey Road)**
- Greenfield airports: **~7,373 acres** for **Sonpur (4,228)** + **Bhagalpur-Munger (3,145)**
- **CWC** flood alert on **Gandak** after Nepal rain; watch at **Valmikinagar Barrage**
- **Sherpur-Dighwara** six-lane Ganga bridge: **₹4,250 cr**, **~14.5 km**, saves **~30 km**
- Toll on **47 bridges** (>**250 m**) + **55 state highways** for commercial vehicles
- Gaya **Pitrapaksha Mela 2026**: record **51.30 lakh** pilgrims
- Pension Day: **₹1,237.48 cr** to over **1 crore** pensioners; **33,000** teacher posts coming
- **RBI** repo **+25 bps** to **5.50%**, first hike since **Feb 2023**; stance **calibrated tightening**
- **57th GST Council**: arrest power (**Sec 69**) dropped; prosecution threshold **₹1 cr → ₹5 cr**
- **Nobel Peace Prize 2026**: **Navi Pillay** (South Africa), ex-UN Human Rights chief

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

Patna Metro gets a 2028 completion deadline; two FOBs on Nehru Path

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

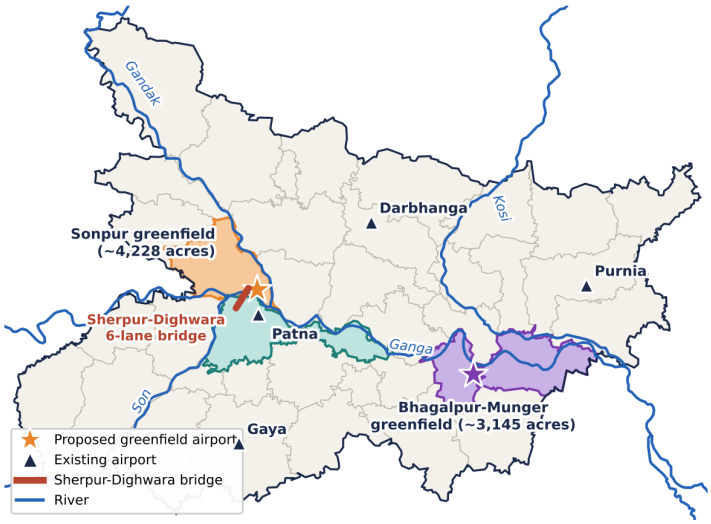
Syllabus Linkage	Mains GS-II: **urban infrastructure** & development of Bihar; Prelims: Bihar's **metro corridors**, urban transport schemes.
Context	On **11 October 2026**, CM **Samrat Choudhary** inspected **Patna Metro** sites near **Income Tax Golambar**, the **High Court** crossing and **Hanuman Mandir**. He set **2028** as the target to complete the project.
Key Facts	• Completion target: **2028**; the CM said speed must not compromise **quality and safety**. • **2 foot overbridges** on **Nehru Path (Bailey Road)**: near **J.D. Women's College** and between the **High Court** crossing and **Bihar Museum**. • Agencies told to plan **traffic diversions** and coordinate (**Road Construction Dept**, **Patna Metro Rail Corporation**, district administration, traffic police). • Executing agency: **Patna Metro Rail Corporation**; review attended by Deputy CM **Vijay Kumar Chaudhary**.
Way Fwd	Publish a **public timeline** for each corridor, and plan **last-mile links** (feeder buses, e-rickshaws) before the stations open.
Concept	**Metro Rail Policy 2017**: Centre supports metros through **equity sharing (50:50 JV)**, grants or **PPP**, and requires a **Comprehensive Mobility Plan** and land-value capture. Patna Metro is a **Centre-State JV** project.

Bihar to acquire ~7,373 acres for greenfield airports at Sonpur and Bhagalpur-Munger

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

Syllabus Linkage	Mains GS-II: **infrastructure-led growth** of Bihar, land policy; Prelims: **airports of Bihar**, districts and blocks.
Context	The state government plans to acquire about **7,373 acres** across **~40 mauzas** and over **26,000 landowners** for two new **greenfield airports**. A special land survey is under way in phases.
Key Facts	• **Sonpur (Saran)**: **~4,228 acres**, **26 mauzas**, **~14,224** landowners in **Sonpur** and **Dariyapur** blocks; earlier approved outlay **₹1,302 crore**; planned runway **~4,200 m**. • **Bhagalpur-Munger**: **~3,145 acres**, **~14 mauzas**, **~12,000** landowners (Bhagalpur Sadar, **Sultanganj**, Munger Sadar, Tarapur, Bariarpur). • Route: direct purchase first under the **Bihar Raiyati Land Purchase Policy, 2020**; statutory acquisition as a fallback. • Compensation is set by local **raiyati land purchase committees**; the consultant only assists.
Way Fwd	Fair, quick **compensation and resettlement** for diara farmers, and integrate the airports with the **Ganga bridges** and **ring road**.
Concept	**Greenfield airport**: built on a new site (vs **brownfield** = upgrading an existing one). Under the **Greenfield Airports Policy, 2008**, the Centre gives **site clearance** and then **in-principle approval**. **UDAN** (2016) is the regional connectivity scheme.

Bihar's Connectivity Push: New Airports & Ganga Bridge



7,373 acres
Total land planned for 2 airports

4,228 acres
Sonpur (Saran)
26 mauzas, ~14,224 owners

3,145 acres
Bhagalpur-Munger
~14 mauzas, ~12,000 owners

₹4,250 cr
Sherpur-Dighwara bridge
~14.5 km, saves ~30 km

CWC flood alert on the Gandak after heavy rain in Nepal; Valmikinagar on watch

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

Syllabus Linkage	Mains GS-II: **rivers and floods of Bihar**, disaster management; Prelims: **Gandak**, **Budhi Gandak**, barrages, India-Nepal river ties.
Context	On **11 October 2026**, the **Central Water Commission (CWC)** issued a flood warning for **Bihar** and **Uttar Pradesh** after the Gandak system rose suddenly following heavy rain in its **Nepal** catchment. Levels rose fast at **Arughat** on the Budhi Gandaki in Nepal.
Key Facts	● Inflow at the **Gandak Barrage, Valmikinagar (West Champaran)** may rise slightly; **Bagaha** riverside areas are on alert. ● **Gandak** districts: **West & East Champaran, Gopalganj, Saran, Muzaffarpur, Vaishali**. ● **Budhi Gandak** districts: Champaran region, **Muzaffarpur, Samastipur, Begusarai, Khagaria**. ● CWC expects the surge to **weaken** before the border, with **no major threat** to the diara plains.
Way Fwd	Share **real-time hydrological data** with Nepal, and strengthen **embankment audits** and **community early warning** in the diara belt.
Concept	**Gandak Project**: the **India-Nepal Gandak Agreement (1959)** led to the **Valmikinagar barrage** (completed **1968–69**). The Gandak (**Narayani/Kali Gandaki**) joins the **Ganga near Hajipur/Sonpur**. **CWC** is under the **Ministry of Jal Shakti** and issues flood forecasts.

Gandak Flood Alert (CWC, 11 Oct 2026)

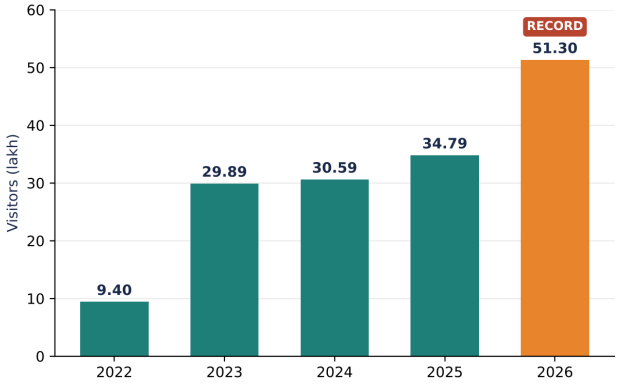


Gaya Pitrapaksha Mela 2026 draws a record 51.30 lakh pilgrims

SOCIETY BPSC: Prelims + Mains GS-I (Culture of Bihar) & GS-II (Tourism Economy)

Syllabus Linkage	Mains GS-I: **religious heritage of Bihar**; GS-II: **tourism economy**; Prelims: **Gaya, Vishnupad, Phalgu**, fairs of Bihar.
Context	Over **51.30 lakh** devotees from India and abroad visited **Gaya** for **pind daan** and **tarpan** during the **Pitrapaksha Mela** (began **25 September 2026**), the highest ever.
Key Facts	● Earlier footfall: **9.40 lakh (2022)**, **29.89 lakh (2023)**, **30.59 lakh (2024)**, **34.79 lakh (2025)**. ● Foreign visitors came from **Russia, France, Germany, Italy, Brazil, Ukraine**. ● Facilities: a **tent city** for **18,000+** people, an **AI-based translation** service (**~1 lakh** users), **15,000+** wristbands for children and the elderly. ● **1,101** saplings planted at **Pitru Vatika** under the 'One Tree in the Name of Ancestors' drive.
Way Fwd	Develop a **Gaya-Bodh Gaya-Rajgir-Nalanda** circuit with year-round packages so seasonal footfall becomes **steady tourism income**.
Concept	**Pitrapaksha**: the **16-day** fortnight of **Ashvin Krishna Paksha** for ancestor rites. In Gaya, rites are held at the **Vishnupad Temple** (rebuilt by **Ahilyabai Holkar**, **1787**) and on the **Phalgu** river; the **Gaya Ji Dam** (rubber dam) keeps water in the Phalgu.

Gaya Pitrapaksha Mela: Record Footfall



Pension Day: ₹1,237.48 crore to pensioners; CM announces 33,000 teacher posts

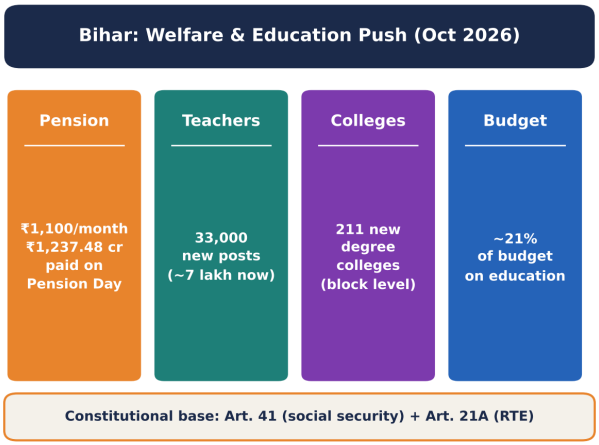
BIHAR BPSC: Prelims + Mains GS-II (Bihar Welfare Schemes & Education)

Syllabus Linkage	Mains GS-II: **social security** and **education policy** of Bihar; Prelims: pension amounts, scheme names and numbers.
Context	On **Bihar Pension Day (10 October 2026)**, CM **Samrat Choudhary** transferred **₹1,237.48 crore** by **DBT** to more than **1 crore** social security pensioners. At **Bapu Sabhagar**, he also announced recruitment of about **33,000** more teachers.
Key Facts	● Monthly pension (old age, disability, widow) raised from **₹400** to **₹1,100**; officials told to run a **special campaign** to cover every eligible person. ● Bihar has about **7 lakh** teachers; women teachers are to be posted in **nearby panchayats**. ● **211 new degree colleges** to take higher education to the **block level**; **~100** college teachers to train abroad (including **Oxford**). ● About **21%** of the state budget goes to **education**; **~700 model schools** serve **~3.5 lakh** students.
Way Fwd	Link pensions to **Aadhaar-seeded DBT** with yearly **life certificates**, and fill teacher posts through a fixed **annual recruitment calendar**.
Concept	**Social security** is a **Directive Principle** (**Art. 41**: public assistance in old age, sickness and disablement). The Centre's **NSAP** (**1995**) includes **IGNOAPS**; states add their own top-up. **RTE Act 2009** (**Art. 21A**) sets a **PTR of 30:1** at primary level.

₹4,250-crore Sherpur-Dighwara six-lane Ganga bridge; toll planned on 47 bridges and 55 state highways

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

Syllabus Linkage	Mains GS-II: **road and bridge infrastructure** and **state finances** of Bihar; Prelims: **Ganga bridges**, Patna Ring Road.
Context	The **Road Construction Department** shared details of the six-lane **Sherpur-Dighwara** Ganga bridge, a key link of the **Patna Ring Road**. Separately, the state is preparing to collect **toll** from commercial vehicles on major bridges and state highways.
Key Facts	● Bridge: administrative approval **~₹4,250 crore**; length **~14.5 km**; cuts travel by up to **~30 km**; links **Patna** and **Saran**. ● It will divert long-distance and **freight traffic** away from central Patna. ● Toll on **47 bridges** longer than **250 m** and **55 state highways**, for **commercial vehicles**, through **FASTag**-based electronic collection. ● The **2 Sept 2026** cabinet approved **₹30.94 crore** for toll consultancy; officials studied the **Rajasthan** model.
Way Fwd	Use toll revenue in a dedicated **bridge maintenance fund**, and keep rates moderate so they do not raise **freight costs** for farmers.
Concept	**User-charge principle**: those who benefit from an asset pay for its upkeep. Bihar's Ganga crossings include **Mahatma Gandhi Setu** (Patna-Hajipur, **5.75 km**), **Rajendra Setu** (Mokama, **1959**), **Vikramshila Setu** (Bhagalpur) and **J.P. Setu** (Digha-Sonpur, rail-road).



Roads & Bridges: Building and Paying for Bihar's Network



SECTION B | DATA POINT OF THE DAY — Key economic statistic

7.1%

India's FY27 GDP growth forecast (World Bank, October 2026)

Up from **6.6%**; RBI also projects **7.1%**. **Q1 FY27** growth was **7.8%**; South Asia is forecast at **6.9%** for **2026**.

Why it matters for BPSC: growth forecasts by the **World Bank**, **IMF** and **RBI** are common Prelims statements; compare them with Bihar's own growth in the **Bihar Economic Survey**.

World Bank raises India's FY27 growth forecast to 7.1% in its South Asia update

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

Syllabus Linkage	Mains GS-II: **growth and development** of the Indian economy; Prelims: **international reports** and their publishers.
Context	The **World Bank's October 2026 South Asia** update (**6 October**) raised India's **FY27** growth forecast from **6.6%** to **7.1%**, after strong **Q1 FY27** growth of **7.8%**.
Key Facts	● India: **FY27 7.1%**, **FY28 7.2%**; FY26 estimate **7.8%**. ● South Asia: **6.9%** in **2026** (up from **6.3%**), **6.7%** in **2027**. ● Industry and services expected to offset weak **agriculture**; risk from a larger **monsoon deficit**. ● **Current account deficit** held at **0.6% of GDP** in FY26.
Way Fwd	Protect **farm incomes** through irrigation and crop insurance so that rural demand supports **broad-based growth**.
Concept	**World Bank Group**: **IBRD + IDA** (plus IFC, MIGA, ICSID). Main reports: **Global Economic Prospects** and the **South Asia Development Update**. The **IMF** publishes the **World Economic Outlook**.

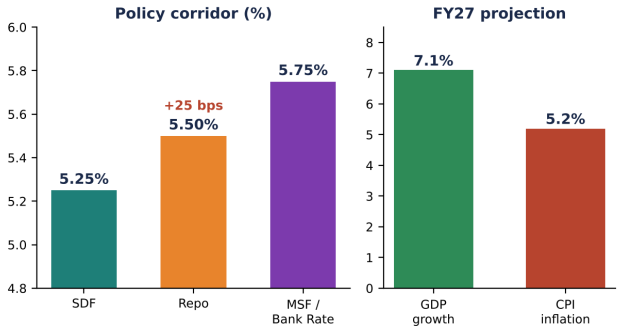
SECTION C | NATIONAL & WORLD — Polity, economy, IR & reports relevant to BPSC

RBI raises repo rate by 25 bps to 5.50%, first hike since February 2023

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

Syllabus Linkage	Mains GS-II: **monetary policy**, inflation; Prelims: **repo/SDF/MSF**, MPC structure, **inflation targeting**.
Context	On **7 October 2026**, the **Monetary Policy Committee** led by Governor **Sanjay Malhotra** voted **unanimously** to raise the repo rate. The stance changed to **'calibrated tightening'** as price pressures spread.
Key Facts	● **Repo 5.50%**; **SDF 5.25%**; **MSF** and **Bank Rate 5.75%**. ● FY27 projections: **GDP 7.1%** (up from **6.7%**); **CPI 5.2%** (up from **5.0%**). **August CPI** was **4.8%**. ● Reasons: weak **monsoon** and **El Niño**, **crude above $100/barrel** due to the **West Asia** conflict, and a narrower **India-US rate gap**. ● Items with inflation above **4%** rose to **~37%** of the CPI basket.
Way Fwd	Pair the rate hike with **supply-side steps** (buffer stocks, edible-oil imports) so growth is not hurt more than needed.
Concept	**MPC** (**Sec 45ZB, RBI Act 1934**, amended **2016**): **6 members** (3 RBI + 3 Centre-nominated); the Governor has a **casting vote**. Inflation target: **4% ± 2%** CPI. **Policy corridor**: SDF = repo − 25 bps; MSF = repo + 25 bps.

RBI MPC, 7 Oct 2026: First Hike Since Feb 2023



Nobel Peace Prize 2026 awarded to South African jurist Navi Pillay

REPORT BPSC: Prelims (Awards & Persons in News)

Syllabus Linkage	Prelims: **awards and honours**, international organisations (**OHCHR, ICC, ICTR**); Mains GS-II: human rights & **international law**.
Context	On **9 October 2026**, the **Norwegian Nobel Committee** awarded the **125th** Peace Prize to **Navanethem 'Navi' Pillay** (85) for her work to promote **peace and international law**.
Key Facts	● Pillay was **UN High Commissioner for Human Rights** (2008–14), an **ICC** judge, and President of the **ICTR** (Rwanda tribunal). ● There were **287 nominations** (**208** individuals, **79** organisations); prize money is **SEK 12 million**. ● 2026 laureates: **Medicine**: Deisseroth, Hegemann, Nagel (**optogenetics**); **Literature**: **Anne Carson** (Canada). ● The **Economics** prize is announced today (**12 October**).
Way Fwd	For Prelims, prepare a **one-page Nobel 2026 table** (category, laureate, country, field) and note Indian links to past laureates.
Concept	The **Peace Prize** is awarded in **Oslo** by a **5-member committee** chosen by the **Norwegian Parliament (Storting)**; the other prizes are given in **Stockholm**. Indian-linked Peace laureates: **Mother Teresa (1979)**, **Kailash Satyarthi (2014)**.

57th GST Council removes arrest powers and raises the prosecution threshold to ₹5 crore

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

Syllabus Linkage	Mains GS-II: **fiscal federalism**, tax reforms; Prelims: **GST Council (Art. 279A)**, CGST Act provisions.
Context	The **57th GST Council** met on **8 October 2026** in **New Delhi**, chaired by Finance Minister **Nirmala Sitharaman**. It approved a major easing of **GST enforcement** rules, with no change in tax rates.
Key Facts	● **Arrest powers** removed by omitting **Section 69** of the **CGST Act, 2017**. ● **Prosecution threshold** raised from **₹1 crore** to **₹5 crore**; general penalty (**Sec 125**) cut from **₹25,000** to **₹10,000**. ● **90%** of refunds for zero-rated supplies and inverted duty provisionally sanctioned **automatically**; most refunds within **3 working days**. ● GST **rate changes** to be taken up **once a year**; reforms effective from **1 April 2027**.
Way Fwd	Back the decriminalisation with **data-analytics-based audits** so that **fake-invoice fraud** does not rise.
Concept	**GST Council (Art. 279A, 101st Amendment, 2016)**: chaired by the **Union FM**; Centre has **1/3** of the vote weight and states **2/3**; decisions need a **3/4 majority**. In **Mohit Minerals (2022)**, the SC held its recommendations are **persuasive, not binding**.

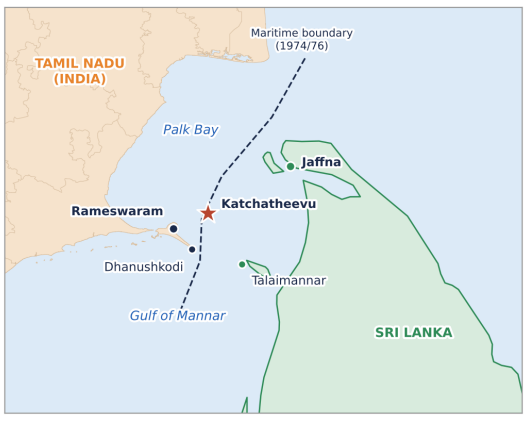
Centre tells Supreme Court it will not reopen the Katchatheevu agreements with Sri Lanka

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

Syllabus Linkage	Mains GS-II: **India-neighbourhood relations**, cession of territory; Prelims: **Palk Strait**, 1974/1976 agreements.
Context	In a hearing on **6 October 2026** (**W.P.(C) 561 of 2008**), Attorney General **R. Venkataramani** said India values ties with **Sri Lanka** and does not wish to reopen the treaties. Sri Lanka's President **Anura Kumara Dissanayake** welcomed the position on **11 October**.
Key Facts	● The SC asked the Centre to **sensitise Tamil Nadu fishermen** against crossing into Sri Lankan waters; next hearing **February 2027**. ● Petitioners argue ceding territory needed a **constitutional amendment** of **Schedule I**. ● **1974 agreement** recognised the island as Sri Lankan; the **1976 agreement** limited Indian **fishing rights**. ● The island (**~285 acres**) lies in the **Palk Strait**, about **33 km** from **Rameswaram**.
Way Fwd	Revive the **Joint Working Group on Fisheries**, promote **deep-sea fishing** for TN fishermen, and phase out **bottom trawling**.
Concept	**Berubari Union case (1960)**: ceding Indian territory needs a **constitutional amendment under Art. 368**. Compare the **9th Amendment (1960)** and the **100th Amendment (2015)** for the **India-Bangladesh LBA**.

Katchatheevu in the Palk Strait

~285 acres | ~33 km from Rameswaram



SECTION D | PRELIMS RAPID-FIRE — Quick facts: Bihar + National

Topic	Quick Fact
JP Jayanti (11 Oct)	**Jayaprakash Narayan** was born at **Sitab Diara (Saran)**; led the **1974 'Sampoorna Kranti'**; **Bharat Ratna 1999**
Patna Ramleela 2026	Held at **Gandhi Maidan**; **Ravan Dahan** on **20 October**
Bihar Pension Day	**₹1,237.48 crore** transferred by **DBT** on **10 October 2026**
57th GST Council	**Sec 69 CGST Act** (arrest power) omitted; **once-a-year** rate review
RBI policy corridor	**SDF 5.25% | Repo 5.50% | MSF 5.75%**
Nobel Literature 2026	**Anne Carson** (Canada); Peace: **Navi Pillay** (South Africa)

SECTION E | PRACTICE CORNER — BPSC-pattern MCQs + Mains question

Q1. Consider the following statements about the proposed greenfield airport at Sonpur:
1. It is located in Saran district.
2. Land is to be bought first through direct purchase under the Bihar Raiyati Land Purchase Policy, 2020.
3. It is planned on the bank of the Kosi river.
Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Answer: (b) — Sonpur is in **Saran**, and the state will first try **direct purchase** under the **Bihar Raiyati Land Purchase Policy, 2020**. The site is near the **Gandak-Ganga** confluence, not the Kosi.

Q2. With reference to the decisions of the 57th GST Council (October 2026), consider the following:
1. Arrest powers were withdrawn by omitting Section 69 of the CGST Act, 2017.
2. The prosecution threshold was raised from ₹1 crore to ₹5 crore.
3. GST rate changes will be taken up once a year.
How many of the above are correct?

(a) Only one **(b)** Only two **(c)** All three **(d)** None

Answer: (c) — All three are correct. The Council also cut the general penalty under **Sec 125** from **₹25,000** to **₹10,000**; the reforms take effect from **1 April 2027**.

MAINS PRACTICE: Bihar is investing heavily in connectivity: greenfield airports, new Ganga bridges and Patna Metro. Examine how these projects can change the state's economy, and discuss the challenges of land acquisition and financing. (BPSC Mains GS-II)

Hint: Intro: Bihar's **logistics gap** (river-divided state). Body: (1) gains: **investment**, tourism (Gaya, Bodh Gaya), **north-south Bihar integration** via Ganga bridges; (2) challenges: **7,373 acres** of land and the **Raiyati purchase** model, **diara** livelihoods, funding through **tolls** and PPP, delays and cost overruns; (3) way forward: land pooling, **PM Gati Shakti** planning, a maintenance fund. Conclude with '**Viksit Bihar**'.

ONE-LINE REVISION: Metro **2028** | Airports **7,373 acres** (Sonpur **4,228**) | Bridge **₹4,250 cr** | Gaya **51.30 lakh** | Repo **5.50%** | GST prosecution **₹5 cr** | WB FY27 **7.1%**

Compiled & simplified by the StudyForGS.com Research Team

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