CURRENT AFFAIRS — 14 October 2026

Wednesday, 14 October 2026 • Asia/Kolkata (IST) • Bihar + National • BPSC Prelims & Mains digest

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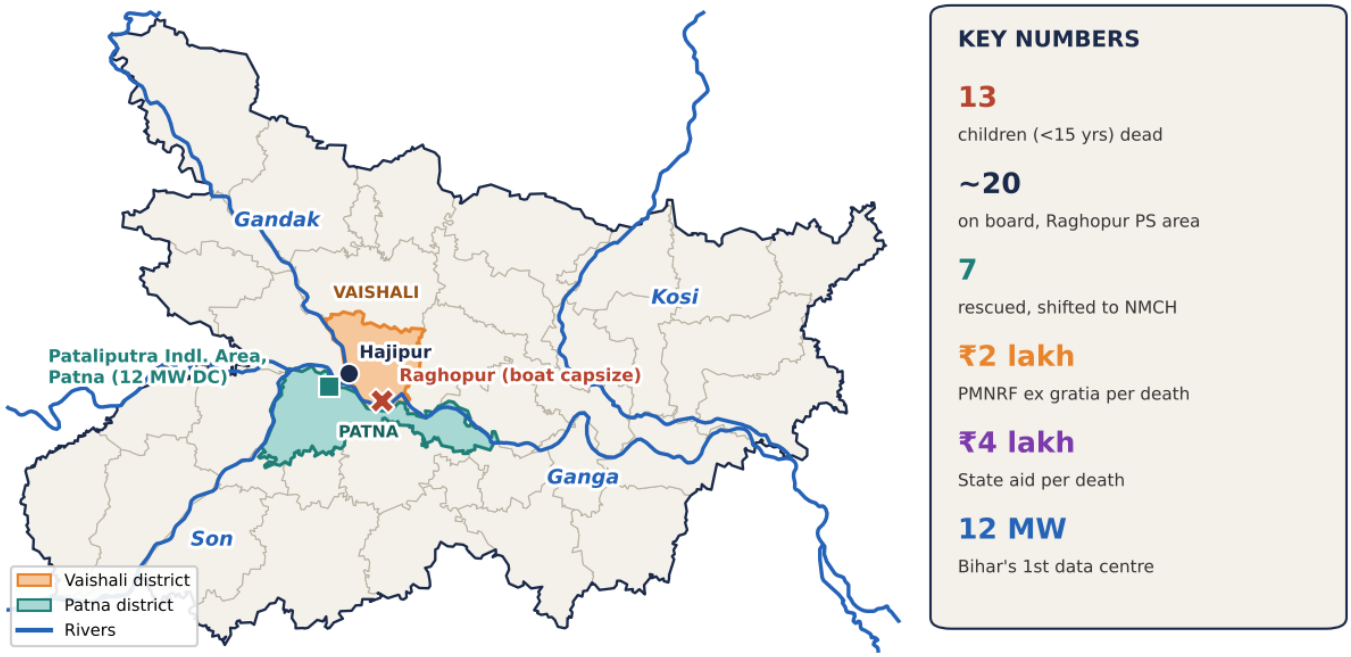
DAILY CURRENT AFFAIRS FOR BPSC CCE

TODAY AT A GLANCE — 10 THINGS TO REMEMBER

- **13 children** died as a boat capsized in the **Ganga** at **Raghopur (Vaishali)** on **13 Oct**.
- PM: **₹2 lakh** per deceased from **PMNRF**; Bihar: **₹4 lakh** per deceased family.
- Bihar paddy procurement from **1 Nov**; state seeks target hike **35 → 50 lakh MT**.
- Paddy **MSP 2026-27**: **₹2,441/qtl** (common); Bihar achieved **99.84%** of target in 2025-26.
- Bihar's **first 12 MW data centre** opens at **Pataliputra Industrial Area, Patna**; **₹10,000 cr MoU**.
- **Bihar Green Hydrogen Policy 2026**: **1 lakh tonnes/yr** by **2031**, **₹16,000 cr** investment.
- Bihar Legislative Council: **8 seats** (4 Graduates', 4 Teachers') vote on **23 Oct**.
- **WPI** inflation **11.39%** (Sep) from **9.92%** (Aug); fuel & power **25.85%**.
- **IMF WEO (Oct 2026)**: India's **FY27** growth raised to **7%**.
- **BIMSTEC** Home Ministers adopt **Delhi Declaration** (**13 Oct**, New Delhi).

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

Bihar: Ganga boat tragedy (Raghopur, Vaishali) & Patna data centre



KEY NUMBERS

13
children (<15 yrs) dead

~20
on board, Raghopur PS area

7
rescued, shifted to NMCH

₹2 lakh
PMNRF ex gratia per death

₹4 lakh
State aid per death

12 MW
Bihar's 1st data centre

Ganga boat tragedy at Raghopur (Vaishali): 13 children dead

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

Syllabus Linkage	Mains GS-II: **Bihar geography** (rivers, diara belts), governance & **disaster management**. Prelims: Ganga system in Bihar, **SDRF/NDRF**, **PMNRF**.
Context	A country boat capsized in the **Ganga** in the **Raghopur police-station area of Vaishali** around **8:30 pm on 13 Oct 2026**, killing at least **13 children below 15 years**. Most passengers, from **Rampur Shyamchand** village, were crossing the river to attend a community feast.
Key Facts	■ District administration confirmed **13 bodies** recovered; **7 children rescued** and shifted to **NMCH, Patna**. ■ **PM** announced **₹2 lakh** per deceased and **₹50,000** per injured from **PMNRF**. ■ CM **Samrat Choudhary** announced **₹4 lakh** per deceased family from the state. ■ **SDRF** teams and local divers led the search; **overcrowding** suspected, cause under inquiry.
Way Fwd	Mandatory **registration and capacity marking** of country boats, **life jackets**, ghat-level patrolling and **all-weather connectivity** for diara villages like Raghopur.
Concept	**Raghopur** is a **diara** (riverine flood-plain island) of the Ganga between Patna and Hajipur. **SDRF** is raised under the **Disaster Management Act, 2005**; **PMNRF** (set up in **1948**) runs entirely on **public contributions**.

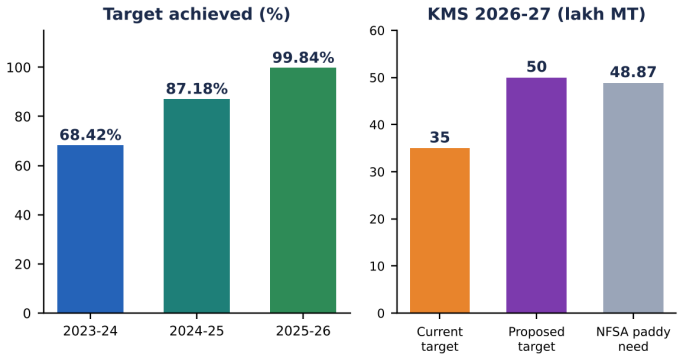
Paddy procurement from 1 November; Bihar seeks target hike to 50 lakh MT

BIHAR | BPSC: Prelims + Mains GS-II (Bihar Economy – Agriculture)

Syllabus Linkage	Mains GS-II: **Bihar economy** – agriculture, food security, **PDS**. Prelims: **MSP**, **NFSA 2013**, **PACS**, decentralised procurement.
Context	Reviewing the **Food & Consumer Protection Department**, CM **Samrat Choudhary** directed that **paddy procurement for KMS 2026-27 begin in November** (window **1 Nov 2026 – 31 Mar 2027**) and that every eligible poor family get a **ration card** without delay.

Key Facts	■ Current target **35 lakh MT**; state seeking **50 lakh MT** with Centre's support. ■ Target achieved: **68.42%** (2023-24) → **87.18%** (2024-25) → record **99.84%** (2025-26). ■ Paddy **MSP 2026-27**: **₹2,441/qtl** for common variety (up **₹72**). ■ **Doorstep ration** for people aged **80+** and **persons with disabilities**; new **fair price shop** licences to be expedited. ■ NFSA need ~**33.16 lakh MT rice**, i.e. ~**48.87 lakh MT paddy** a year.
Way Fwd	Timely **PACS** payments, more **milling and storage** capacity and moisture-norm flexibility can end distress sales below MSP.
Concept	**MSP** is fixed by the Centre on **CACP** advice and approved by the **CCEA**. Bihar follows **decentralised procurement (DCP)** mainly through **PACS and Vyapar Mandals**. **NFSA, 2013** covers up to **75% rural** and **50% urban** population.

Bihar paddy procurement: from 1 Nov 2026

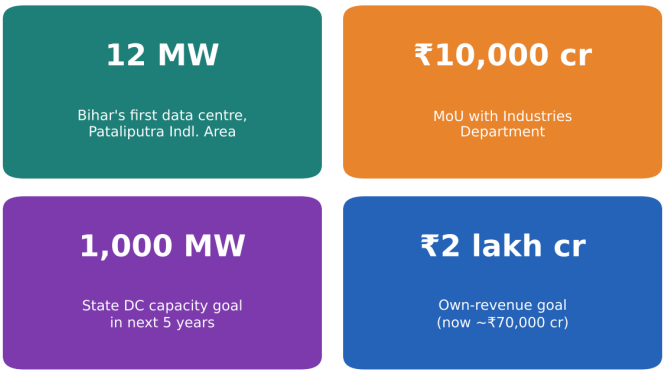


Bihar's first 12 MW data centre opens in Patna; ₹10,000 crore MoU signed

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

Syllabus Linkage	Mains GS-II: **Bihar's industrial & IT policy**, role of **science & technology** in development. Prelims: data centres, **IndiaAI Mission**, state revenue terms.
Context	On **13 Oct 2026**, CM **Samrat Choudhary** inaugurated Bihar's **first data centre (12 MW)**, run by **CtrlS Datacenters** at **Pataliputra Industrial Area, Patna**, under the **Bihar IT Policy 2024**; the company signed a **₹10,000 crore MoU** with the Industries Department.
Key Facts	■ Goal: at least **1,000 MW** of data-centre capacity in Bihar within **5 years**. ■ State budget ~**₹3.47 lakh crore**; own revenue ~**₹70,000 crore**, target **₹2 lakh crore**. ■ About **13,000 acres** of land being readied for industrial units. ■ Push for **electronics manufacturing** in the Ganga belt incl. **Hajipur**, and **renewable power** for data centres.
Way Fwd	Assured **24x7 power**, a strong **fibre backbone** and a skilled IT workforce are needed to turn MoUs into jobs.
Concept	A **data centre** hosts servers and storage; its size is measured in **MW of IT load**. The **Digital Personal Data Protection Act, 2023** and the **IndiaAI Mission (2024)** are raising demand for **domestic compute** capacity.

Bihar's digital push: CtrlS data centre



Bihar Green Hydrogen Policy 2026: 1 lakh tonnes a year by 2031

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

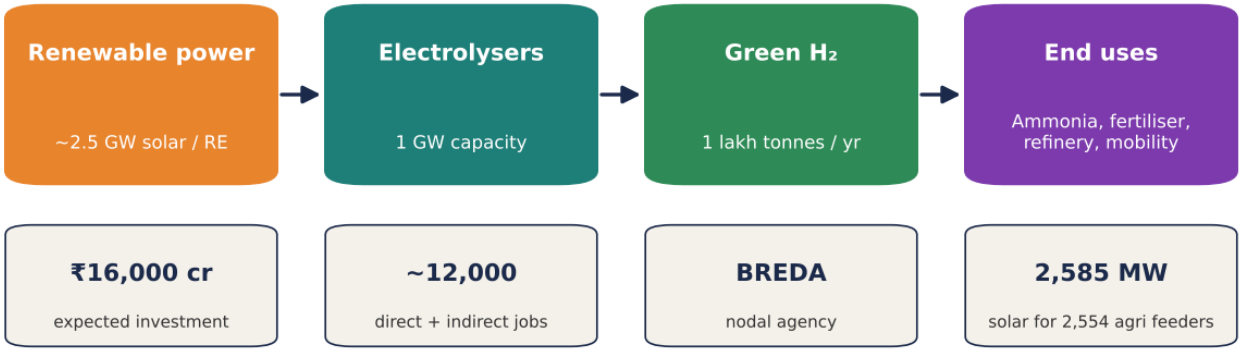
Syllabus Linkage	Mains GS-II: **energy sector of Bihar**, S&T for clean energy. Prelims: **green hydrogen**, electrolysis, **National Green Hydrogen Mission**, **BREDA**.
Context	The state cabinet has cleared the **Bihar Green Hydrogen Policy, 2026** among **30 decisions**, positioning Bihar as a clean-fuel hub; the same package funds **solarisation of agricultural feeders**.
Key Facts	■ Target **1 lakh tonnes/yr** green hydrogen by **2031**; **1 GW** electrolysers; ~**2.5 GW** renewable capacity. ■ Expected investment **₹16,000 crore**; ~**12,000** direct and indirect jobs; nodal agency **BREDA**. ■ **₹2,761.55 crore** to solarise the remaining **2,554 agri feeders** with **2,585 MW** of solar plants. ■ **VAT on ATF** cut from **1% to zero** at **RCS-UDAN** airports.
Way Fwd	Link with Central **SIGHT** incentives, plan **water availability** for electrolysis and secure anchor demand from fertiliser and refinery units such as **Barauni**.
Concept	**Green hydrogen** is produced by **electrolysis of water** using renewable power. The **National Green Hydrogen Mission** (Jan **2023**, outlay **₹19,744 crore**) targets **5 MMT** a year by **2030**.

Biennial polls to 8 Bihar Legislative Council seats on 23 October

POLITY BPSC: Prelims + Mains GS-II (Indian & Bihar Polity)

Syllabus Linkage	Mains GS-II: **state legislature**, bicameralism in Bihar. Prelims: **Articles 169 & 171**, composition of Legislative Councils, **STV** voting.
Context	Bihar heads to biennial elections for **8 Legislative Council seats — 4 Graduates'** and **4 Teachers'** constituencies — whose members retire on **16 Nov 2026**; parties are firming up strategy ahead of polling on **23 Oct**.
Key Facts	■ Graduates': **Patna, Darbhanga, Tirhut, Kosi**; Teachers': **Patna, Darbhanga, Tirhut, Saran**. ■ Part of **28 seats** in 4 states: **UP 11, Bihar 8, Maharashtra 5, Karnataka 4**. ■ Notification **29 Sep**; polling **23 Oct (8 am–4 pm)**; counting **27 Oct**; process ends **31 Oct**. ■ Voting by **preferential ballot** (single transferable vote).
Way Fwd	Updated **electoral rolls** of graduates and teachers and wider awareness can lift traditionally low turnout in these seats.
Concept	**Article 169**: Parliament creates/abolishes a Council on an Assembly resolution passed by **special majority**. **Article 171**: **1/3** elected by local bodies, **1/12** by graduates, **1/12** by teachers, **1/3** by MLAs, **1/6** nominated by the Governor. Bihar Council has **75 seats**; only **6 states** have Councils.

Bihar Green Hydrogen Policy 2026: value chain & targets (by 2031)

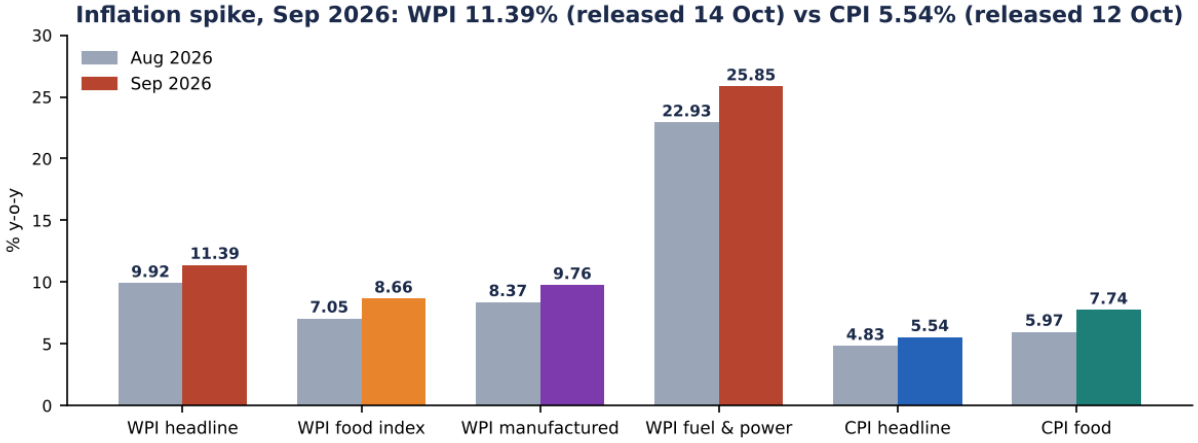


SECTION B — DATA POINT OF THE DAY

11.39%
WPI, Sep 2026

WPI inflation, September 2026 (released 14 Oct)

Up from **9.92%** in August: **fuel & power 25.85%**, **manufactured products 9.76%** (series high), **food index 8.66%**. Retail **CPI** hit a **23-month high of 5.54%** (food **7.74%**), driven by the **West Asia conflict** and **Strait of Hormuz** blockade; RBI raised the **repo rate by 25 bps to 5.50%** on **7 Oct**.



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

BIMSTEC Home Ministers adopt Delhi Declaration against cross-border terror

IR BPSC: Prelims + Mains GS-I (Current Events – IR)

Syllabus Linkage	Mains GS-I: **current events of international importance**; India's **Neighbourhood First** and **Act East**. Prelims: **BIMSTEC** members, secretariat, conventions.
Context	India hosted the **first-ever BIMSTEC Home Ministers' Meeting** in **New Delhi on 13 Oct 2026**, addressed by Union Home Minister **Amit Shah**. Members adopted the **Delhi Declaration** for joint action against **terrorism, drug trafficking, cybercrime and human trafficking**.
Key Facts	■ Implement the **BIMSTEC Convention on Combating International Terrorism, Transnational Organised Crime & Illicit Drug Trafficking** (in force **March 2021**). ■ Finalise conventions on **extradition**, **transfer of sentenced persons** and **trafficking in persons**. ■ Set up a **BIMSTEC Drug Offences Monitoring Desk** and an **SOP** for rescue and repatriation of trafficking victims. ■ Convention on **Mutual Legal Assistance** was signed at the **5th Summit, Colombo (March 2022)**.
Way Fwd	Real-time **intelligence sharing**, joint **cyber-forensics** training and quick ratification of pending conventions will give the Declaration teeth.
Concept	**BIMSTEC** was founded on **6 June 1997** by the **Bangkok Declaration**; **7 members** (Bangladesh, Bhutan, India, Nepal, Sri Lanka, Myanmar, Thailand); Secretariat in **Dhaka**; its **Charter** entered into force in **May 2024**.

BIMSTEC: 7 members adopt Delhi Declaration

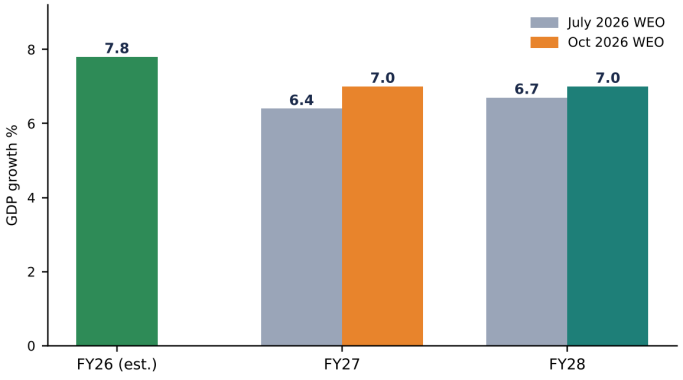


IMF raises India's FY27 growth forecast to 7%

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

Syllabus Linkage	Mains GS-II: **Indian economy** – growth, external shocks, inflation. Prelims: **IMF**, **World Economic Outlook**, Bretton Woods institutions.
Context	The **IMF's October 2026 World Economic Outlook** raised India's **FY27** GDP growth forecast to **7%** (**+0.6 pp** over July) and **FY28** to **7%** (**+0.3 pp**), citing stronger-than-expected momentum despite the West Asia energy shock.
Key Facts	■ India's **FY26** growth estimated at **7.8%**. ■ India is an **exception** among energy-importing emerging economies facing medium-term downgrades. ■ Oil price assumption: **$95.74/bbl (2026)** and **$87.39/bbl (2027)**. ■ Baseline assumes the **Strait of Hormuz** reopens by **March 2027**.
Way Fwd	Diversify **crude sourcing**, build **strategic petroleum reserves** and keep fiscal space for energy-shock relief.
Concept	The **WEO** is released twice a year (**April & October**) with **January/July updates**. The **IMF** was born at **Bretton Woods (1944)**, is headquartered in **Washington DC** and has **191 members**.

IMF: India growth forecast raised to 7%



NPCI defers MDR on UPI merchant payments above ₹2,000 till after Diwali

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

Syllabus Linkage	Mains GS-II: **banking & digital payments**, financial inclusion. Prelims: **UPI**, **NPCI**, **MDR**, P2P vs P2M.
Context	NPCI's **UPI & Services Steering Committee** on **13 Oct 2026** deferred the planned **merchant discount rate (MDR)** on select **person-to-merchant (P2M)** UPI payments above **₹2,000**, due from **15 Oct**, to "immediately after **Diwali**", citing the festive season.
Key Facts	■ Proposed charge of about **0.4%** on select payments above ₹2,000, varying by category with **caps**. ■ **P2P transfers** and payments **up to ₹2,000** remain free. ■ Deferment is **not a withdrawal**; merchant bodies and fintechs had sought the delay. ■ Listed **fintech stocks rebounded** after the announcement.
Way Fwd	A **graded, small-merchant-friendly MDR** can fund UPI infrastructure without hurting adoption in towns and villages.
Concept	**MDR** is the fee a merchant pays to banks/payment providers per digital transaction. **UPI** was launched in **2016** by **NPCI** (set up **2008** by RBI & IBA as a not-for-profit). **Zero MDR** on UPI and RuPay debit cards has applied since **1 Jan 2020**.

INS Mangrol, third Mahe-class anti-submarine craft, commissioned

DEFENCE BPSC: Prelims + Mains GS-II (Role of S&T – Defence)

Syllabus Linkage	Mains GS-II: **role and impact of S&T**, indigenisation (**Aatmanirbhar Bharat**). Prelims: naval ship classes, shipyards, exercises.
Context	The Navy commissioned **INS Mangrol**, the **third Anti-Submarine Warfare Shallow Water Craft (ASW-SWC)** of the **Mahe class**, at **Naval Dockyard, Mumbai** on **12 Oct 2026**, presided over by Vice Admiral **Sanjay Vatsayan**, FOC-in-C **Western Naval Command**.
Key Facts	■ Built by **Cochin Shipyard Ltd** with **over 80% indigenous content**. ■ Fitted with **Abhay hull-mounted sonar**, lightweight torpedoes, indigenous **ASW rocket launcher** and **Mareech** torpedo decoy. ■ Named after **Mangrol**, a fishing harbour in **Junagadh (Gujarat)**; revives the name of a minesweeper decommissioned in **2004**. ■ Meanwhile, India–UK naval exercise **KONKAN-26** runs off **Plymouth** (**8–15 Oct**) with **INS Trishul**.
Way Fwd	Faster induction of the remaining Mahe-class craft will plug **coastal ASW gaps** amid rising submarine activity in the Indian Ocean.
Concept	**ASW-SWC** are small craft for hunting submarines in **shallow coastal waters**; Navy ordered **16** (8 each from **CSL** and **GRSE**). **Sonar** uses sound waves to detect underwater objects.

Nobel in Economics 2026 to Robert E. Hall and Michael Woodford

REPORT BPSC: Prelims (Awards) + Mains GS-II (Economy – Monetary Policy)

Syllabus Linkage	Prelims: **awards & honours**. Mains GS-II: **monetary policy**, inflation targeting, stabilisation.
Context	On **12 Oct 2026**, the **Sveriges Riksbank Prize in Economic Sciences** went to American economists **Robert E. Hall** (Stanford) and **Michael Woodford** (Columbia) for work on the **microeconomic foundations of macroeconomic stabilisation**.
Key Facts	■ **Woodford**'s **New Keynesian** framework (*Interest and Prices*, **2003**) underpins modern **inflation targeting**. ■ **Hall** is known for work on **consumption (random-walk hypothesis)**, labour markets and business cycles. ■ Prize shared **equally**; it was instituted by Sweden's central bank in **1968**. ■ Relevance: RBI's **flexible inflation targeting** (CPI **4% ± 2%**) draws on this research.
Way Fwd	With WPI at **11.39%**, the award's ideas on **credible, forward-looking policy** are directly relevant to India's rate-setting.

Concept	**Inflation targeting** in India was made statutory by amending the **RBI Act, 1934** in **2016**, creating the **6-member Monetary Policy Committee (MPC)**.

SECTION D — PRELIMS RAPID-FIRE

1	**Vaishali** will host Bihar's **first International Buddhist Conference** on **11–13 Dec 2026** at the **Buddha Samyak Darshan Museum-cum-Memorial Stupa**.	2	Bihar cabinet: **Mukhya Mantri Hemophilia Yojana** for **255** patients using **Emicizumab**.
3	Retail **CPI** (new base **2024**) at **5.54%** in Sep 2026; **onion** inflation **108.09%**.	4	**RBI** hiked the **repo rate** by **25 bps** to **5.50%** on **7 Oct 2026**.
5	**WWF Living Planet Report 2026**: average **73%** fall in monitored wildlife populations (**1970–2022**); freshwater **85%**.	6	**UNCTAD Trade & Development Report 2026**: India the fastest-growing large economy at **7.3%** in 2026.

SECTION E — PRACTICE CORNER

Q1. With reference to State Legislative Councils, consider the following statements: 1. Under Article 169, Parliament may create or abolish a Council if the State Assembly passes a resolution by special majority. 2. One-twelfth of the members are elected by graduates of at least three years' standing residing in the State. 3. The Bihar Legislative Council has 75 seats. Which of the statements given above is/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 are correct: **Article 169** governs creation/abolition; **Article 171(3)(b)** gives **1/12** seats to graduates; Bihar's Council has **75** members.

Q2. Consider the following statements about BIMSTEC: 1. It was established in 1997 through the Bangkok Declaration. 2. Its permanent Secretariat is located in Kathmandu. 3. Myanmar and Thailand are its members. Which of the statements given above are correct?

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

Answer: (b) — BIMSTEC was set up by the **Bangkok Declaration (1997)**; its Secretariat is in **Dhaka**, not Kathmandu; **Myanmar** and **Thailand** are among its **7 members**.

Mains Practice: Bihar's paddy procurement efficiency has risen sharply in recent years, yet small farmers still face distress sales. Examine the role of PACS-led decentralised procurement and suggest measures to strengthen it. (BPSC Mains GS-II)

Hint: Intro with **68.42% → 99.84%** achievement trend and the **35 → 50 lakh MT** target bid; body: DCP model, PACS finance and storage gaps, milling capacity, payment delays, moisture norms, NFSA linkage; conclude with digital land-record-linked registration, warehouse receipts and FPO integration.

ONE-LINE REVISION: Raghopur diara boat tragedy (13 dead) • paddy buying from 1 Nov, target bid 50 lakh MT • Bihar's 1st 12 MW data centre + ₹10,000 cr MoU • Green H2 1 lakh t by 2031 • MLC polls 23 Oct • WPI 11.39% • IMF India 7% • BIMSTEC Delhi Declaration.

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