CURRENT AFFAIRS — 17 NOVEMBER 2026

StudyForGS.com
DAILY CURRENT AFFAIRS FOR BPSC CCE

Tuesday, 17 November 2026 • Asia/Kolkata (IST) • Bihar + National • BPSC Prelims & Mains digest

TODAY AT A GLANCE — 10 THINGS TO REMEMBER

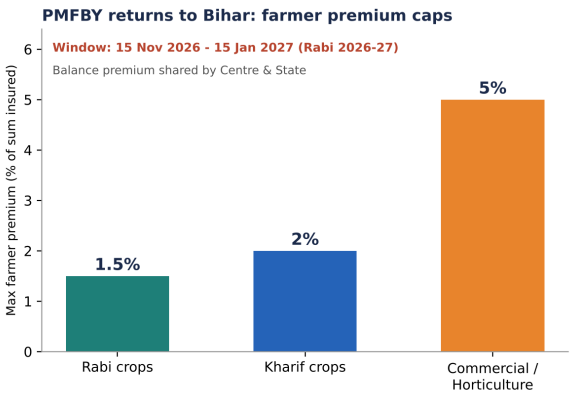
- **PMFBY** back in Bihar from **Rabi 2026-27**; enrolment **15 Nov 2026 - 15 Jan 2027**.
- Farmer premium caps: **1.5%** Rabi, **2%** Kharif, **5%** commercial/horticulture.
- **Rs 18.21 crore** feasibility study for **underground road corridors**; **Patna** first.
- DPRs for new **sugar mills** at **Motipur** (Muzaffarpur) and **Taraiya** (Saran).
- Paddy MSP **Rs 2,441/qtl** (common); **South Bihar** procurement from **15 Nov**.
- **Upvan Township**, Patna: **888 flats** in **11 towers** by Housing Board + **NBCC**.
- **Bihar State Games**: **2-10 Dec 2026**, **5,500+** athletes, Patna & Rajgir.
- PM in **Manila**: **23rd ASEAN-India Summit**, **21st EAS**, **Quad** meet.
- **NHA 2023-24**: OOPE **42.7%** of THE; GHE **1.43% of GDP**.
- PLFS **Oct 2026**: unemployment **4.9%**, female LFPR **35.0%**.

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

PM Fasal Bima Yojana returns to Bihar from Rabi 2026-27

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

Syllabus Linkage	GS-II: **Bihar economy - agriculture**, crop insurance, farm distress. Prelims: PMFBY premium rates, BRFSY, nodal department.
Context	Bihar's **Cooperative Department** launches **PMFBY** in Patna today (**17 Nov 2026**). The state had left PMFBY in **2018** for its own **Bihar Rajya Fasal Sahayata Yojana (BRFSY)**; farmers can enrol for **Rabi 2026-27** crops.
Key Facts	■ Enrolment window: **15 Nov 2026 - 15 Jan 2027**. ■ Farmer premium cap: **1.5%** (Rabi), **2%** (Kharif), **5%** (commercial/horticultural crops). ■ Covers losses from **floods, drought, pests & diseases**; replaces the state crop assistance scheme. ■ Minister **Ram Kripal Yadav** (Cooperative) reviewed tendering of insurance companies.
Way Fwd	Use **AgriStack** land data, smartphone-based **crop-cutting experiments** and time-bound claims to rebuild farmer trust.
Concept	**PMFBY (2016)** replaced NAIS/MNAIS; balance premium shared **50:50** by Centre & States (**90:10** in NE/Himalayan states). **BRFSY (2018)** was a **no-premium** assistance scheme.



Underground road corridors planned for 9 Bihar cities; Patna first

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

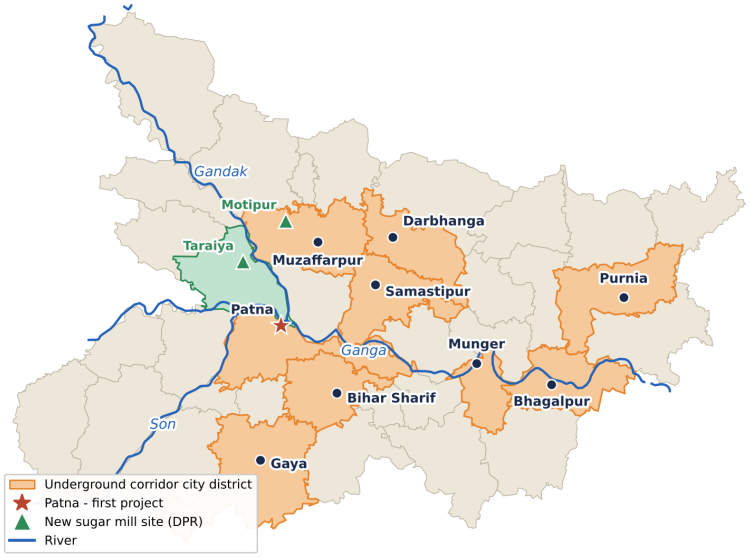
Syllabus Linkage	GS-II: **Bihar infrastructure & urbanisation**, urban mobility. Prelims: BSRDCL, cities covered.
Context	The state has given administrative approval of **Rs 18.21 crore** for a **feasibility study** of underground road corridors to ease traffic in major cities, starting with **Patna**.
Key Facts	■ Cities: **Patna, Darbhanga, Bhagalpur, Muzaffarpur, Munger, Purnia, Bihar Sharif, Gaya, Samastipur**. ■ Agency: **Bihar State Road Development Corporation Ltd (BSRDCL)** - survey, monitoring, report. ■ Study targeted within the **current financial year**; routes not yet final. ■ Announced by Road Construction Minister **Kumar Shailendra**.
Way Fwd	Integrate corridors with **Patna Metro**, **Ganga Path** and a city mobility plan; assess flood-prone **groundwater** conditions.
Concept	**Cut-and-cover / bored tunnels** free surface space; Bihar's urbanisation (**11.3%**, Census 2011) is among India's lowest.

Sugar revival: DPRs for new mills at Motipur and Taraiya

BIHAR — BPSC: Prelims + Mains GS-II (Bihar Industry)

Syllabus Linkage	GS-II: **Bihar industrial policy**, agro-based industry. Prelims: sugar belt districts, FRP vs SAP.
Context	The **Sugarcane Industries Department** has assigned an agency to prepare two **Detailed Project Reports** for new mills at **Motipur (Muzaffarpur)** and **Taraiya (Saran)**.
Key Facts	■ **2** separate DPRs: feasibility, resource needs and cost. ■ Part of the state's push to **revive closed / sick sugar units** in north Bihar. ■ Sugarcane is concentrated in **West Champaran, Gopalganj, Siwan, Saran, Muzaffarpur**.
Way Fwd	Link mills with **ethanol** units and timely cane payment to raise farm incomes.
Concept	**FRP** is fixed by the Centre on **CACP** advice; states may announce a higher **SAP**. Bihar's **Ethanol Production Promotion Policy (2021)** was India's first state ethanol policy.

BIHAR: Underground Road Corridors (9 cities) & New Sugar Mill Sites



Rs 18.21 cr
Feasibility study sanctioned

9 cities
Patna first, others to follow

BSRDCL
Survey & monitoring agency

2 mills
Motipur (Muzaffarpur) & Taraiya (Saran)

Paddy procurement opens in South Bihar at Rs 2,441 MSP

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

Syllabus Linkage	GS-II: **Agricultural marketing**, PACS, MSP. Prelims: MSP values, procurement dates, portal.
Context	After North Bihar (**1 Nov**), government paddy purchase through **PACS** and trade mandals began in **South Bihar from 15 Nov 2026**.
Key Facts	■ MSP: **Rs 2,441/qtl** (common), **Rs 2,461/qtl** (Grade A). ■ Payment promised within **48 hours**; registration on **esahkari.bihar.gov.in**. ■ Farmers urged to obtain **AgriStack Farmer IDs** in advance.
Way Fwd	Expand moisture meters and storage at PACS to curb distress sale.
Concept	MSP recommended by **CACP**, approved by **CCEA**; Bihar follows **Decentralised Procurement (DCP)**, buying grain itself through PACS.

'Sankalp Sandhya' evening classes begin in Bhagalpur schools

SOCIETY BPSC: Prelims + Mains GS-II (Bihar Education)

Syllabus Linkage	GS-II: **Education in Bihar**, learning outcomes, remedial teaching. Prelims: pilot district, classes covered.
Context	The **Education Department** starts a pilot of free evening remedial classes from **17 Nov 2026** for students who cannot afford private tuition.
Key Facts	■ Classes **9-12**; timing **5:00-7:30 pm**. ■ Subjects: **English, Mathematics, Computer Science, AI**; board-exam prep for Classes 10 & 12. ■ Pilot at **2 schools in Bhagalpur**; retired officers under **70** may teach voluntarily. ■ Teachers get **1 compensatory leave** for every 3 consecutive days.
Way Fwd	Scale to all **38 districts** after measuring learning gains.
Concept	**NEP 2020** stresses remedial learning; **Samagra Shiksha** funds school education from pre-primary to Class 12.

'Upvan Township': 888 flats in Patna's Kankarbagh

BIHAR BPSC: Prelims + Mains GS-II (Urban Development)

Syllabus Linkage	GS-II: **Urban housing**, PPP/self-financing models. Prelims: NBCC, project numbers.
Context	The **Bihar State Housing Board** and **NBCC** unveiled the master plan to redevelop the old **Bahadurpur Housing Colony (Sector 5)** into a green township.
Key Facts	■ **8.5 acres**; **11** earthquake-resistant towers up to **18 floors**. ■ **504 HIG** (3-BHK) + **384 MIG** (2-BHK) = **888** flats; EWS units included. ■ Only **25%** land built-up, **75%** open/green; completion in about **3 years**. ■ Self-financing model; **Sector 6** (~**21 acres**) redevelopment next.
Way Fwd	Replicate redevelopment of ageing colonies with transparent allotment and transit rent for residents.
Concept	**NBCC** is a **Navratna** CPSE under **MoHUA**; **PMAY-Urban 2.0** targets **1 crore** urban houses.

Upvan Township, Kankarbagh (Patna)

888
Total flats

11
Towers (G+18)

8.5 ac
Land area

504
HIG 3-BHK

384
MIG 2-BHK

75%
Open & green

Bihar State Games: 5,500+ athletes, 2-10 December

BIHAR BPSC: Prelims (Sports & Bihar)

Syllabus Linkage	Prelims: **sports events in Bihar**, venues, Bihar Sports Policy. GS-II: youth & sports governance.
Context	Preparations are under way for the **Bihar State Games 2026**; mascot and jersey were unveiled at the **Pataliputra Sports Complex**, Patna.
Key Facts	■ Dates: **2-10 December 2026** (nine days); **5,500+** athletes. ■ Venues: **Patna** and **Rajgir**; nodal officers appointed for each. ■ Organised by **Bihar Olympic Association**, Sports Department and **Bihar State Sports Authority**.
Way Fwd	Use the Games to scout talent for **Khelo India** and national camps.
Concept	**Rajgir** hosts the **Bihar Sports University** and state sports academy; it hosted the **Men's Hockey Asia Cup 2025**.

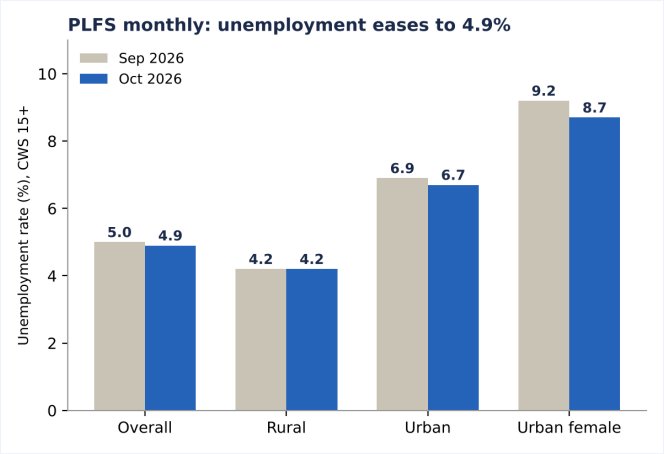
SECTION B | DATA POINT OF THE DAY

India's unemployment rate, October 2026 (PLFS monthly, CWS, age 15+)

4.9%

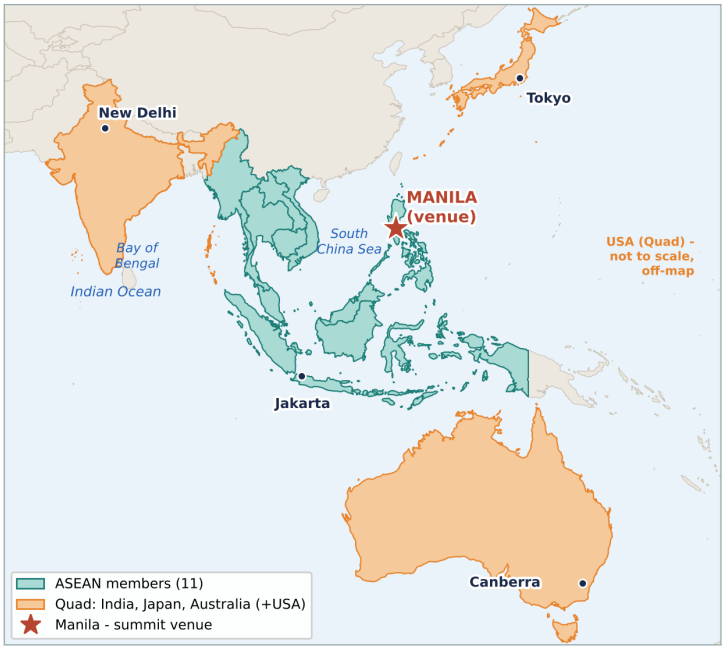
Down from **5.0%** in September; urban **6.7%**, rural **4.2%**; female LFPR rose to **35.0%** and WPR to **53.0%** - an eight-month low in joblessness.

Why it matters: Bihar has one of India's lowest **female LFPR** and high **out-migration**; monthly PLFS data (MoSPI) track job creation for **GS-II economy** answers.



SECTION C | NATIONAL & WORLD — Polity, Economy, IR, Environment, Sci-Tech

MANILA SUMMITS: 23rd ASEAN-India, 21st EAS & Quad Leaders' Meet



23rd
ASEAN-India Summit

21st
East Asia Summit

4
Quad leaders

2026-30
ASEAN-India Plan of Action

PM in Manila for ASEAN-India Summit, EAS and Quad

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

Syllabus Linkage	GS-II: **India's foreign policy - Act East**, Indo-Pacific. Prelims: ASEAN members, EAS, Quad.
Context	PM Modi is in **Manila, Philippines** (ASEAN chair **2026**) for the **23rd ASEAN-India Summit** and **21st East Asia Summit**; a **Quad** leaders' meeting is due today, the first in nearly two years.
Key Facts	■ Agenda: **AITIGA review**, **ASEAN-India Plan of Action 2026-30**, digital public infrastructure, connectivity. ■ EAS focus: **South China Sea** and **Myanmar** crisis; India backs **UNCLOS**-based code of conduct. ■ Bilateral with President **Marcos Jr.**; **BrahMos** cooperation on table. ■ Quad: **India, USA, Japan, Australia**.
Way Fwd	Conclude the AITIGA review to cut India's trade deficit with ASEAN.
Concept	**Act East Policy (2014)** upgraded Look East (1991); ASEAN-India **Comprehensive Strategic Partnership** since **2022**; ASEAN now has **11** members (**Timor-Leste**).

COP31 in Antalya: divisions over fossil-fuel transition

ENVIRONMENT BPSC: Prelims + Mains GS-II (Environment & S&T)

Syllabus Linkage	GS-II: **climate change**, India's climate commitments. Prelims: COP venues, Paris targets.
Context	**COP31** (**9-20 Nov 2026**) in **Antalya, Türkiye** enters its final week as Australia, which leads negotiations, prepares a draft text calling for faster action.
Key Facts	■ Split presidency: **Türkiye** hosts; **Australia** runs negotiations. ■ Türkiye's pledge: electricity at **35%** of final energy use by **2035**. ■ Brazil's voluntary **fossil-fuel transition roadmap**; the **USA** absent again. ■ **India** resists limits on its development and energy choices.
Way Fwd	Press for **climate finance** and technology transfer under **CBDR-RC**.
Concept	**Paris Agreement (2015)**: well below **2°C**, pursue **1.5°C**. India's NDC: **45%** cut in emission intensity by 2030 (vs 2005), **net zero by 2070**.

ICAR opens Centre of Excellence for genome editing in horticulture

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

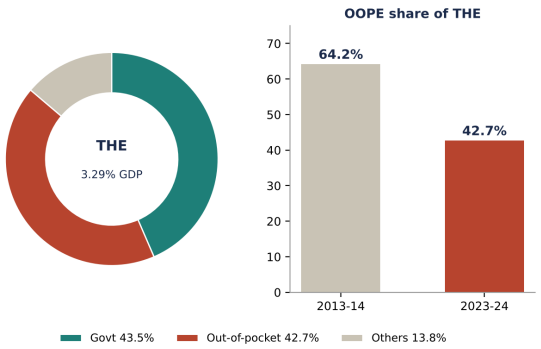
Syllabus Linkage	GS-II: **role of S&T in agriculture**, biotechnology. Prelims: genome editing, SDN rules.
Context	On **15 Nov 2026**, ICAR DG **Dr M.L. Jat** opened a **CoE for Genome Editing in Horticultural Crops** and a farmers' training centre at **ICAR-IIHR, Bengaluru**.
Key Facts	■ Crops: **tomato, chilli, papaya, grapes, pomegranate**. ■ Facilities: **BSL-II lab**, tissue culture, growth chambers, bioinformatics. ■ Training in **natural farming** and coping with **El Niño**.
Way Fwd	Clear regulation and seed access so small farmers benefit.
Concept	**SDN-1 & SDN-2** genome-edited plants (no foreign DNA) are **exempt from GM rules** (2022); India released **2 genome-edited rice** varieties in **2025**.

National Health Accounts 2023-24: out-of-pocket share falls to 42.7%

HEALTH BPSC: Prelims + Mains GS-II (Health & Statistics)

Syllabus Linkage	GS-II: **health policy**, public expenditure; GS-I **statistical analysis**. Prelims: NHA numbers.
Context	The **Union Health Ministry** has released **NHA estimates for 2023-24**, showing a steady shift from household spending to public financing.
Key Facts	■ **THE: Rs 9,52,122 crore** = **3.29% of GDP**; per capita **Rs 6,801**. ■ **GHE: Rs 4.14 lakh crore** (**1.43% of GDP**), up from Rs 1.30 lakh crore in 2013-14. ■ **OOPE: 42.7%** of THE vs **64.2%** in 2013-14. ■ States fund about **68%** of GHE, Centre **32%**.
Way Fwd	Move toward the **NHP 2017** goal of **2.5% of GDP** public health spending.
Concept	**NHSRC** is the NHA Technical Secretariat; **AB-PMJAY** gives **Rs 5 lakh** cover per family per year.

National Health Accounts 2023-24

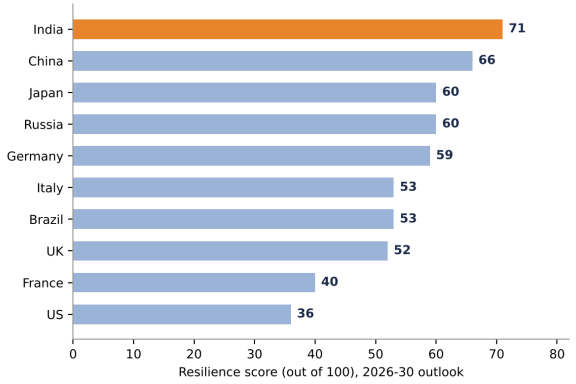


India ranked most resilient among top-10 economies for 2026-30

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

Syllabus Linkage	GS-II: **Indian economy - growth & macro stability**. Prelims: reports, rankings, IMF WEO.
Context	An **ASSOCHAM** study ranks India **1st** among the ten largest economies on macro resilience; **Goldman Sachs** projects India at **7.2%** growth in **CY27**.
Key Facts	■ India **71/100**; China **66**; Japan & Russia **60**; US last at **36**. ■ India 1st in **real GDP** and **per-capita GDP growth**; 8th in **fiscal balance**. ■ Based on **10 indicators** from **IMF World Economic Outlook** data. ■ Global growth forecast **2.8%** (CY27); India **7.9%** in CY26.
Way Fwd	Fiscal consolidation and export push will lift weaker scores.
Concept	**IMF WEO** is published in **April & October**; **FRBM Act (2003)** governs fiscal deficit targets.

Top-10 economies: India ranks No. 1



SECTION D | PRELIMS RAPID-FIRE

Topic	Quick Fact
Bihar Culture	**Chhath Mahaparva** concluded on **16 Nov** with **Usha Arghya** to the rising Sun; Bihar's four-day festival of Surya worship.
Bihar Scheme	**Bihar Ki Beti Startup Challenge Yojana**: **2,100** girl students, **Rs 88.20 crore** for 2026-27 to 2029-30 (state cabinet, 10 Nov).
Sports Admin	**Jay Shah** reappointed **ICC Chairman** unopposed for a second two-year term (ICC Board, **Bali**).
Cricket	India to host the **2029 Champions Trophy** and co-host the **2031 ODI World Cup** with **Bangladesh**.
Shooting	**ISSF World Championship, Doha**: India **3rd** with **13 medals** (2 gold, 7 silver, 4 bronze); China topped.
Youth Games	**8th Khelo India Youth Games** in **Telangana**, **11-22 Dec 2026**; mascot **'Neelamani'**.

SECTION E | PRACTICE CORNER

Q1. With reference to crop insurance in Bihar, consider the following statements:
1. Under PMFBY, the farmer's premium for Rabi crops is capped at 1.5%.
2. The premium cap for commercial and horticultural crops is 5%.
3. The Bihar Rajya Fasal Sahayata Yojana, which Bihar adopted in 2018, required no premium from farmers.

Which of the statements given above are correct?

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

Answer: (d) — All three are correct. PMFBY caps are **1.5%** (Rabi), **2%** (Kharif), **5%** (commercial/horticulture); **BRFSY (2018)** was a **no-premium** assistance scheme. Bihar returns to PMFBY from **Rabi 2026-27**.

Q2. According to the National Health Accounts estimates for 2023-24, what share of India's Total Health Expenditure was out-of-pocket expenditure by households?

(a) 64.2% **(b)** 48.8% **(c)** 42.7% **(d)** 32.0%

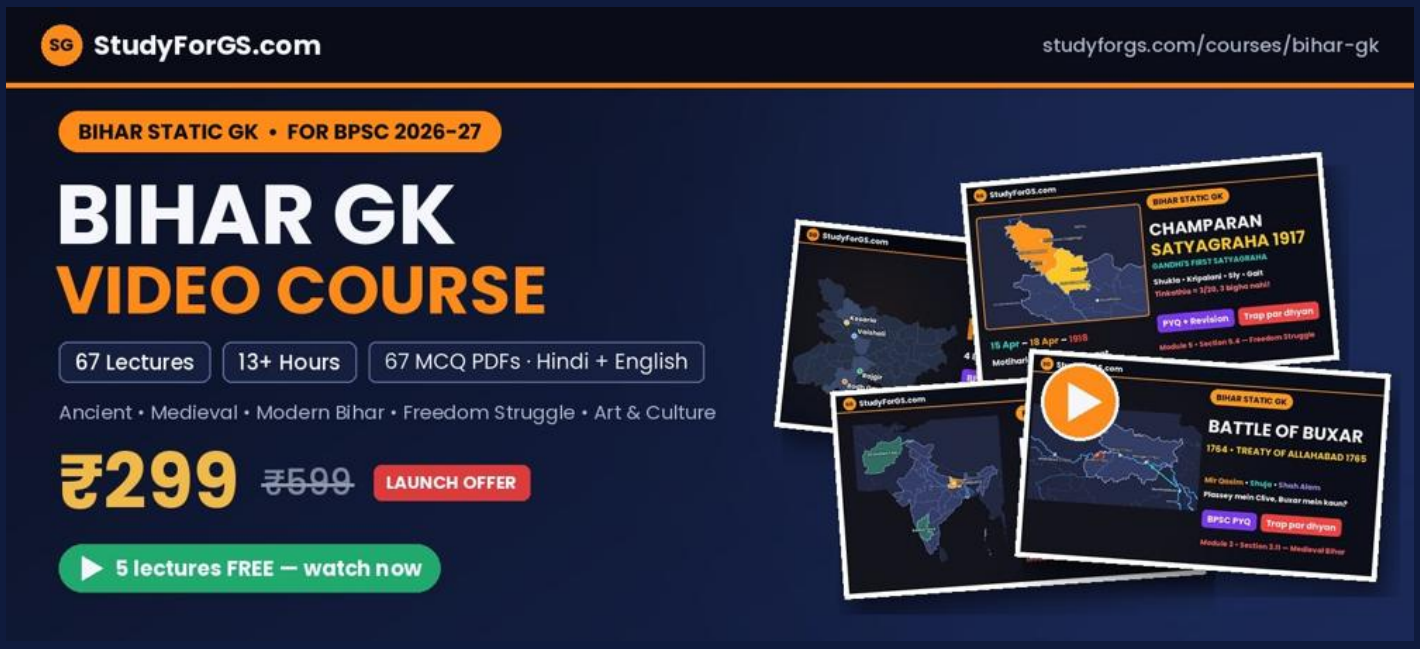
Answer: (c) — OOPE fell to **42.7%** in **2023-24** from **64.2%** in 2013-14; government health expenditure was **1.43% of GDP**.

Mains Practice (GS-II): Bihar has returned to the Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojana after experimenting with its own Bihar Rajya Fasal Sahayata Yojana. Examine the reasons for this shift and suggest measures to make crop insurance work for Bihar's small and marginal farmers. (38 marks)

Hint: Intro: **91%+** holdings marginal in Bihar; floods (Kosi, Gandak) and drought. Body: BRFSY no-premium but limited payouts; PMFBY gives wider risk cover and central share; issues - delayed claims, crop-cutting data, tenant farmers. Way forward: **AgriStack**, tech-based yield estimation, PACS as enrolment points, inclusion of sharecroppers. Conclude with income security under **Agriculture Road Map**.

ONE-LINE REVISION: PMFBY back from Rabi 2026-27 (1.5% / 2% / 5%) | Underground corridors: Rs 18.21 cr, 9 cities | Paddy MSP Rs 2,441 | Manila: 23rd ASEAN-India + 21st EAS | OOPE 42.7% | PLFS Oct: 4.9%

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



NEW · VIDEO COURSE FOR BPSC 2026-27

Bihar GK Video Course

All of Bihar's history and culture for BPSC Prelims and Mains, section by section. Hindi explanation · English slides · an MCQ PDF in Hindi + English with every lecture.

- 67 video lectures · 13+ hours
- Ancient, Medieval and Modern Bihar
- Freedom struggle and after
- Art, culture and heritage of Bihar
- 67 MCQ PDFs (Hindi + English) with answers

₹299 ~~₹599~~ Launch offer · 1 year access

Watch 5 lectures FREE · studyforgs.com/courses/bihar-gk

Printed copy?

Scan the code with your phone camera to open the course and the free lectures.

Reading on a phone or computer? Tap anywhere on this page to open the course.