CURRENT AFFAIRS — 28 October 2026

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Wednesday, 28 October 2026 • Asia/Kolkata (IST) • Bihar + National • BPSC Prelims & Mains digest

TODAY AT A GLANCE — 10 THINGS TO REMEMBER

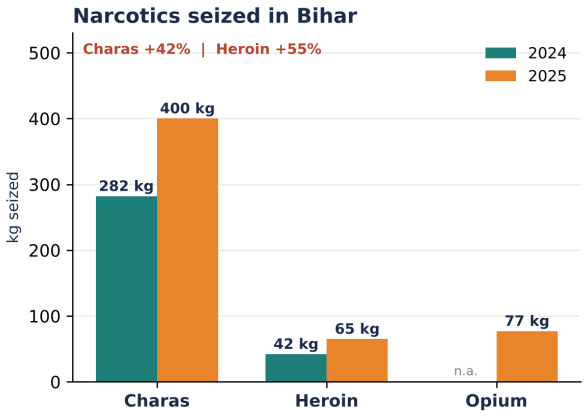
- **Nasha Mukt Bihar Abhiyan**: Oct 27 - Nov 26, 2026; led by Prohibition, Excise & Registration Dept.
- Bihar MLC Teachers' seats: **Tirhut-BJP, Patna-RJD, Darbhanga-Jan Suraaj, Saran-Independent**.
- Bihar paddy buying: **North Bihar from Nov 1**, **South Bihar from Nov 15**; MSP **Rs 2,441/qtl**.
- **Patna HC**: no extra marks for guest teachers' experience; recruitment rules can't be relaxed.
- Bihar Transport Dept to **blacklist vehicles** with unpaid **e-challans** on its portal.
- **VSCS Arnab** (name by **Bangladesh**) crossed AP-Yanam coast on **Oct 28**; winds **125-135 km/h**.
- **SC** (Justices **Vikram Nath & Sandeep Mehta**) reserves verdict on drug overpricing; NPPA called 'defunct'.
- 1st **SCO Civilisational Dialogue Forum**: **Nov 20-22, New Delhi**; Pakistan invited.
- Japan: **No. 1 FDI source** in Q1 FY27 - **$5.71 bn**; delegation pitches **Rs 8-10 lakh crore**.
- **Garuda Shakti** (11th, India-Indonesia SF) at **Banyuwangi**; **SIMBEX** 33rd ended Oct 26.

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

Bihar launches month-long 'Nasha Mukt Bihar Abhiyan'

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

Syllabus Linkage	GS-II: Bihar administration, social sector; Prelims: Bihar schemes, NDPS Act, DPSP (Art. 47).
Context	CM **Samrat Choudhary** launched a statewide anti-drug campaign at **Adhiveshan Bhawan, Patna** on **Oct 27, 2026**, extending Bihar's liquor prohibition drive to **narcotics** such as charas, heroin and opium.
Key Facts	■ Runs **Oct 27 - Nov 26, 2026**; nodal: **Prohibition, Excise & Registration Department**. ■ Tools: **WhatsApp chatbot**, **helpline**, awareness vehicles, street plays, **panchayat-level** meetings. ■ Partners: about **1.81 crore JEEViKA women**, students, SHGs; pledge against intoxicants. ■ Seizures: **charas 282 kg (2024) -> 400 kg (2025)**; **heroin 42 -> 65 kg**; opium **77 kg** (2025); ~**1,700 cases**.
Way Fwd	Pair enforcement with **de-addiction centres**, school counselling and fast-track **special NDPS courts**.
Concept	**Bihar Prohibition & Excise Act, 2016** (total liquor ban since **April 2016**); **NDPS Act, 1985**; **Art. 47** directs the State to prohibit intoxicating drinks and drugs; **Nasha Mukt Bharat Abhiyaan** (2020).



Bihar Legislative Council polls: split verdict in Teachers' seats

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

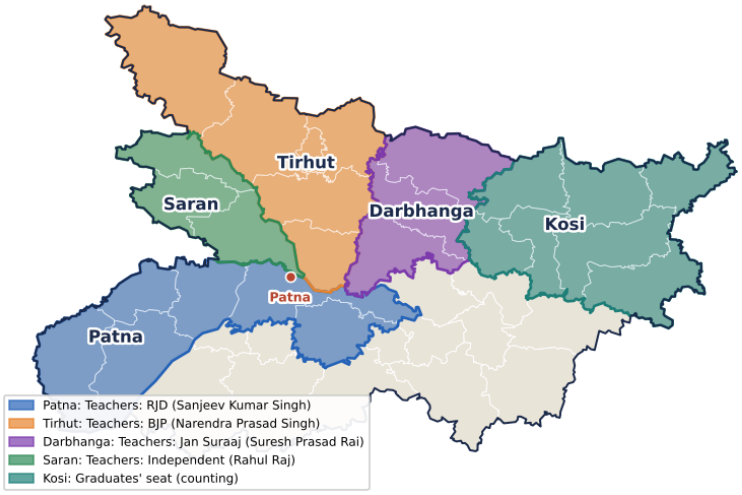
Syllabus Linkage	GS-II: State legislature, Art. 169 & 171; Prelims: composition of Bihar Vidhan Parishad, electoral system.
Context	Biennial polls to **8 seats** (4 Graduates' + 4 Teachers') were held on **Oct 23**; counting began **Oct 27**. Sitting members' terms end **Nov 16, 2026**.
Key Facts	■ Teachers' winners: **Tirhut - Narendra Prasad Singh (BJP)**; **Patna - Sanjeev Kumar Singh (RJD)**. ■ **Darbhanga - Dr Suresh Prasad Rai (Jan Suraaj)**, the party's first Council seat; **Saran - Rahul Raj (Independent)**, margin **1,815**. ■ **150 candidates**; electors: ~**4.92 lakh** (Graduates) and **40,253** (Teachers). ■ Graduates' seats (Patna, Tirhut, Darbhanga, Kosi) still counting on **Oct 28** under preferential rounds.
Way Fwd	Councils add review and expertise; transparent counting (CCTV) and timely results build trust.
Concept	**Art. 171**: Council size max **1/3 of Assembly**, min **40**; **1/12** elected by graduates (3 yrs standing), **1/12** by teachers (3 yrs teaching), **1/3** by MLAs, **1/3** by local bodies, **1/6** nominated by Governor. Voting by **single transferable vote (STV)**; **6-yr** term, **1/3 retire every 2 yrs**. Bihar Council strength: **75**.

Paddy procurement (KMS 2026-27) at MSP from November 1

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

Syllabus Linkage	GS-II: Bihar agriculture, food security, PACS; Prelims: MSP, CACP, decentralised procurement.
Context	The state has fixed the schedule for buying kharif paddy through **PACS** and **Vyapar Mandals**, with registration on the **e-Sahkari portal**; buying starts in North Bihar first as harvest begins there earlier.
Key Facts	■ MSP: **Rs 2,441/qtl (Common)**, **Rs 2,461/qtl (Grade A)** - up **Rs 72** over last year's Rs 2,369 (Common)*. ■ **North Bihar: from Nov 1**; **South Bihar: from Nov 15**. ■ Payment to farmers' accounts within **48 hours** of sale. ■ Registration: **esahkari.bihar.gov.in** (state cooperative portal).
Way Fwd	Watch moisture norms after **post-cyclone rain (Oct 29-30)**; more PACS-level dryers and quick milling contracts.
Concept	**MSP** is announced by **CCEA** on **CACP** recommendation; **Kharif Marketing Season** runs **Oct-Sep**. Bihar follows **Decentralised Procurement (DCP)** - the state buys, stores and distributes grain under **NFSA**. *Common-grade MSP for 2025-26 was Rs 2,369.

Bihar Legislative Council biennial polls - regions that voted (Oct 23)



KEY NUMBERS

8
seats (4 Graduates + 4 Teachers)

150
candidates in fray

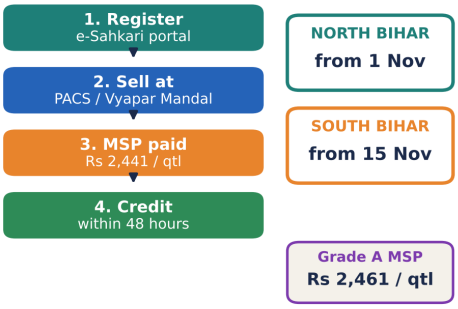
4.92 lakh
Graduates' electors

40,253
Teachers' electors

Nov 16
sitting members' terms end

75
total strength of Council

Bihar paddy procurement: KMS 2026-27



Patna HC: no extra weightage for guest teachers' experience

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

Syllabus Linkage	GS-II: High Courts, writ jurisdiction (Art. 226), equality in public employment (Art. 14 & 16).
Context	A single bench of **Justice Harish Kumar** dismissed a plea by **guest teachers** in government schools seeking additional marks for teaching experience in **permanent teacher recruitment**.
Key Facts	■ Candidates must secure the **minimum qualifying marks**; no relaxation. ■ Court held **recruitment rules cannot be relaxed** by judicial direction. ■ Upholds **merit-based** selection under statutory rules. ■ Relevant to **BPSC teacher recruitment (TRE)** aspirants.
Way Fwd	Policy-level choices (e.g., experience weightage) belong to the executive via **rules**, not courts.
Concept	**Patna High Court** est. **1916**; **Art. 226** gives HCs wider writ power than SC (**Art. 32**); **Art. 16** - equality of opportunity in public employment; reservation/relaxation only as per law (**Art. 16(4)**).

Unpaid e-challans: Bihar to blacklist vehicles, block services

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

Syllabus Linkage	GS-II: e-governance, road safety; Prelims: Motor Vehicles Act, VAHAN/SARATHI.
Context	The **Transport Department** plans to blacklist vehicles with pending **e-challans** on its portal, linking traffic fines to vehicle services.
Key Facts	■ Services to be stopped: **registration renewal, fitness, PUC certificate, ownership transfer**. ■ Repeat violators face **driving-licence action**; vehicles may be **seized**. ■ Earlier drive: **2 lakh+** e-challans pending statewide; ~**35,000** RCs blacklisted in **Patna** (mostly two-wheelers). ■ Common offences: **no helmet**, wrong-side driving, over-speeding.
Way Fwd	Add SMS alerts, easy online payment and **Lok Adalat** settlement to improve compliance.
Concept	**Motor Vehicles Act, 1988** (amended **2019** - higher fines; **Sec. 136A** electronic enforcement); **VAHAN** (vehicle registry) & **SARATHI** (licences) are national e-portals; road transport is a **Concurrent List** subject (mechanically propelled vehicles).

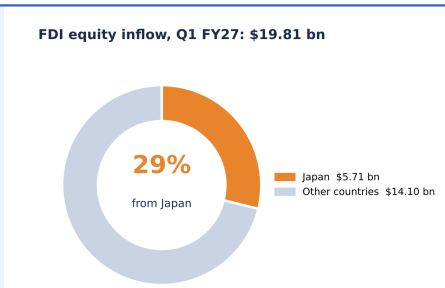
SECTION B | DATA POINT OF THE DAY

Japan - India's No. 1 FDI source, Q1 FY27 (Apr-Jun 2026)

$5.71 bn (~29% of $19.81 bn equity inflow)

Record Japanese inflow, driven largely by a **$4.4 bn** banking-sector deal; context for the **Rs 8-10 lakh crore** investment pitch made on **Oct 27-28**. FDI equity data are released by **DPIIT**.

Exam angle: Top FDI sources (cumulative): **Mauritius, Singapore, USA**; Japan is among the top five. FDI policy is framed by **DPIIT** under the **Ministry of Commerce & Industry**.



SECTION C | NATIONAL & WORLD — Polity, economy, environment, IR, defence

Very Severe Cyclonic Storm 'Arnab' crosses Andhra-Yanam coast

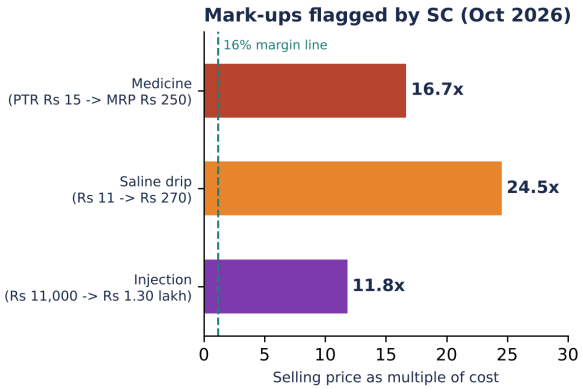
ENVIRONMENT BPSC: Prelims + Mains GS-II (Geography & Disaster Mgmt)

Syllabus Linkage	GS-II: Indian geography, cyclones; Prelims: cyclone naming, IMD categories; Bihar rain impact.
Context	The Bay of Bengal system intensified into a **VSCS** and made landfall between **Bapatla and Visakhapatnam**, near **Yanam**, between **2 am and 8 am IST on Oct 28**.
Key Facts	■ Winds **125-135 km/h**, gusting to **150 km/h**; centre near **16.45 N, 81.90 E**. ■ Name **'Arnab'** (means 'ocean') contributed by **Bangladesh**. ■ **Red alert** for six south **Odisha** districts incl. Ganjam, Koraput, Malkangiri. ■ **Bihar**: IMD forecast heavy rain at isolated places **Oct 29-30** - risk to ripe **paddy**.
Way Fwd	Bihar should issue **crop advisories**, speed harvest-drying support and keep **SDRF** on standby.
Concept	Names come from the **WMO/ESCAP Panel on Tropical Cyclones** (**13 countries**, list of **169 names** adopted 2020). IMD scale: **VSCS = 118-165 km/h**. **Yanam** is an enclave of **Puducherry UT** in AP. Post-monsoon (**Oct-Dec**) is peak Bay cyclone season.

SC slams medicine overpricing, reserves verdict on drug price control

HEALTH BPSC: Prelims + Mains GS-II (Polity - Right to Health)

Syllabus Linkage	GS-II: Fundamental Rights (Art. 21), DPSP (Art. 47), regulatory bodies; Prelims: NPPA, DPCO.
Context	A bench of **Justices Vikram Nath and Sandeep Mehta** on **Oct 27** questioned the huge gap between **MRP** and **price-to-retailer (PTR)** and reserved its verdict on two petitions.
Key Facts	■ Example: **PTR Rs 15 vs MRP Rs 250** (~**16x**); injection costing **Rs 11,000** billed at **Rs 1.30 lakh**. ■ Centre: **trade margin on anti-cancer drugs capped at 30%** of MRP - saving ~**Rs 2,500 crore/yr**. ■ Bench asked why a uniform **16% margin** cannot apply to all medicines; called **NPPA** 'totally defunct'. ■ Pleas seek strict **DPCO 2013** enforcement and action on doctors not prescribing **generics**.
Way Fwd	Trade-margin rationalisation, stronger NPPA, and wider **Jan Aushadhi** kendras in states like Bihar.
Concept	**Right to health** read into **Art. 21** (*Paschim Banga Khet Mazdoor Samity*, 1996); **Art. 47** - public health duty. **NPPA** (1997) fixes ceiling prices under **DPCO 2013**, issued under the **Essential Commodities Act, 1955**; scheduled drugs come from **NLEM**.

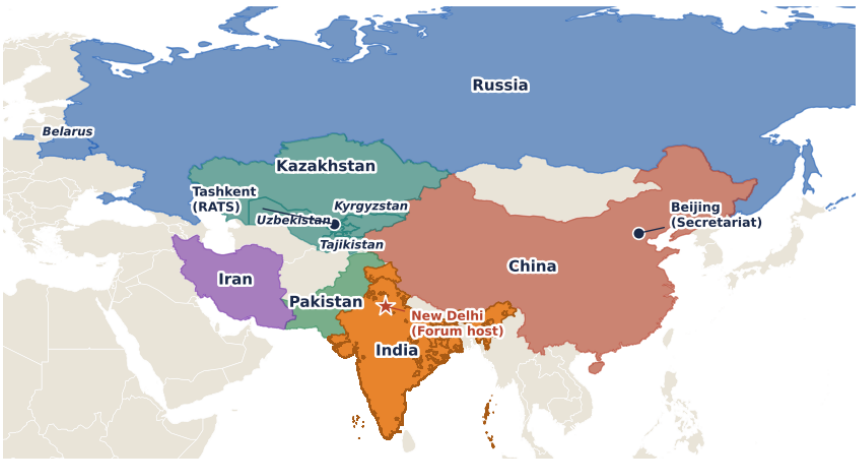


India invites Pakistan to first SCO Civilisational Dialogue Forum

IR BPSC: Prelims + Mains GS-II (India & the World)

Syllabus Linkage	GS-II: India's foreign policy, regional groupings; Prelims: SCO members, HQ, RATS.
Context	New Delhi will host the forum on **Nov 20-22, 2026**, organised by the **Ministry of Culture** with **MEA**; it is the first such invitation to Pakistan since **Operation Sindoor** (May 2025).
Key Facts	■ Invitee: Pakistan's Minister for National Heritage & Culture **Aurangzeb Khan Khichi**. ■ Possible venue: **Purana Qila**, Delhi; **25+ countries** expected incl. observers & dialogue partners. ■ Idea proposed by PM **Narendra Modi** at the **Tianjin SCO Summit (2025)**. ■ Theme: shared heritage, art, literature and **people-to-people** ties among **10 members**.
Way Fwd	Cultural diplomacy can keep channels open while India holds a firm line on **cross-border terrorism**.
Concept	**SCO** founded **15 June 2001** (Shanghai); India & Pakistan full members **2017**, **Iran 2023**, **Belarus 2024**. Secretariat **Beijing**; **RATS** in **Tashkent**; official languages **Chinese & Russian**. Nalanda-Bodh Gaya links make Bihar central to India's **civilisational** outreach.

SCO: 10 member states - 1st Civilisational Dialogue Forum, New Delhi (Nov 20-22, 2026)



SCO FACT FILE

2001
founded at Shanghai

2017
India & Pakistan join

2023 / 2024
Iran / Belarus join

Beijing
Secretariat

Tashkent
RATS (anti-terror)

25+
countries expected

Japanese industry delegation pitches Rs 8-10 lakh crore investment

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

Syllabus Linkage	GS-II: investment models, infrastructure, external sector; Prelims: FDI sources, high-speed rail.
Context	A **32-member** delegation led by the **Japan Chamber of Commerce and Industry** met **PMO** and **NITI Aayog** officials, offering **Rs 8-10 lakh crore** over the next few years in infrastructure and manufacturing.
Key Facts	■ Japan was India's **top FDI source in Q1 FY27**: **$5.71 bn** (~**29%** of **$19.81 bn** equity inflow). ■ Interest in **Delhi-Varanasi** and **Varanasi-Siliguri** high-speed rail corridors. ■ Asks: **faster clearances**, **tax predictability** (not concessions), skilled manpower. ■ HR exchange plan: **5 lakh+** personnel two-way over **5 years**.
Way Fwd	Single-window approvals and stable tax rules; Bihar can pitch logistics & food-processing parks.
Concept	**FDI** = lasting interest (**10%+** equity); India-Japan **Special Strategic & Global Partnership** (2014); **10 trillion yen** private investment target over a decade set at the **2025 summit**; **Mumbai-Ahmedabad HSR** uses **Shinkansen** technology.

Exercise Garuda Shakti begins; SIMBEX-2026 concludes

DEFENCE BPSC: Prelims (Current Events - Defence)

Syllabus Linkage	Prelims: joint exercises & partners; GS-II: India's Act East / Indo-Pacific engagement.
Context	Two Act East exercises: the **11th India-Indonesia Special Forces exercise** opened in Indonesia, while the **33rd Singapore-India maritime exercise** ended off **Visakhapatnam**.
Key Facts	■ **Garuda Shakti**: **Banyuwangi (Indonesia)**, **Oct 27 - Nov 6**; Indian unit **Parachute Regiment (SF)**; jungle ops. ■ **SIMBEX**: **Oct 21-26**; harbour + sea phase in **Bay of Bengal**; **RSS Supreme** with **INS Nilgiri, INS Kamorta**. ■ SIMBEX began in **1994** as **'Exercise Lion King'**. ■ **NGOPV 'Srishti'** (Yard 1283) launched at **Goa Shipyard** on **Oct 27**.
Way Fwd	Deeper ASEAN interoperability supports a **free, open Indo-Pacific** and maritime security.
Concept	**Act East Policy** (2014, upgrade of Look East 1991); **SAGAR** / **MAHASAGAR** maritime vision; Bihar link: **Officers Training Academy, Gaya** trains Army officers.

Defence watch - Act East in action

GARUDA SHAKTI	SIMBEX	NGOPV 'SRISHTI'
11th	33rd	Yard 1283
India-Indonesia SF	India-Singapore Navy	Offshore patrol vessel
Banyuwangi	Visakhapatnam	Goa Shipyard
27 Oct-6 Nov	21-26 Oct	27 Oct

Great Indian Bustard rewilding: releases paused after fox kill

ENVIRONMENT BPSC: Prelims (Environment & Ecology)

Syllabus Linkage	Prelims: IUCN status, Schedule I species, protected areas; GS-II: conservation & S&T.
Context	**Project GIB** says it will continue after one of the first captive-bred birds released into **Desert National Park (Jaisalmer)** was killed; the next batch is to be released soon.
Key Facts	■ **11** birds selected; **4** released - **2 on Oct 4**, **2 males on Oct 14**. ■ A **six-month-old male** was killed by a **fox** on **Oct 18** at a pond in **Sam** area. ■ **Wildlife Institute of India** reviewing protocols before releasing the other **7**. ■ Breeding centre at **Sam, Jaisalmer**; species is **Critically Endangered**.
Way Fwd	Predator-proof soft-release enclosures and **power-line undergrounding/diverters** in GIB habitat.
Concept	**GIB** (*Ardeotis nigriceps*): IUCN **Critically Endangered**, **Schedule I** of **Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972**; **state bird of Rajasthan**; main threat - **power-line collisions**. Bihar parallel: **Kaimur & Valmiki** reserves for state's tiger/wildlife conservation.

SECTION D | PRELIMS RAPID-FIRE

1. Bihar EOU: **Daroga recruitment** paper leak - booklets taken out of a **Purnia** centre; FIR lodged.	**2. Nalanda Medical College**, Patna: **146** students of 2025 batch suspended for **3 months** over ragging.
3. Bihar is one of **6 states** with a Legislative Council (others: **UP, Maharashtra, Karnataka, AP, Telangana**); strength **75**.	**4. SC** issued notice to Centre on news publishers' plea against **DPDP Act, 2023** (no journalism exemption).
5. SC Collegium recommended **four** judges as **High Court Chief Justices**.	**6. Project ARUNANK** (BRO, Arunachal) marked **19th Raising Day**; est. **2008**, HQ **Naharlagun**.

SECTION E | PRACTICE CORNER

Q1. With reference to the Legislative Council of a State, consider: 1. One-twelfth members are elected by graduates of at least three years' standing. 2. One-sixth members are nominated by the Governor. 3. Members are elected by the system of proportional representation through single transferable vote. Which 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 under **Art. 171**: **1/12** graduates, **1/12** teachers, **1/3** MLAs, **1/3** local bodies, **1/6** nominated; election by **STV**. Bihar's Council has **75** members.

Q2. Cyclone 'Arnab', which made landfall near Yanam on 28 October 2026, was named by which country?

(a) India **(b)** Bangladesh **(c)** Myanmar **(d)** Sri Lanka

Answer: (b) — **Bangladesh** contributed 'Arnab' (ocean) to the list of the **WMO/ESCAP Panel** (13 countries). **Yanam** is part of **Puducherry UT**.

MAINS PRACTICE

Bihar has enforced liquor prohibition since 2016 and has now launched a campaign against narcotics. Critically examine the social, economic and administrative challenges in making Bihar drug-free. (BPSC Mains GS-II, 38 marks)

Hint: Intro: **2016 Act** + Oct 27 campaign. Body: rising seizures (**charas 282->400 kg**), border routes (**Nepal**), youth unemployment, enforcement load on courts; role of **JEEViKA**, de-addiction, **NDPS** courts. Conclude with **Art. 47** and a health-first approach.

ONE-LINE REVISION: Nasha Mukt Bihar: Oct 27-Nov 26 | MLC Teachers: BJP-RJD-JSP-Ind | Paddy MSP Rs 2,441 (N Bihar Nov 1) | VSCS Arnab (Bangladesh) - Yanam | SCO Forum Nov 20-22, Delhi

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