CURRENT AFFAIRS — 30 October 2026

Friday, 30 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

- Bihar Cabinet: **₹11,096.55 cr** to upgrade LT power distribution network (43 agendas, 28 Oct).
- **NIH Roorkee** to delineate flood-plain zones of **Kosi, Gandak, Son** (₹1.99 cr); **24 dams** under safety review.
- **Ganga Water Treaty (1996)** expires **11 Dec 2026**; Bihar seeks **10,000 cusecs** (Jan-May).
- Cyclone **Arnab** remnant: **red alert** for **Sitamarhi & Madhubani**; name given by **Bangladesh**.
- Bihar plans **28 new industrial areas** on **~14,600 acres** across **25 districts**.
- Bihar's month-long anti-drug campaign runs till **26 Nov**; charas seizures up **282 to 400 kg**.
- SC (CJI **Surya Kant**): banks should compensate **digital-arrest** victims where due diligence failed.
- **PM-KISAN 24th instalment** from **Banaskantha (Gujarat)**: **~9.34 crore** farmers, **₹2,000** each.
- DA/DR raised **60% to 63%** w.e.f. **1 July 2026**; cost **₹10,016.10 cr**/yr.
- **NVS-03** on **GSLV-F18** tonight (11:51 pm) to strengthen **NavIC**; **13th ADMM-Plus** held in **Cebu**.

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

BIHAR CABINET (28 Oct 2026) - KEY DECISIONS IN NUMBERS



1. Bihar Cabinet clears ₹11,096 cr power-grid upgrade, Patna underground road study & new sugar mill

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

Syllabus Linkage	GS-II: Bihar economy, energy & infrastructure; Prelims: state schemes, DISCOMs, UDAN.
Context	The Cabinet chaired by CM **Samrat Choudhary** on **28 Oct 2026** approved **43 agendas**, led by a three-year plan to modernise low-tension (LT) distribution lines.
Key Facts	■ **₹11,096.55 cr**: **NBPDCL ₹6,066 cr** + **SBPDCL ₹5,030.55 cr**, over up to **3 years**. ■ **₹18.21 cr** feasibility study for **Patna underground road** (R Block-Kankarbagh; Dak Bungalow-Patna Women's College). ■ Closed **Motipur sugar mill** (Muzaffarpur, 266 acres) split; new sugar mill at **Warisaliganj (Nawada)**. ■ **₹43.50 cr** VGF under **UDAN** (₹1.5 cr/month, May 2026-Sep 2028); **₹58.80 cr** hostel aid for **~49,000** students. ■ Consultancy for **Vishwamitra Path** (Buxar-Ara-Maner, 90 km), **Ganga Ambika Path** (56 km), **Narayani Path** (73.51 km).
Way Fwd	Time-bound execution with **AT&C loss** targets; link the road PPPs to the state's logistics and tourism circuits.
Concept	**VGF (Viability Gap Funding)**: capital/operating grant that makes a socially desirable but commercially unviable project bankable; under **UDAN-RCS** it keeps regional fares affordable.

2. Flood-plain zoning of Kosi, Gandak & Son; safety audit of 24 dams

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

Syllabus Linkage	GS-II: Bihar geography, floods & disaster management; Prelims: rivers, barrages, Dam Safety Act.
Context	The same Cabinet approved a **Flood Plain Zone Delineation Study** along three flood-prone rivers and a statutory safety review of state dams.
Key Facts	■ **₹1.99 cr** study on **Kosi, Gandak and Son** with **National Institute of Hydrology (NIH), Roorkee**. ■ **₹8.39 cr** to assess **24 dams** under the **Dam Safety Act, 2021** within **8 months**. ■ Kosi is called the **'Sorrow of Bihar'**; **~73%** of Bihar's area is flood-prone (state data). ■ Zoning will mark areas for regulated construction, helping embankment and drainage planning.
Way Fwd	Notify flood-plain zones by law, curb encroachment and integrate with **Nepal**-side catchment data.
Concept	**Flood-plain zoning**: regulating land use by flood frequency (e.g., prohibited, restricted, caution zones); **Dam Safety Act 2021** created the **NDSA** and State Dam Safety Organisations.

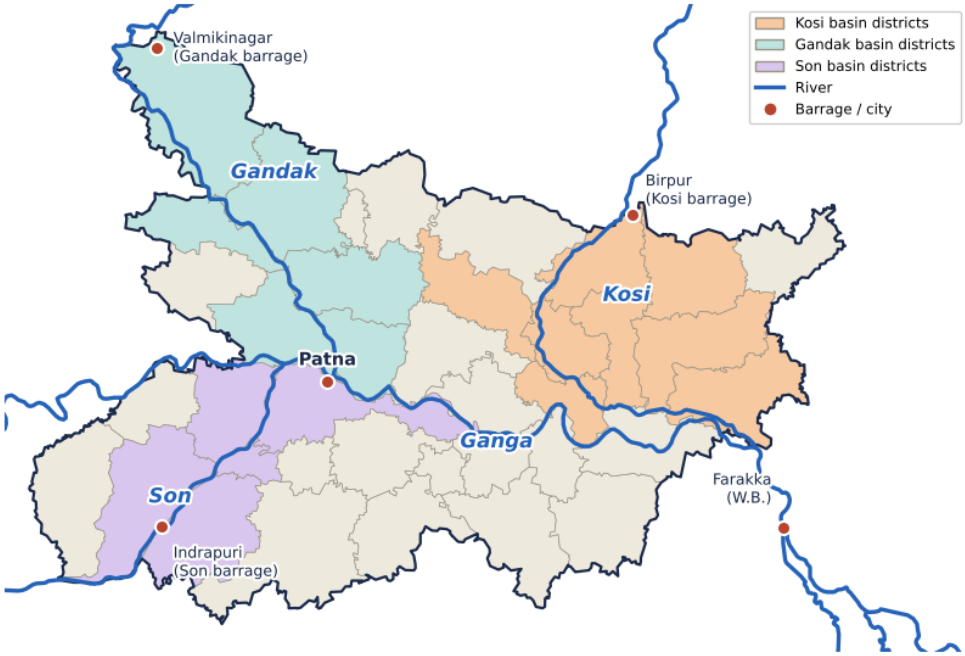
3. Ganga Water Treaty: Bihar seeks 10,000 cusecs, national silt policy

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

Syllabus Linkage	GS-II: Bihar's rivers, inter-state & India-Bangladesh water issues; Prelims: Farakka, treaties.
Context	The **Water Resources Department** holds a seminar in **Patna today (30 Oct)** on Bihar's water security as the India-Bangladesh treaty nears expiry.
Key Facts	■ Treaty signed **12 Dec 1996** for **30 years**; expires **11 Dec 2026**; shares lean-season flow at **Farakka Barrage**. ■ Bihar's assessment (projected to **2051**): minimum **~10,000 cusecs** in **January-May**. ■ Bihar framed a **silt management policy (2026)**; seeks a **national silt policy** with dedicated fund. ■ CM was slated to raise Farakka-linked flooding at the **19th Ganga Flood Control Commission (GFCC)** meeting (27 Oct).
Way Fwd	Renewed treaty must factor **upper-riparian state needs**, silt flushing and climate-variable flows.

Concept	**Farakka Barrage** (Murshidabad, W.B., commissioned **1975**) diverts water to the **Bhagirathi-Hooghly** via a feeder canal to keep **Kolkata Port** navigable; **GFCC** is HQ'd in **Patna**.

BIHAR: FLOOD-PLAIN ZONING STUDY RIVERS + GANGA-FARAKKA LINK



Rs 1.99 cr
Flood Plain Zone Delineation (Kosi, Gandak, Son) - NIH Roorkee

24 dams
Safety review, Rs 8.39 cr, in 8 months (Dam Safety Act 2021)

10,000 cusecs
Bihar's minimum need, Jan-May (projection to 2051)

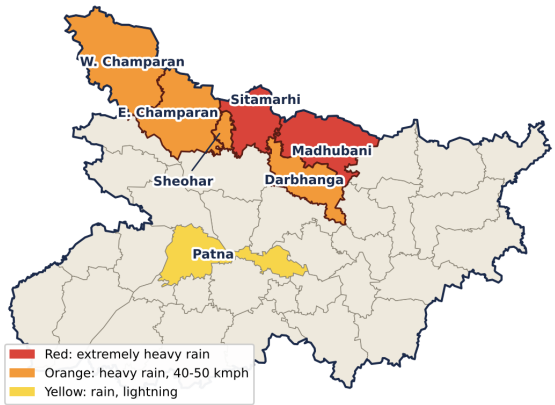
11 Dec 2026
Ganga Water Treaty (1996) with Bangladesh expires

4. Cyclone Arnab remnant: red alert in Sitamarhi, Madhubani

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

Syllabus Linkage	GS-II: Bihar climate & disasters; Prelims: cyclone naming, IMD colour codes.
Context	The remnant of **Very Severe Cyclonic Storm Arnab**, which crossed the **Andhra Pradesh-Yanam** coast on **28 Oct**, is bringing heavy rain to north Bihar on **30-31 Oct**.
Key Facts	■ **Red**: **Sitamarhi, Madhubani**; **Orange**: **Darbhanga, Sheohar, East & West Champaran** (winds **40-50 kmph**). ■ **Yellow** alert for **Patna** and other districts (rain, lightning). ■ Landfall near **Kakinada**; winds **125-135 km/h** gusting **150 km/h**. ■ Name '**Arnab**' (ocean) proposed by **Bangladesh**; formed over the **Bay of Bengal**.
Way Fwd	Protect harvest-ready **paddy** and Chhath ghats; issue **lightning** advisories via the state's early-warning apps.
Concept	**IMD colour codes**: Green (no action), Yellow (be updated), Orange (be prepared), Red (take action). North Indian Ocean names come from a list of **13 WMO/ESCAP Panel** countries.

CYCLONE ARNAB REMNANT: BIHAR ALERTS (30-31 OCT)

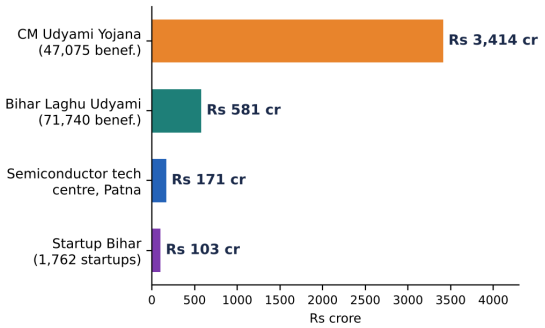


5. Bihar plans 28 new industrial areas; MSME Policy 2026 gets nod

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

Syllabus Linkage	GS-II: industrialisation of Bihar, investment policy; Prelims: BIADA, state schemes.
Context	Cabinet gave ex-post facto approval to **MSME Policy 2026** as the Industries Department expands land banks for investors.
Key Facts	■ **28 new industrial areas** in **25 districts**; land acquisition for **~14,600 acres**; **94** existing areas. ■ **1,091** proposals worth **₹1,21,863 cr** since 2025 (potential **68,807** jobs). ■ **Bihar Integrated Manufacturing City**, Dobhi (Gaya), **~1,670 acres**; Mega Food Park, Muzaffarpur (143 acres). ■ MSME Policy targets: **an industrial cluster in every district**, MSME centres in all **38 districts**.
Way Fwd	Convert proposals into ground investment through plug-and-play sheds, reliable power and single-window (**62 services**).
Concept	**BIADA** (Bihar Industrial Area Development Authority) allots industrial land; the Dobhi city lies on the **Amritsar-Kolkata Industrial Corridor (AKIC)**.

BIHAR ENTERPRISE PUSH: SUPPORT IN Rs CRORE



6. Month-long anti-drug drive across Bihar till 26 November

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

Syllabus Linkage	GS-II: Bihar administration, law & order, social policy; Prelims: Prohibition Act 2016, NDPS.
Context	CM **Samrat Choudhary** launched the campaign on **27 Oct** at **Adhiveshan Bhawan, Patna**, run by the **Prohibition, Excise & Registration Department**.
Key Facts	■ Campaign runs till **26 November**; aim to reach **every household**. ■ Charas seizures **282 kg (2024) to 400 kg (2025)**; heroin **42 to 65 kg**; opium **77 kg** in 2025. ■ Linked to the national goal of a **drug-free India by 2029**. ■ Bihar has enforced **total liquor prohibition since 2016**.
Way Fwd	Pair enforcement on the **Nepal border** with de-addiction centres, school counselling and community vigilance.
Concept	**NDPS Act, 1985** governs narcotics; **Article 47** (DPSP) directs the State to prohibit intoxicating drinks and drugs injurious to health.

SECTION B — DATA POINT OF THE DAY

7.3%

India's FY27 real GDP growth forecast (Finance Ministry, October economic review)

Above the RBI's **7.1%** projection issued earlier in October; the ministry flagged **crude oil** and **inflation** as key risks.

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

7. SC: banks must compensate digital-arrest victims if due diligence failed

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

Syllabus Linkage	GS-II: judiciary, consumer protection, cyber security; Prelims: RBI, KYC, I4C.
Context	A bench headed by **CJI Surya Kant** on **29 Oct** said banks should bear losses arising from **institutional due-diligence failures** in digital-arrest frauds.
Key Facts	■ **21,928** digital-arrest complaints involving **over ₹647 cr** (**Jan-Aug 2026**). ■ Court to examine RBI's proposed **KYC amendments**, expected by **30 Nov**. ■ Stressed prosecution of colluding bank staff and alerts on unusual withdrawals by **senior citizens**. ■ Observations at hearing stage; final compensation framework still awaited.
Way Fwd	Shift liability to the party best placed to prevent fraud; AI-based transaction monitoring and **1930** helpline awareness.
Concept	**'Digital arrest'** has no legal basis: fraudsters impersonate police/CBI on video calls. RBI's **zero/limited liability** rules (2017) protect customers who report within **3 days**.

8. PM-KISAN 24th instalment released today from Banaskantha

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

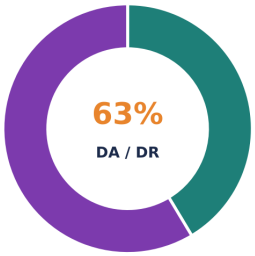
Syllabus Linkage	GS-II: Indian & Bihar economy, agriculture support; Prelims: central schemes, DBT.
Context	PM **Narendra Modi** releases the **24th instalment** from **Banaskantha, Gujarat** on **30 Oct**, via **DBT**.
Key Facts	■ ~**9.34 crore** farmer families get **₹2,000** each (~**₹18,680 cr** in all). ■ **23rd instalment** (20 Jun 2026): **₹18,880 cr** to **9.44 crore+** families. ■ **₹6,000/year** in 3 instalments; operational from **1 Dec 2018**; **100% Centre-funded**. ■ **e-KYC mandatory**; income-tax payers and govt employees excluded.
Way Fwd	Update land records digitally (**Agri Stack**) so tenant/share-croppers, common in Bihar, are not left out.
Concept	**DBT** transfers benefits straight to Aadhaar-seeded bank accounts, cutting leakages; PM-KISAN is a **Central Sector Scheme** (not Centrally Sponsored).

9. Centre hikes DA/DR by 3 points to 63% ahead of festive season

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

Syllabus Linkage	GS-II: Indian economy, inflation & public finance; Prelims: CPI-IW, Pay Commission.
Context	The Union Cabinet on **28 Oct** raised **Dearness Allowance** (employees) and **Dearness Relief** (pensioners) from **60% to 63%**.
Key Facts	■ Effective **1 July 2026** (retrospective). ■ Benefits **48.54 lakh** employees and **68.71 lakh** pensioners. ■ Annual cost: **₹10,016.10 crore**. ■ DA is revised **twice a year** (Jan & Jul) based on **CPI-IW**.
Way Fwd	States, including Bihar, usually follow; fiscal space must be balanced with capex commitments.
Concept	**CPI-IW** (Consumer Price Index for Industrial Workers) is compiled by the **Labour Bureau, Shimla**; DA neutralises erosion of real wages due to inflation.

DA HIKE: 60% -> 63% (+3 pp) - WHO GAINS



48.54 lakh
serving employees

68.71 lakh
pensioners

Rs 10,016.10 cr
annual cost; w.e.f. 1 Jul 2026

10. ISRO's NVS-03 to lift off tonight on GSLV-F18 to bolster NavIC

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

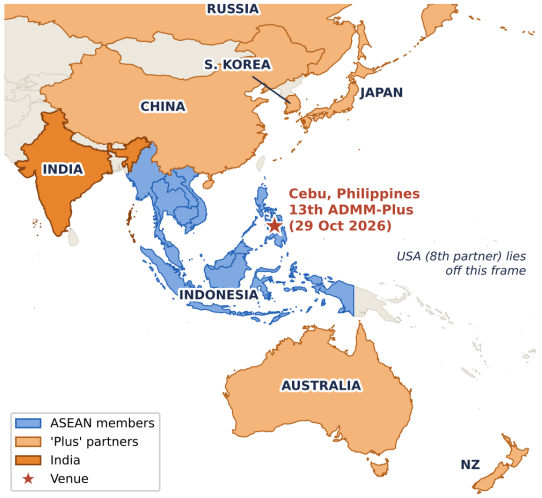
Syllabus Linkage	GS-II: role of science & technology; Prelims: satellites, launch vehicles, NavIC.
Context	Mission **GSLV-F18/NVS-03** is scheduled for **11:51 pm IST, 30 Oct** from **Satish Dhawan Space Centre, Sriharikota**.
Key Facts	■ **Third** of five second-gen satellites (**NVS-01 to NVS-05**); NVS-01 flew on **29 May 2023**. ■ Carries an **indigenous atomic clock**; adds **L1-band** signals to existing **L5 & S** bands. ■ NavIC covers India + **~1,500 km** beyond its boundary. ■ Aims to restore continuity of **IRNSS** services.
Way Fwd	L1 compatibility will help NavIC enter **smartphones**; reduces dependence on foreign GNSS in strategic use.
Concept	**NavIC/IRNSS**: India's regional navigation system (GSO + IGSO satellites); global systems are **GPS** (US), **GLONASS** (Russia), **Galileo** (EU), **BeiDou** (China).

11. 13th ADMM-Plus in Cebu: India offers counter-terror expertise to ASEAN

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

Syllabus Linkage	GS-II: India & its neighbourhood, Act East; Prelims: ASEAN, ADMM-Plus, summits & venues.
Context	Defence Minister **Rajnath Singh** addressed the **13th ADMM-Plus** at **Cebu, Philippines** on **29 Oct**, citing **Operation Sindoor**.
Key Facts	■ Theme: **'Navigating Our Future, Together'**; India backs **ASEAN centrality** and **UNCLOS**. ■ India & **Malaysia** co-chair the **Experts' Working Group on Counter-Terrorism (2024-27)**. ■ **2026** is the **ASEAN-India Year of Maritime Cooperation**; proposed a defence **'Youth Bridge'**. ■ Navy anti-piracy deployment in the **Gulf of Aden** since **2008**.
Way Fwd	Deepen joint exercises and intelligence sharing; leverage Bihar's **Buddhist links** (Bodh Gaya, Nalanda) as soft power in Act East.
Concept	**ADMM-Plus** (since **2010**, Hanoi) = ASEAN defence ministers + **8 partners**: India, China, Japan, South Korea, Australia, New Zealand, Russia, USA.

ADMM-PLUS: ASEAN + 8 PARTNERS



SECTION D — PRELIMS RAPID-FIRE

1. **NBPDCL & SBPDCL**: Bihar's two power DISCOMs (north & south), formed after the 2012 unbundling of BSEB.

2. **Warisaliganj** (Nawada) to get a new sugar mill; **Motipur** mill is in **Muzaffarpur**.

3. **Bihar State Games 2026**: ₹12 cr, ~**5,500** players, **24** disciplines.

4. **143 posts** sanctioned for regional **Economic Offences Unit**; new **City SP** posts for **Motihari, Purnia, Saran**.

5. **Green hydrogen** offtake commitments in India exceed **5.5 lakh MTPA** (Oct 2026).

6. **14th International Tourism Mart** opened in **Tawang**, Arunachal Pradesh.

SECTION E — PRACTICE CORNER

Q1. With reference to the Bihar Cabinet decisions of 28 October 2026, consider the following pairs:
1. Flood Plain Zone Delineation Study - Kosi, Gandak and Son rivers
2. New sugar mill - Warisaliganj (Nawada)
3. Flood-zoning partner - NIH, Roorkee
Which of the pairs given above is/are correctly matched?

(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: the **₹1.99 cr** study covers **Kosi, Gandak, Son** with **NIH Roorkee**, and a new sugar mill is planned at **Warisaliganj** in Nawada.

Q2. The India-Bangladesh Ganga Water Treaty, which expires in December 2026, was signed in which year and governs water sharing at which structure?

(A) 1977 - Kosi Barrage
(B) 1996 - Farakka Barrage
(C) 1996 - Valmikinagar Barrage
(D) 2006 - Farakka Barrage

Answer: (B) — Signed on **12 Dec 1996** for **30 years**, the treaty shares lean-season (Jan-May) flows at **Farakka Barrage** (West Bengal); it expires on **11 Dec 2026**.

MAINS PRACTICE: "Floods in north Bihar are as much a problem of silt and land-use as of water." In the light of the recent flood-plain zoning study and the Ganga Water Treaty review, suggest a long-term flood-management strategy for Bihar. (BPSC Mains GS-II, 38 marks)

Hint: Intro: **~73%** area flood-prone; Kosi/Gandak from Nepal. Body: silt load & **Farakka** backwater, embankment limits, **flood-plain zoning** (NIH study), **national silt policy**, dam safety, Indo-Nepal cooperation, early warning. Conclude: shift from flood control to **flood resilience**.

ONE-LINE REVISION: ₹11,096.55 cr power | Kosi-Gandak-Son zoning (NIH) | Treaty ends 11 Dec 2026 | Red alert: Sitamarhi, Madhubani | DA 63% | PM-KISAN 24th: 9.34 cr | NVS-03 on GSLV-F18 | ADMM-Plus: Cebu.

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