CURRENT AFFAIRS — 06 Oct 2026

Tuesday, 06 October 2026 • IST • Madhya Pradesh + National • MPPSC Prelims and Mains diges

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DAILY CURRENT AFFAIRS FOR MPPSC

TODAY AT A GLANCE - 10 THINGS TO REMEMBER

- 7 Oct: two cheetahs released at Veerangana Durgavati Tiger Reserve
- Ladli Behna aid set to rise to Rs 1,500 after Diwali
- MP sharpens its GIS-2027 investment drive
- SC seeks Election Commission's reply on Form 6 changes
- SC declines to stay the Great Nicobar mega project
- MP remains the only cheetah-bearing state (~57 cheetahs)
- MP Cabinet cleared a Rs 10,630 crore package
- Nobel Prize in Medicine 2026: optogenetics
- India and Switzerland deepen defence and nuclear ties
- SEBI eases its new derivative settlement rules

SECTION A - MADHYA PRADESH SPECIAL

State schemes, policy, ecology and economy

Cheetahs to roar at Veerangana Durgavati Tiger Reserve

MADHYA PRADESH MPPSC: Prelims + Mains GS-III (Environment)

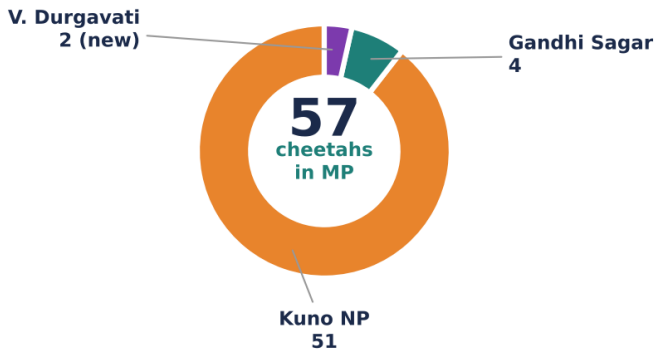
Syllabus	Prelims: Project Cheetah sites, Kuno, MP ecology. Mains GS-III: conservation and biodiversity.
Context	On **7 October 2026**, the Chief Minister will release **two cheetahs** - **Tholo** (male) and **CCB-3** (female) - brought from **Kuno National Park** into the **Veerangana Durgavati (Nauradehi) Tiger Reserve**, making it MP's **third cheetah home**.
Key Facts	■ The reserve spans about **2,340 sq km** - MP's **largest tiger reserve**, with grasslands suited to cheetahs. ■ A **439-hectare soft-release enclosure** with **five compartments** and power fencing will house them first. ■ The **Cheetah Steering Committee** cleared shifting **four cheetahs** to Nauradehi. ■ **Project Cheetah** began at Kuno in **September 2022**; MP is India's **only cheetah-bearing state** (~**57** cheetahs).
Way Fwd	Spreading cheetahs across sites builds a **metapopulation** and cuts single-habitat risk.
Concept	Project Cheetah; soft vs hard release; metapopulation; IUCN translocation norms.

Ladli Behna aid set to rise to Rs 1,500 after Diwali

MADHYA PRADESH MPPSC: Prelims + Mains GS-II (Governance and Social Justice)

Syllabus	Prelims: MP flagship schemes. Mains GS-II: governance, women empowerment, welfare.
Context	The Chief Minister announced that monthly aid under the **Mukhyamantri Ladli Behna Yojana** will rise from **Rs 1,250** to **Rs 1,500** after **Diwali 2026**; the **40th instalment** (13 Sep 2026) disbursed about **Rs 1,835 crore**.
Key Facts	■ Reaches about **1.27 crore women** through **Direct Benefit Transfer (DBT)**. ■ Launched in **2023**; eligible women aged **21-60**. ■ The stated long-term target is **Rs 3,000** per month. ■ It is MP's largest women's **cash-transfer** scheme.
Way Fwd	Balancing fiscal space with women's financial inclusion is the central challenge.
Concept	DBT; cash transfers; gender budgeting; women-led development.

Project Cheetah — MP's 3 homes



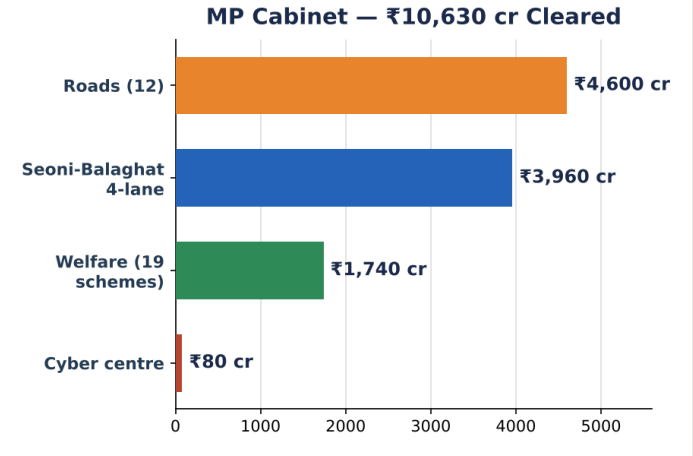
Ladli Behna Yojana — Key Numbers

₹1,250	₹1,500	1.27 cr	₹1,835 cr	₹3,000
current monthly aid	after Diwali 2026	women beneficiaries	40th instalment outlay	eventual target

MP deepens its big-cat network - now 9 tiger reserves

ENVIRONMENT MPPSC: Prelims + Mains GS-III (Environment and Biodiversity)

Syllabus	Prelims: MP geography and protected areas. Mains GS-III: wildlife and ecology.
Context	MP is expanding reserves and corridors. **Ratapani** (8th, Dec 2024) and **Madhav National Park** (9th, Mar 2025) became tiger reserves, and new sanctuaries and corridors are being added.
Key Facts	■ MP has **9 tiger reserves** and is both the **Tiger State** and the **Leopard State**. ■ Corridor work spans the **Kanha, Bandhavgarh, Panna and Pench** landscapes. ■ **Four cheetah cubs** were born at Kuno in **April 2026** - the first wild litter to an Indian-born female. ■ A new **Dr Bhimrao Ambedkar Sanctuary** (258.64 sq km) and a **Tapti** conservation reserve are planned.
Way Fwd	Corridor connectivity and conflict mitigation move MP towards system-level conservation.
Concept	Project Tiger (1973); NTCA; Wildlife Institute of India; wildlife corridors.



MP farm economy: wheat procured near Rs 2,625 a quintal

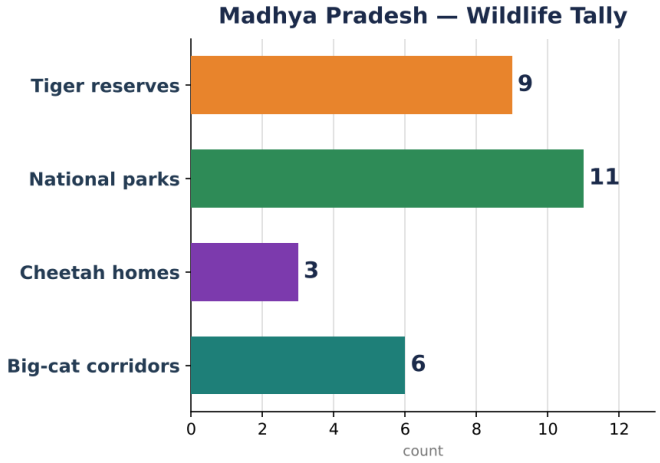
ECONOMY MPPSC: Prelims + Mains GS-III (Agriculture)

Syllabus	Prelims: MP agriculture and MSP. Mains GS-III: agriculture, food security, farmer welfare.
Context	MP continues MSP-based procurement, with an effective wheat price of about **Rs 2,625 per quintal** including a state bonus; roughly **19 lakh farmers** are registered.
Key Facts	■ MP is the **Soybean State** - India's leading soybean producer. ■ It is a top producer of **wheat** (including the **Sharbati** GI), **gram and pulses**. ■ The **Narmada valley** anchors much of the state's irrigated farming. ■ Record wheat procurement underscores MP's grain-bowl role.
Way Fwd	Crop diversification and better warehousing can steady farm incomes.
Concept	MSP; CACP; procurement; buffer stock; GI tag.

MP Cabinet clears Rs 10,630 crore development package

POLITY MPPSC: Prelims + Mains GS-II/III (Governance and Infrastructure)

Syllabus	Prelims: MP governance and schemes. Mains GS-II/III: state policy, infrastructure, welfare.
Context	The state cabinet approved projects across roads, health, cyber-security and welfare.
Key Facts	■ **12 major roads**: a **Rs 4,600 crore** loan guarantee; the **Seoni-Balaghat** 4-lane (91.64 km) at **Rs 3,960 crore**. ■ **19 welfare schemes** for weaker sections: **Rs 1,740 crore** (2026-31). ■ **Dhanvantari Health University, Ujjain** - 244 new posts. ■ A state **cyber-security operations centre**: **Rs 80 crore**.
Way Fwd	Infrastructure-led growth paired with digital-security capacity building.
Concept	State budget; DBT welfare; cooperative federalism; e-governance.



MP sharpens its investment push ahead of GIS-2027

ECONOMY MPPSC: Prelims + Mains GS-III (Economy and Industry)

Syllabus	Prelims: MP economy and investment events. Mains GS-III: industry, employment, growth.
Context	After the **Global Investors Summit 2025** in Bhopal, MP is running investor roadshows and **Regional Industry Conclaves** to convert interest into projects.
Key Facts	■ The **Ujjain** regional conclave drew proposals worth about **Rs 30,402 crore**. ■ An **8-region conclave** model spreads industry beyond the big cities. ■ Vision: a **Rs 2,486 lakh crore GSDP by 2047-48**. ■ Thrust areas: **Rewa solar**, pumped hydro, startups and logistics.
Way Fwd	Turning MoUs into ground-level investment and jobs is the real test.
Concept	Global Investors Summit; ease of doing business; GSDP; industrial corridors.

SECTION B - DATA POINT OF THE DAY One number worth memorising

Rs 1,835 crore

Ladli Behna - 40th instalment outlay

Transferred to about 1.27 crore women across MP in a single monthly instalment (Sep 2026) - a measure of the scheme's fiscal weight.

SECTION C - NATIONAL and WORLD Polity, economy, science and international affairs

SC seeks the EC's reply on Form 6 voter-roll changes

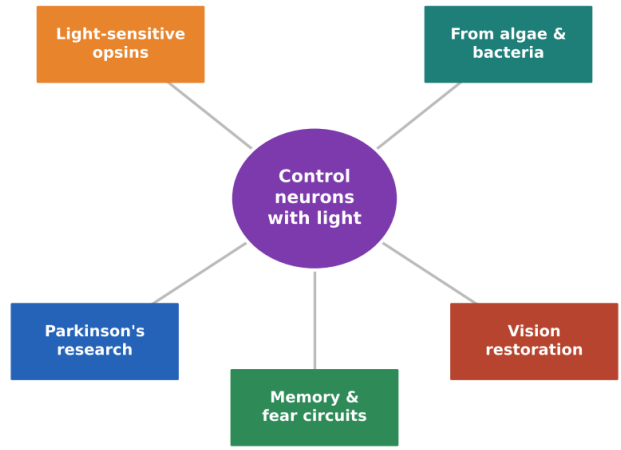
POLITY MPPSC: Prelims + Mains GS-II (Polity and Elections)

Syllabus	Prelims: ECI, electoral rolls. Mains GS-II: Constitution, elections, institutions.
Context	The **Supreme Court** issued notice to the **Election Commission**, clarifying that it had not endorsed recent changes to **Form 6** and seeking their legal basis.
Key Facts	■ **Form 6** is the voter-registration form under the **Registration of Electors Rules, 1960**. ■ The changes were made without adequate parliamentary consultation. ■ They are linked to concerns over the **Special Intensive Revision (SIR)** of rolls. ■ The case highlights the judiciary-executive boundary on electoral administration.
Way Fwd	Transparent, consultative changes protect electoral integrity.
Concept	ECI (Art. 324); electoral rolls; Representation of the People Act; adult franchise.

Nobel Prize in Medicine 2026 goes to optogenetics

SCI-TECH MPPSC: Prelims + Mains GS-III (Science and Technology)

Syllabus	Prelims: awards, science. Mains GS-III: science and technology, innovation.
Context	Three scientists won the **2026 Nobel Prize in Physiology or Medicine** for developing **optogenetics** - a technique to control neurons with light.
Key Facts	■ It uses **light-sensitive proteins (opsins)** sourced from **algae and bacteria**. ■ It enables **causal** study of brain circuits, not just correlation. ■ Applications: **Parkinson's**, memory and fear circuits, and **vision restoration**. ■ It is a model of cross-disciplinary basic research.
Way Fwd	It bridges neuroscience with genetics and optics for new therapies.
Concept	Neurons; opsins; gene expression; translational research.



India – EFTA Trade & Economic Partnership (TEPA)

$100 bn	15 yrs	~1 mn	4 nations
investment commitment	phased timeframe	jobs targeted in India	Switzerland • Norway Iceland • Liechtenstein

Switzerland deepens defence & civil-nuclear cooperation with India under this framework

India and Switzerland deepen defence and nuclear ties

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

Syllabus	Prelims: groupings (EFTA), agreements. Mains GS-II: India and the world.
Context	India and Switzerland agreed to expand **defence** and **civil-nuclear** cooperation, building on the **India-EFTA TEPA**.
Key Facts	■ **EFTA** comprises Switzerland, Norway, Iceland and Liechtenstein. ■ The **TEPA** targets **$100 billion** of investment over **15 years** (around 1 million jobs). ■ Focus areas: precision engineering, dual-use technology and nuclear power. ■ It diversifies India's civil-nuclear and defence partners.
Way Fwd	European partnerships support strategic autonomy and energy security.
Concept	EFTA; FTA/TEPA; civil-nuclear cooperation; strategic autonomy.

SEBI eases its new derivative settlement rules

ECONOMY **MPPSC: Prelims + Mains GS-III (Economy and Financial Markets)**

Syllabus	Prelims: SEBI, financial markets. Mains GS-III: regulation, capital markets.
Context	**SEBI** signalled a partial rollback of recently introduced **derivative (F and O) settlement rules** after market participants flagged operational cost and complexity.
Key Facts	■ The original tightening aimed to curb **retail speculation** in index options. ■ The settlement changes created operational mismatches. ■ Industry consultation revealed unintended effects. ■ It reflects a regulatory agility-versus-stability trade-off.
Way Fwd	Calibrated rules must protect investors without harming market efficiency.
Concept	SEBI; derivatives; index options; investor protection.

SC declines to stay the Great Nicobar mega project

ENVIRONMENT **MPPSC: Prelims + Mains GS-III (Environment vs Development)**

Syllabus	Prelims: environment, tribal rights. Mains GS-III: environment, EIA, development trade-offs.
Context	The **Supreme Court** refused to halt the examination of clearances for the **Great Nicobar** port-airport-township-power project while scrutiny continues.
Key Facts	■ Concerns include coral reefs, **leatherback turtle** nesting and a fragile island ecology. ■ The rights of the **Shompen and Nicobarese** tribes are at stake. ■ Questions remain on **Forest Rights Act** compliance. ■ Strategic value does not bypass environmental due process.
Way Fwd	The task is balancing strategic needs with ecological and tribal safeguards.
Concept	EIA; FRA 2006; PVTGs; coastal regulation; biodiversity.

National Snapshot of the Day

~8.2%	Nobel 2026	$100 bn	Great Nicobar
recent GDP growth	Medicine: optogenetics	India-EFTA TEPA (15 yrs)	SC refuses stay

SECTION D - PRELIMS RAPID-FIRE Quick facts to revise

1. MP's third cheetah home is the **Veerangana Durgavati (Nauradehi) Tiger Reserve** (~2,340 sq km).
2. **Project Cheetah** began at **Kuno National Park** (Sheopur) in **September 2022**.
3. Ladli Behna aid is set to rise **Rs 1,250 to Rs 1,500** after Diwali 2026 (target Rs 3,000).
4. **Nobel Medicine 2026**: **optogenetics** - controlling neurons with light.
5. **India-EFTA TEPA**: **$100 bn** over **15 years**; EFTA = Switzerland, Norway, Iceland, Liechtenstein.
6. **Form 6** (voter registration) is prescribed under the **Registration of Electors Rules, 1960**.

SECTION E - PRACTICE CORNER MCQs and a Mains pointer

Q1. With reference to Project Cheetah, consider these statements: (1) Cheetahs were reintroduced in India at Kuno National Park in 2022. (2) Madhya Pradesh is currently the only Indian state with a cheetah population. (3) Veerangana Durgavati Tiger Reserve is MP's third cheetah habitat. Which of the statements are correct?
(a) 1 and 2 only **(b)** 2 and 3 only **(c)** 1 and 3 only **(d)** 1, 2 and 3
Ans: (d) All three are correct: Kuno hosted the 2022 reintroduction, MP is the only cheetah-bearing state, and Veerangana Durgavati is the third home after Kuno and Gandhi Sagar.

Q2. The India-EFTA Trade and Economic Partnership Agreement (TEPA) targets an investment of ____ in India over 15 years.
(a) $50 billion **(b)** $100 billion **(c)** $150 billion **(d)** $200 billion
Ans: (b) TEPA commits EFTA to about $100 billion of investment over 15 years, with a target of around 1 million jobs. EFTA members are Switzerland, Norway, Iceland and Liechtenstein.

Mains Practice: Madhya Pradesh is emerging as the hub of India's big-cat conservation. Discuss the state's tiger and cheetah initiatives and the challenges of building a viable cheetah metapopulation. (GS-III, ~250 words)
Hint: Cover Project Tiger and Project Cheetah, the Kuno-Gandhi Sagar-Nauradehi spread, corridors and prey base, human-wildlife conflict, and the science of a genetically diverse metapopulation.

★ **ONE-LINE REVISION: Remember: 7 Oct - 2 cheetahs (Tholo, CCB-3) move Kuno to Veerangana Durgavati, MP's 3rd cheetah home; Ladli Behna Rs 1,250 to Rs 1,500; Nobel Medicine 2026 = optogenetics; TEPA = $100 bn over 15 yrs.**

Compiled and simplified by the StudyForGS.com Research Team

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