CURRENT AFFAIRS — 13 NOV 2026

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Friday, 13 November 2026 • Asia/Kolkata (IST) • Madhya Pradesh + National • MPPSC Prelims & Mains digest

TODAY AT A GLANCE — 10 THINGS TO REMEMBER

Ladli Behna 42nd instalment: Rs 1,831 cr to 1.24 cr women today	Retail inflation hits 24-month high of 6.09% in October 2026
Transfer made from Pichhore, Shivpuri + Rs 221 cr development works	Food inflation at 8.94%; above RBI's 4%+/-2% tolerance band
MP 'Wildlife State' push: cheetah tally reaches 57	President Putin to visit New Delhi on 4-5 Dec for 23rd Summit
Soybean Bhavantar scheme shields MP's soybean growers below MSP	India-US seal 10-year defence framework in Kuala Lumpur
Jabalpur-Indore Economic Corridor SPV cleared (Rs 100 cr capital)	SC: mere cultivation without forest residence gives no FRA status

SECTION A — MADHYA PRADESH SPECIAL

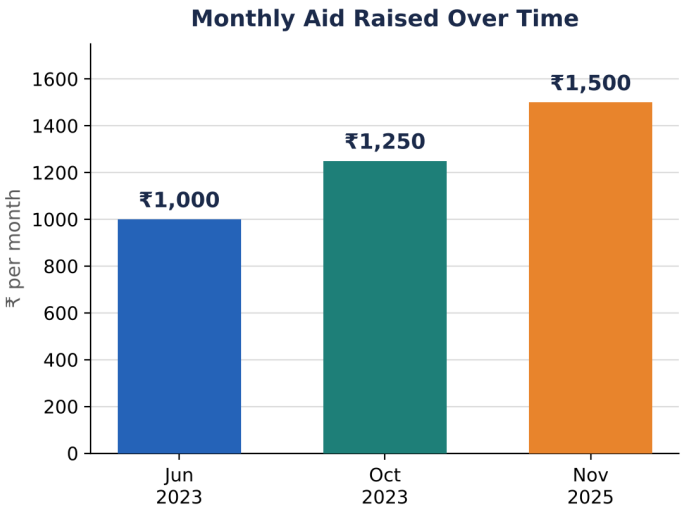
LADLI BEHNA YOJANA — 42nd INSTALMENT (13 Nov 2026)

₹1,831 cr	1.24 cr	₹1,500	₹69,050 cr	₹23,882 cr
Transferred today	Women beneficiaries	Per month / woman	Total since Jun 2023	FY 2026-27 budget

Ladli Behna Yojana: 42nd instalment of Rs 1,831 crore released

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

Syllabus	MPPSC Prelims (MP state schemes & welfare); Mains GS-II - welfare schemes, DBT, women empowerment.
Context	Chief Minister **Mohan Yadav** transferred the **42nd instalment** of the **Mukhyamantri Ladli Behna Yojana** on **13 November 2026** from **Pichhore** in **Shivpuri** district, alongside development works.
Key Facts	■ About **Rs 1,831 crore** credited to **1,24,81,550 (1.24 crore)** eligible women via **Aadhaar-linked DBT**. ■ Each eligible woman gets **Rs 1,500 per month**; amount rose from **Rs 1,000 (Jun 2023)** to **Rs 1,250** to **Rs 1,500 (Nov 2025)**. ■ Total disbursed since launch nears **Rs 69,050 crore**; **FY 2026-27** provision is about **Rs 23,882 crore**. ■ CM also did bhoomi-poojan/inauguration of works worth over **Rs 221 crore** in Shivpuri.
Way Fwd	Linking cash transfers with **skilling and livelihood** can turn welfare into lasting economic empowerment.
Concept	**DBT**, **JAM trinity** (Jan Dhan-Aadhaar-Mobile); enabling provision **Article 15(3)** for special measures for women.



MP widens wildlife push: cheetah tally reaches 57

ENVIRONMENT **MPPSC: Prelims + Mains GS-III (Environment & Ecology)**

Syllabus	MPPSC Prelims (MP national parks, tiger reserves); Mains GS-III - conservation, biodiversity, Project Cheetah.
Context	Per official data, Madhya Pradesh is moving from the **'Tiger State'** tag towards a broader **'Wildlife State'** identity, with the **cheetah population reaching 57** and vulture conservation gaining pace.
Key Facts	■ MP has the **most tigers** in India and the country's **largest forest cover**. ■ **Project Cheetah** runs at **Kuno National Park** (Sheopur); a third home is readied at **Nauradehi / Veerangana Durgavati**. ■ Key tiger reserves: **Kanha, Bandhavgarh, Pench, Panna, Satpura, Sanjay-Dubri, Veerangana Durgavati**. ■ Cheetah is the only **large carnivore** reintroduced to India after being declared extinct here in **1952**.
Way Fwd	Secure **habitat corridors**, community-based conservation and eco-tourism revenue-sharing for local tribals.
Concept	**Project Cheetah** (2022); **IUCN Red List**; **CITES**; prey-base and metapopulation management.

MADHYA PRADESH — FROM 'TIGER STATE' TO 'WILDLIFE STATE'

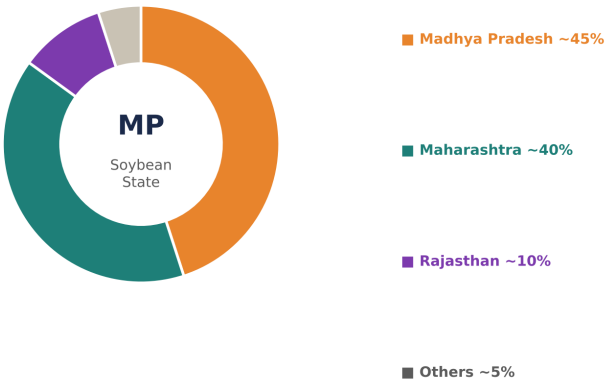


Soybean Bhavantar scheme shields MP's 'Soybean State' growers

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

Syllabus	MPPSC Prelims (MP crops, MSP); Mains GS-III - agricultural marketing, price support, farmer welfare.
Context	Madhya Pradesh - India's **largest soybean producer** - is implementing the **Soybean Bhavantar scheme** for the **2026 kharif** season to protect growers when market prices fall below the **MSP**.
Key Facts	■ Farmers register on the **e-Uparjan portal**; payment via **DBT** equals **MSP minus** the higher of sale/model rate. ■ Scheme follows **Price Deficiency Payment (PDPS)** guidelines under **PM-AASHA**. ■ The **Malwa region** is a key soybean belt; MP, Maharashtra & Rajasthan dominate output. ■ Cabinet also cleared the **Jabalpur-Indore Economic Corridor** and proposals of about **Rs 27,050 crore**.
Way Fwd	Promote **crop diversification**, **value addition** (soy processing) and warehouse-based procurement.
Concept	**MSP**, **PM-AASHA**, **PDPS**, Bhavantar Bhugtan Yojana; buffer of market risk for oilseeds.

Soybean Cultivation — Major Share (indicative)



Jabalpur-Indore Economic Corridor SPV cleared; GIS-2027 push begins

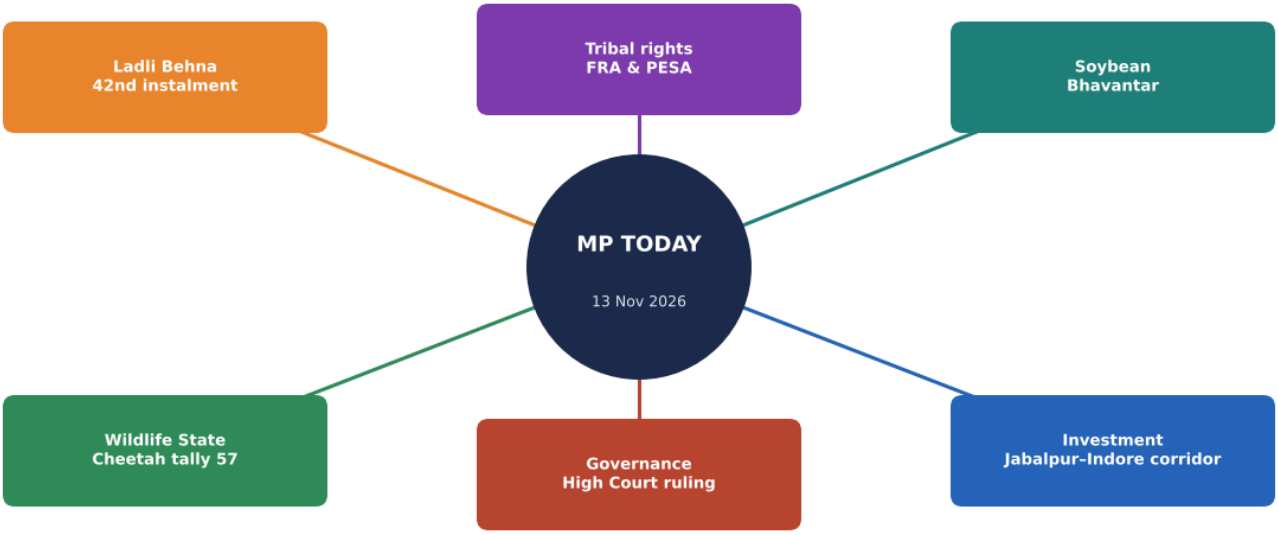
ECONOMY **MPPSC: Prelims + Mains GS-III (Economy & Infrastructure)**

Syllabus	MPPSC Prelims (MP industry, investment summits); Mains GS-III - industrial growth, infrastructure, GSDP.
Context	The state approved a fully government-owned **Special Purpose Vehicle (SPV)** to build the **Jabalpur-Indore Economic Corridor**, as MP began its **GIS-2027** investment outreach with a Delhi investor meet and tech conclave.
Key Facts	■ SPV launched with **Rs 100 crore** initial paid-up capital for industrial, logistics, IT parks & **GCCs**. ■ **GIS-2025** (Bhopal) drew investment intentions of about **Rs 26.6 lakh crore**. ■ MP targets a **GSDP of Rs 248.6 lakh crore by 2047-48** (Viksit MP vision). ■ Series of **Regional Industry Conclaves** held across districts to decentralise investment.
Way Fwd	Improve **ease of doing business**, cluster development and last-mile logistics to convert MoUs into jobs.
Concept	**SPV**, **GCC** (Global Capability Centre), industrial corridors, **GSDP** vs GDP.

MP High Court upholds a girl's right to pursue education

POLITY **MPPSC: Prelims + Mains GS-II (Polity & Social Justice)**

Syllabus	MPPSC Prelims (Fundamental Rights, High Courts); Mains GS-II - judiciary, rights of women & children.
Context	The **Madhya Pradesh High Court** (principal seat **Jabalpur**) upheld a young woman's **right to study**, rebuking a father who opposed her continuing education.
Key Facts	■ Court underlined education as integral to **personal liberty** and dignity. ■ Links to **Article 21** (life & liberty) and **Article 21A** (right to education). ■ **RTE Act, 2009** guarantees free & compulsory education for ages **6-14**. ■ MP High Court has benches at **Jabalpur, Indore and Gwalior**.
Way Fwd	Strengthen awareness and **girl-child education** incentives to reduce drop-outs.
Concept	**Article 21/21A**, **RTE Act 2009**; expansive reading of the right to life.



SECTION B — DATA POINT OF THE DAY

6.09%

India CPI (Retail) Inflation - October 2026

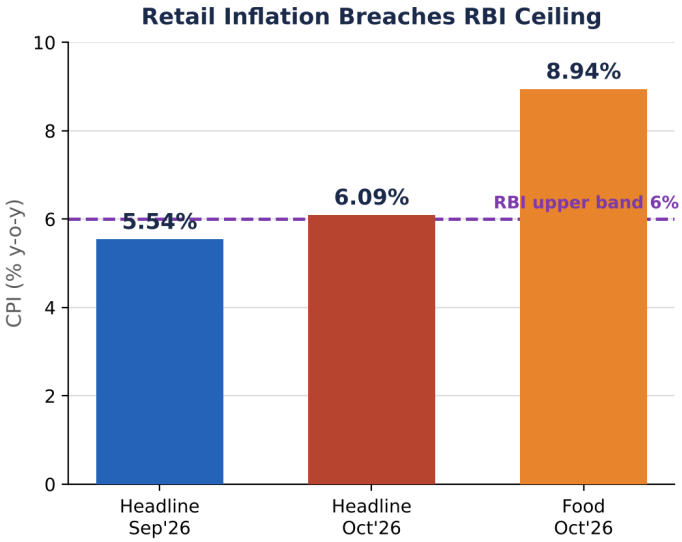
A 24-month high, up from 5.54% in September; food inflation at 8.94%, breaching the RBI's 6% upper tolerance band and clouding the December rate decision.

SECTION C — NATIONAL & WORLD

Retail inflation breaches RBI ceiling: 6.09% in October 2026

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

Syllabus	MPPSC Prelims (inflation, RBI, CPI); Mains GS-III - monetary policy, price stability, growth.
Context	India's **retail (CPI) inflation** rose to a **24-month high of 6.09%** in **October 2026**, crossing the RBI's **6% upper tolerance limit** and raising the odds of action at the **December MPC** meeting.
Key Facts	■ Headline CPI **6.09%** (vs **5.54%** in September 2026); **food inflation** at **8.94%**. ■ RBI's flexible inflation target is **4% +/- 2%** (band of 2-6%). ■ Current **repo rate** is **5.5%**; rising prices complicate any rate decision. ■ Driven largely by **food** (vegetables, pulses, edible oils).
Way Fwd	Supply-side steps - **buffer-stock release**, imports, and monitoring - to anchor food prices.
Concept	**CPI**, **MPC**, inflation targeting (**RBI Act amendment, 2016**), tolerance band, repo rate.





India, US seal a 10-year defence framework

DEFENCE **MPPSC: Prelims + Mains GS-II (IR & Security)**

Syllabus	MPPSC Prelims (defence agreements); Mains GS-II/III - India-US ties, defence cooperation.
Context	India and the United States signed a **10-year defence framework** in **Kuala Lumpur** on the sidelines of an **ASEAN defence meeting**, deepening ties after recent trade frictions.
Key Facts	■ Framework pushes **co-production**, **technology transfer** and joint exercises. ■ Signed by India's **Defence Minister** and the US side at the ASEAN-plus meet. ■ Builds on foundational pacts: **GSOMIA, LEMOA, COMCASA, BECA**. ■ Reflects India's balancing of ties with both the **US and Russia**.
Way Fwd	Leverage co-production for **Atmanirbhar Bharat** in defence while guarding strategic autonomy.
Concept	**Multi-alignment**, **Quad**, foundational defence agreements, defence indigenisation.

New Delhi gears up for the 23rd India-Russia Annual Summit

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

Syllabus	MPPSC Prelims (India's bilateral ties); Mains GS-II - India & the world, strategic partnerships.
Context	Preparations are on for the **23rd India-Russia Annual Summit**, with President **Vladimir Putin** set to visit **New Delhi on 4-5 December 2026**; defence ministers held talks ahead of the summit.
Key Facts	■ The partnership marks about **25 years** of the **Strategic Partnership** (since 2000). ■ Agenda: **S-400**, **Su-57** fighters, energy (oil, LNG, **KKNPP** nuclear), rare earths. ■ India follows a policy of **strategic autonomy / multi-alignment**. ■ Connectivity focus: **INSTC** and the **Chennai-Vladivostok** maritime corridor.
Way Fwd	Diversify trade beyond energy and operationalise **rupee-rouble** settlement for balance.
Concept	**Special & Privileged Strategic Partnership**; **INSTC**; strategic autonomy.

SC: cultivation without forest residence gives no FRA status

POLITY **MPPSC: Prelims + Mains GS-II (Polity & Tribal Rights)**

Syllabus	MPPSC Prelims (FRA, tribal welfare); Mains GS-II - rights of STs, Fifth Schedule, governance.
Context	The **Supreme Court** held that **mere cultivation** of forest land, without actual **residence** in the forest, does not by itself confer **'forest dweller' status** under the **Forest Rights Act** - a ruling of direct relevance to tribal-majority MP.
Key Facts	■ Claims must satisfy the **'forest dwelling'** test, verified by the **Gram Sabha**. ■ **FRA, 2006** recognises individual & community forest rights of **FDST & OTFD**. ■ MP has India's **largest tribal (ST) population**, making FRA implementation vital. ■ Works with **PESA, 1996** and **Fifth Schedule** protections for Scheduled Areas.
Way Fwd	Speed up fair, **Gram Sabha-led** claim settlement and converge FRA with PESA.
Concept	**FRA 2006**, **PESA 1996**, **Fifth Schedule**, Gram Sabha, FDST/OTFD.

ISRO readies uncrewed Gaganyaan test flight

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

Syllabus	MPPSC Prelims (space missions, ISRO); Mains GS-III - achievements in S&T;, indigenisation.
Context	**ISRO** is preparing the first **uncrewed Gaganyaan** test mission (**G1**) for **late 2026**, a key step towards India's maiden human spaceflight.
Key Facts	■ Launch vehicle: **LVM-3** (human-rated); crew module to reach **Low Earth Orbit (~400 km)**. ■ The humanoid robot **Vyommitra** will fly on an uncrewed mission. ■ Crewed **Gaganyaan** flight targeted around **2027**. ■ Regulator **IN-SPACe** promotes private participation in space.
Way Fwd	Validate **crew-escape** and life-support systems before the crewed launch.
Concept	**Gaganyaan**, **LVM-3**, LEO, **IN-SPACe**, human-rating of launch vehicles.

SECTION D — PRELIMS RAPID-FIRE

▶ MP's Ladli Behna gives Rs 1,500/month to over 1.24 crore women via DBT.

▶ India's RBI inflation target: 4% with a +/-2% tolerance band (2-6%).

▶ Kuno National Park (Sheopur) is India's first cheetah reintroduction site.

▶ President Putin to visit India on 4-5 Dec 2026 for the 23rd Annual Summit.

▶ MP is India's largest producer of soybean (the 'Soybean State').

▶ FRA, 2006 recognises forest rights of FDST and OTFD communities.

SECTION E — PRACTICE CORNER

Q1. With reference to the Mukhyamantri Ladli Behna Yojana of Madhya Pradesh, consider the following statements:
1. The current monthly assistance is Rs 1,500 per eligible woman.
2. The amount is transferred through Aadhaar-linked Direct Benefit Transfer.
Which of the statements given above is/are correct?
(A) 1 only
(B) 2 only
(C) Both 1 and 2
(D) Neither 1 nor 2
Ans: (C) The scheme now pays Rs 1,500/month (raised from Rs 1,000, then Rs 1,250) and is credited via Aadhaar-linked DBT. Both statements are correct.

Q2. The Reserve Bank of India's flexible inflation targeting framework sets the Consumer Price Index (CPI) inflation target at:
(A) 2% within a band of +/-1%
(B) 4% within a band of +/-2%
(C) 5% within a band of +/-2%
(D) 6% within a band of +/-1%
Ans: (B) Under the 2016 framework, the CPI inflation target is 4% with a tolerance band of +/-2% (i.e., 2% to 6%). October 2026's 6.09% breaches the upper limit.

Mains Practice: Direct Benefit Transfer-based welfare schemes such as Ladli Behna have expanded rapidly in Madhya Pradesh. Examine their impact on women's empowerment and the fiscal challenges they pose. (250 words)
Hint: Cover empowerment gains (financial inclusion, agency, consumption), fiscal cost vs state revenue, crowding-out of capital spending; suggest linking transfers with skilling, jobs and outcome audits.

REMEMBER: Ladli Behna 42nd instalment = Rs 1,831 cr to 1.24 cr women | Oct CPI = 6.09% (food 8.94%) | MP cheetahs = 57 | Putin's 23rd India-Russia Summit on 4-5 Dec 2026.

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