CURRENT AFFAIRS — 14 OCT 2026

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DAILY CURRENT AFFAIRS FOR MPPSC

Wednesday, 14 October 2026 • Asia/Kolkata (IST) • Madhya Pradesh + National • MPPSC Prelims & Mains digest

TODAY AT A GLANCE — 10 THINGS TO REMEMBER

- Ladli Behna: 41st single-click DBT instalment transferred.
- ₹1,500/month to ~1.25 cr women; FY27 outlay ₹23,882.81 cr.
- MP's 3rd cheetah home: Veerangana Durgavati (Nauradehi) TR.
- India's cheetah tally now 60 (41 India-born); a Kuno cub died.
- MP Travel Mart: ~₹3,729 cr tourism pledges, 10,263 B2B meets.
- Urban Conclave-2026 at Indore on 28 Oct; eyes Simhastha 2028.
- Soybean State: MP opens kharif-2026 MSP procurement.
- Retail inflation 5.54%, food 7.74% (Sep); onion +108% YoY.
- Nobel Economics 2026: Robert Hall & Michael Woodford.
- First BIMSTEC Home Ministers' Meeting, chaired by Amit Shah.

MADHYA PRADESH SPECIAL — SECTION A

Ladli Behna's 41st instalment: ₹1,500 reaches ~1.25 crore women

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

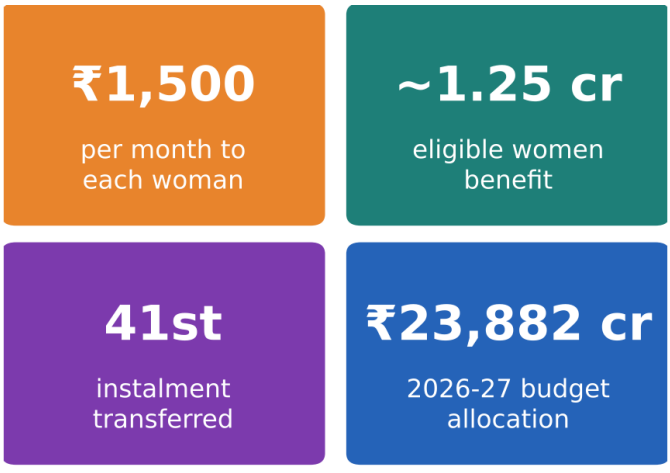
Syllabus Linkage	Prelims — MP flagship schemes, DBT, state Budget; Mains GS-II — welfare schemes for vulnerable sections, women empowerment.
Context	CM Dr. Mohan Yadav transferred the 41st instalment of the Mukhyamantri Ladli Behna Yojana by single-click DBT from Umaria on 14 October 2026, alongside 136 development projects worth ₹144.15 crore in Bandhavgarh and Manpur.
Key Facts	• ₹1,500 per month to about 1.25 crore eligible women (₹900 for those drawing a social-security pension). • Scheme launched June 2023; 40 instalments already paid by September 2026. • 2026-27 budget allocation: ₹23,882.81 crore for the scheme. • Funds routed through Aadhaar-linked, DBT-enabled bank accounts. • 136 projects (₹144.15 crore) inaugurated / foundation-laid the same day.
Way Fwd	Protect fiscal space through targeted DBT and periodic beneficiary audits so transfers convert into real gains in women's financial autonomy, health and nutrition.
Concept	DBT routes subsidies to Aadhaar-seeded accounts, cutting leakage; Article 15(3) permits special provisions for women; cash transfers reflect the 'feminisation of welfare'.

MP opens a third cheetah home; India's count touches 60

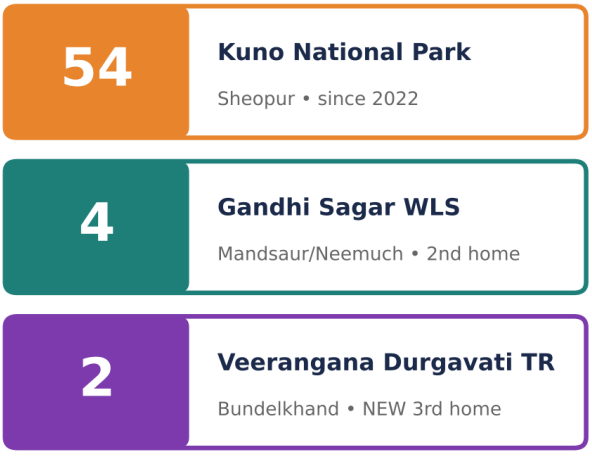
MADHYA PRADESH | MPPSC: Prelims + Mains GS-III (Environment & Ecology)

Syllabus Linkage	Prelims — Project Cheetah, MP protected areas; Mains GS-III — conservation, species reintroduction, human-wildlife management.
Context	Two cheetahs (Tholo and CCB-3) were shifted from Kuno to Veerangana Durgavati (Nauradehi) Tiger Reserve in Bundelkhand — MP's third cheetah home — even as an 8-month-old Kuno cub died, taking India's 2026 toll to seven.
Key Facts	• India's cheetah population now 60 (including 41 born in India). • Three MP homes: Kuno (~54), Gandhi Sagar WLS (4), Veerangana Durgavati TR (2). • Veerangana Durgavati ≈ 2,339 sq km across Sagar, Damoh, Narsinghpur — MP's largest reserve. • Project Cheetah began 17 September 2022 with Namibian cheetahs at Kuno. • Female KJP21 gave birth to 5 cubs at Kuno on 5 October 2026.
Way Fwd	Build a cheetah metapopulation across multiple reserves, strengthen the prey base and veterinary surveillance, and finalise a dedicated conservation protocol.
Concept	Cheetah (Acinonyx jubatus) is IUCN Vulnerable; Project Cheetah is the world's only intercontinental large-carnivore translocation; MP is both Tiger State and India's cheetah state.

Ladli Behna — single-click transfer



Project Cheetah — MP's 3 homes (India: 60)

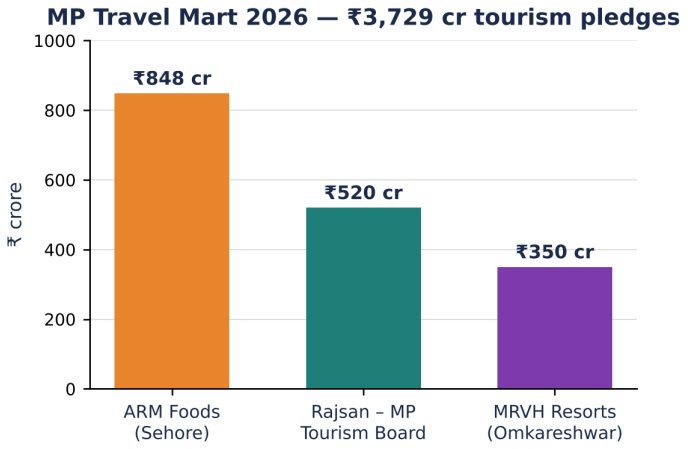


41 of India's 60 cheetahs born in India

MP Travel Mart draws ₹3,729 crore in tourism pledges

MADHYA PRADESH MPPSC: Prelims + Mains GS-I/III (Geography & Tourism Economy)

Syllabus Linkage	Prelims — MP tourism circuits & heritage sites; Mains GS-I geography/culture, GS-III investment, employment & infrastructure.
Context	The 7th MP Travel Mart (MPTM) at Bhopal drew private tourism investment proposals of about ₹3,729 crore and a record 10,263 B2B meetings (reported 13 October 2026).
Key Facts	• Proposals span luxury hotels, wellness resorts, golf courses and wildlife lodges. • Top deals: ARM Foods ₹848.4 cr (Sehore), Rajsan–MP Tourism Board ₹520 cr, MRVH Resorts ₹350 cr (Omkareshwar). • 100+ international tour operators from 34 countries, 180 domestic operators, 600+ stakeholders, 177 stalls. • B2B meetings up 14% over the previous edition. • State has 18 five-star hotels, with 15 more planned by 2027.
Way Fwd	Convert MoUs into grounded projects via single-window clearances and skilling, leveraging MP's wildlife–heritage–spiritual circuits ahead of Simhastha 2028.
Concept	Tourism multiplier and employment elasticity; MP circuits include Khajuraho, Sanchi, Bhimbetka, Ujjain Mahakal and tiger reserves; MP brands itself the 'Heart of Incredible India'.



Indore to host Urban Conclave-2026 ahead of Simhastha 2028

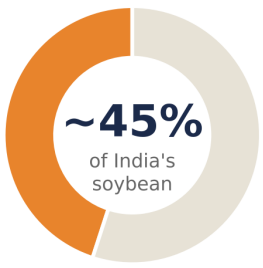
MADHYA PRADESH MPPSC: Prelims + Mains GS-II (Urban Governance)

Syllabus Linkage	Prelims — urban missions, Swachh Survekshan, Simhastha; Mains GS-II — urban local bodies, service delivery; GS-I urbanisation.
Context	MP will hold Urban Conclave-2026 at Indore on 28 October 2026 to attract infrastructure investment for Tier-2 cities and smart-city upgrades, with preparations for Simhastha 2028 at Ujjain in focus.
Key Facts	• Venue: Indore, repeatedly India's cleanest city (Swachh Survekshan). • Focus: Tier-2 city development, urban infrastructure, Smart Cities. • Aligned to Simhastha Kumbh 2028 (Ujjain) preparedness. • Indore being positioned for both business and pilgrim tourism (new hotels).
Way Fwd	Pair capital investment with municipal finance reform (property tax, user charges) and transit-oriented development for sustainable, inclusive urbanisation.
Concept	Simhastha is Ujjain's 12-yearly Kumbh on the Kshipra; schemes include AMRUT 2.0 and the Smart Cities Mission; Indore has topped Swachh Survekshan multiple times.

'Soybean State' opens MSP procurement for kharif 2026

MADHYA PRADESH MPPSC: Prelims + Mains GS-III (Agriculture & Economy)

Syllabus Linkage	Prelims — MSP, CACP, major crops & soils of MP; Mains GS-III — agricultural marketing, farmer incomes, procurement.
Context	Madhya Pradesh — India's largest soybean producer — has opened farmer registration for kharif 2026 soybean procurement at MSP, with buying by the state cooperative marketing federation.
Key Facts	• MP grows about 45% of India's soybean — the 'Soybean State'. • Registration opened in early October 2026 on the e-Uparjan portal. • Procurement by the MP State Cooperative Marketing Federation across ~1,400 centres. • MSP-backed buying shields farmers from a market price crash. • The Malwa plateau with black (regur) soil is the state's soybean belt.
Way Fwd	Ensure timely procurement, warehousing and soya processing (value chain) and promote crop diversification to stabilise farmer incomes.
Concept	MSP is recommended by the CACP for 14 kharif crops; soybean is a kharif, regur-soil oilseed; e-Uparjan is MP's online procurement platform.



MP — India's 'Soybean State'

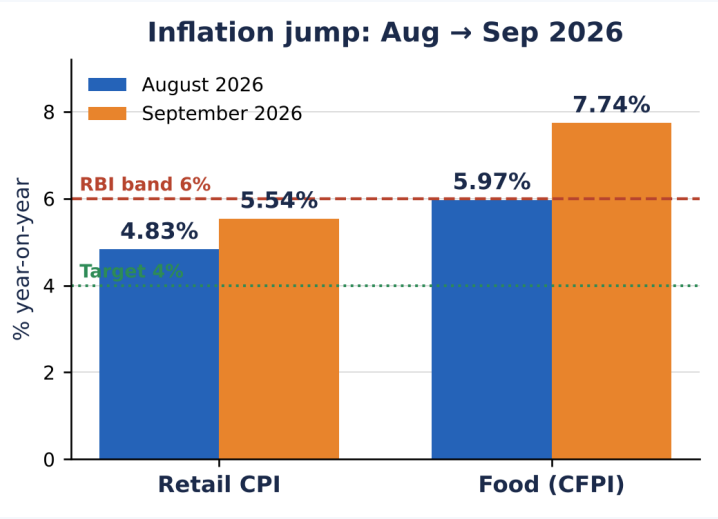
- Largest producer in India
- Malwa plateau, black soil
- MSP procurement underway
- e-Uparjan registration open

DATA POINT OF THE DAY SECTION B

India retail inflation — September 2026

5.54% (food 7.74%)

Up from 4.83% in August; still within the RBI's 2–6% band but above the 4% target. Onion prices up ~108% year-on-year.

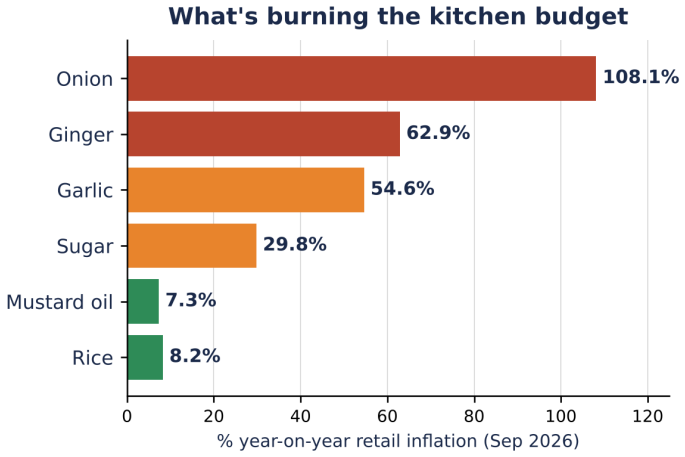


NATIONAL & WORLD — SECTION C

Retail inflation climbs to 5.54% as food prices surge

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

Syllabus Linkage	Prelims — CPI, CFPI, RBI inflation targeting; Mains GS-III — inflation, monetary policy, price stability.
Context	Provisional data (released 12 October 2026) show September retail (CPI) inflation at 5.54% — up from 4.83% in August — driven by food inflation of 7.74%.
Key Facts	• CPI 5.54% (Aug 4.83%); food inflation 7.74% (Aug 5.97%). • Rural food 8.06%, urban food 7.18%. • Year-on-year: onion +108%, ginger +62.85%, garlic +54.62%, sugar +29.8%. • RBI targets 4% CPI within a 2–6% tolerance band. • Measures: foodgrain releases, PDS strengthening, calibrated trade policy.
Way Fwd	Pair short-term supply management with long-term cold storage, e-NAM and climate-resilient agriculture to tame volatile food prices.
Concept	CPI (headline) is the RBI's anchor under flexible inflation targeting (since 2016); CFPI tracks food; compiled by MoSPI.



Hall and Woodford win the 2026 Nobel in Economics

REPORT MPPSC: Prelims + Mains GS-III (Economy) / GS-II (International)

Syllabus Linkage	Prelims — Nobel Prizes, awardees & fields; Mains GS-III — macroeconomics, monetary & fiscal stabilisation.
Context	The Royal Swedish Academy of Sciences awarded the 2026 Sveriges Riksbank Prize in Economic Sciences (announced 12 October 2026) to Robert E. Hall and Michael Woodford.
Key Facts	• Honoured for the microeconomic foundations of macroeconomic stabilisation. • Their work explains macroeconomic fluctuations and how monetary and fiscal policy respond to shocks. • The economics prize is not an original Nobel; it was instituted by Sweden's central bank in 1968. • Both laureates are American economists.
Way Fwd	Their framework informs how central banks like the RBI calibrate interest rates and fiscal support during inflation and recession.
Concept	The Nobel Memorial Prize in Economic Sciences is administered with other Nobels; 'stabilisation' = smoothing the business cycle via policy.

India hosts first BIMSTEC Home Ministers' Meeting

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

Syllabus Linkage	Prelims — BIMSTEC facts, members, HQ; Mains GS-II — regional groupings, India's neighbourhood & security diplomacy.
Context	The first BIMSTEC Home Ministers' Meeting was held in New Delhi on 13 October 2026, chaired by Union Home Minister Amit Shah.
Key Facts	• Focus: counter-terrorism, drug and human trafficking, money laundering, cyber threats, disaster preparedness. • BIMSTEC established 6 June 1997 (Bangkok Declaration); HQ at Dhaka. • Seven members: Bangladesh, Bhutan, India, Myanmar, Nepal, Sri Lanka, Thailand. • India leads the security pillar; 6th Summit (Bangkok, 2025) adopted Bangkok Vision 2030.
Way Fwd	Operationalise a regional security architecture — intelligence sharing and a common legal framework against transnational crime — to make BIMSTEC a credible alternative to a stalled SAARC.
Concept	BIMSTEC = Bay of Bengal Initiative for Multi-Sectoral Technical and Economic Cooperation; bridges South and Southeast Asia.

INS Samarthak to be commissioned at Karwar on 16 October

DEFENCE MPPSC: Prelims + Mains GS-III (Security & Defence)

Syllabus Linkage	Prelims — indigenous naval platforms, Make in India; Mains GS-III — defence modernisation, self-reliance (Aatmanirbhar Bharat).
Context	The Indian Navy will commission INS Samarthak, a Multi-Purpose Vessel, at Naval Base Karwar on 16 October 2026 — the first of four built under Make in India.
Key Facts	• Built by Larsen & Toubro under Make in India; first of four planned. • Roles: maritime surveillance & patrol, HADR, mothership for unmanned systems, salvage support. • Can be converted into a limited-capacity hospital ship. • Motto: 'Vijayartham Ekanishtha' (Victory is Our Sole Aim).
Way Fwd	Scale up indigenous shipbuilding and unmanned maritime systems to secure the Indian Ocean Region at lower cost.
Concept	Make in India / Aatmanirbhar Bharat in defence; HADR = Humanitarian Assistance & Disaster Relief; vessels prefixed INS (Indian Naval Ship).

Free legal aid for undertrials back in focus

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

Syllabus Linkage	Prelims — Article 39A, NALSA, Legal Services Authorities Act; Mains GS-II — access to justice, DPSP, rights of prisoners.
Context	Concerns over the renewal of Legal Aid Defence Counsel contracts have renewed debate on free legal aid for undertrial prisoners and timely access to justice.
Key Facts	• Article 39A (added by the 42nd Amendment, 1976) mandates free legal aid. • Related rights: Articles 14, 21 and 22(1). • Legal Services Authorities Act, 1987 (in force 9 Nov 1995) set up NALSA, SLSAs, DLSAs. • Section 12 lists categories eligible for free legal services.
Way Fwd	Guarantee continuity and quality of Legal Aid Defence Counsel, speed up undertrial release reviews, and expand legal literacy to make Article 39A real.
Concept	Article 39A is a DPSP; read with Article 21, the SC has held free legal aid a fundamental right (Hussainara Khatoon case).

Today's exam themes at a glance



Today's exam themes — how the day's stories map onto the MPPSC syllabus.

PRELIMS RAPID-FIRE SECTION D

- World Standards Day is observed on 14 October.
- 14 Oct 1956: Dr B.R. Ambedkar embraced Buddhism at Deekshabhoomi, Nagpur (Dhammachakra Pravartan Din).
- Indian Army received 450 Nagastra-1R loitering munitions via emergency procurement.
- Four MP tribal crops (Dindori Kutki, Baigani Arhar, Jabalpur-Katni rice) hold GI tags.
- India and the Czech Republic agreed to deepen defence industrial cooperation.
- India's forex reserves touched a fresh all-time high (RBI weekly data).

PRACTICE CORNER SECTION E

Q1. With reference to the Veerangana Durgavati (Nauradehi) Tiger Reserve, consider the following:
1. It lies in the Bundelkhand region, spread across Sagar, Damoh and Narsinghpur districts.
2. It is Madhya Pradesh's third cheetah habitat after Kuno and Gandhi Sagar.
Which of the statements is/are correct?

(A) 1 only (B) 2 only
(C) Both 1 and 2 (D) Neither 1 nor 2

Ans: (C) Veerangana Durgavati (Nauradehi), ~2,339 sq km across Sagar, Damoh and Narsinghpur, is MP's largest reserve and now its third cheetah home. Both statements are correct.

Q2. Consider the following about India's retail inflation framework:
1. Headline retail inflation is measured using the Consumer Price Index (CPI) compiled by MoSPI.
2. Under flexible inflation targeting, the RBI aims for 4% CPI within a 2–6% tolerance band.
Which of the statements is/are correct?

(A) 1 only (B) 2 only
(C) Both 1 and 2 (D) Neither 1 nor 2

Ans: (C) MoSPI compiles the CPI; the RBI's flexible inflation targeting (since 2016) sets a 4% target within a 2–6% band. September 2026 CPI of 5.54% is within the band but above target. Both correct.

Mains practice: Cash-transfer schemes such as the Ladli Behna Yojana have reshaped welfare delivery in Madhya Pradesh. Examine their impact on women's empowerment and discuss the challenge of fiscal sustainability. (250 words)

Hint: Cover direct income support & DBT, agency and nutrition outcomes; then weigh the budget burden (₹23,882.81 crore in 2026-27), crowding-out of capital spending, and the need for targeting and outcome audits.

QUICK REVISION: Remember: Ladli Behna 41st instalment (₹1,500 × ~1.25 cr women) • MP's 3rd cheetah home Veerangana Durgavati • India cheetahs 60 • CPI 5.54%/food 7.74% • Nobel Economics: Hall & Woodford • 1st BIMSTEC Home Ministers' Meeting.

Compiled & simplified by the StudyForGS.com Research Team

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