

TODAY AT A GLANCE — 10 THINGS TO REMEMBER

- MP Cabinet clears ₹41,000 cr package; VB-GRAM-G rural scheme gets ₹29,619 cr.
- Ladli Behna 40th installment: ₹1,500 each to 1.25 crore women (Sep 13).
- Wheat MSP for Rabi 2026-27 set at ₹2,600/ql (₹2,585 + ₹15 state bonus).
- Project Cheetah nears 4 years; Kuno→Gandhi Sagar expansion continues.
- Ujjain to attempt a world-record lamp-lighting at Mahakal Lok on Sep 17.
- Retail inflation (CPI) rises to 4.82% in August 2026; food at 5.95%.
- Bankers' Books Evidence Act, 2026 to take effect from October 1.
- Global Fintech Fest 2026: RBI names 2nd fintech SRO; SEBI pilots Demat 2.0.
- Rajnath Singh's Sri Lanka visit — first by a Defence Minister in ~40 years.
- Paris Space Summit: India-France ink 3 space pacts amid €20 bn of deals.

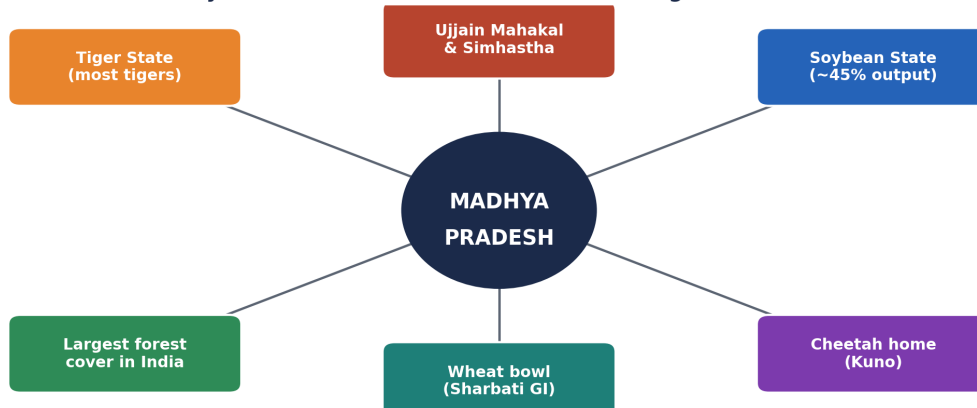
SECTION A — MADHYA PRADESH SPECIAL

Ladli Behna's 40th installment reaches 1.25 crore women

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

Syllabus Linkage	Welfare schemes for women; DBT; Prelims: installment, amount, coverage.
Context	CM Mohan Yadav released the 40th installment of the Mukhyamantri Ladli Behna Yojana at a state-level event in Agar-Malwa on September 13.
Key Facts	₹1,500 transferred to each of 1,25,22,542 (≈1.25 crore) eligible women via DBT. - Monthly outlay is roughly ₹1,878 crore. - August's payout was ₹1,750 as it carried a one-time ₹250 Raksha Bandhan gift; September reverts to the base ₹1,500. - The scheme targets women's financial empowerment and household nutrition.
	Mukhyamantri Ladli Behna Yojana — 40th Installment at a Glance ₹1,500 per woman / month 1.25 crore eligible women 40th installment (Sep 13) ~₹1,878 cr monthly DBT outlay Agar-Malwa state-level launch
Way Fwd	Predictable transfers aid women's agency; long-run gains depend on linking cash with skilling and jobs.
Concept	Direct Benefit Transfer (DBT); gender budgeting; Article 15(3) enabling special provisions for women.

Why MP Matters for MPPSC — India-Leading Distinctions



MP Cabinet clears ₹41,000 crore development package

MADHYA PRADESH

MPPSC: Prelims + Mains GS-III (Economy & Governance)

Syllabus Linkage	MP state economy, budgeting & schemes; Prelims: VB-GRAM-G, NDDB, moong MSP.												
Context	The Mohan Yadav Cabinet approved a package worth about ₹41,000 crore spanning rural development, roads, dairy, health and higher education.												
Key Facts	● Viksit Bharat — VB-GRAM-G rural scheme cleared with a total outlay of ₹29,619 crore (2026-31). ● Western Bhopal Bypass (35.61 km, 4-lane) and the Mehlua-Bina-Khimlasa-Malthone road (67.1 km) approved. ● ₹2,973 crore dairy plan with the National Dairy Development Board (NDDB). ● Summer moong procurement limit raised from 25% to 60%; Rajiv Gandhi Proudhyogiki Vishwavidyalaya split into 3 tech universities (Bhopal, Ujjain, Jabalpur).												
	MP Cabinet: ₹41,000 cr Package — Key Heads <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Category</th> <th>Outlay (₹ crore)</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Viksit Bharat VB-GRAM-G</td> <td>29,619</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Bhopal Bypass + Mehlua road</td> <td>6,979</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Dairy Dev. (with NDDB)</td> <td>2,973</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Healthcare upkeep</td> <td>1,404</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Higher Edu. 3 Tech Univ.</td> <td>500</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Category	Outlay (₹ crore)	Viksit Bharat VB-GRAM-G	29,619	Bhopal Bypass + Mehlua road	6,979	Dairy Dev. (with NDDB)	2,973	Healthcare upkeep	1,404	Higher Edu. 3 Tech Univ.	500
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Way Fwd	Layering asset-creating capex over welfare can widen MP's fiscal base if execution and debt stay disciplined.												
Concept	DBT vs capex; cooperative federalism (NDDB); MSP & procurement mechanics; state technical education reform.												

Wheat MSP for Rabi 2026-27 fixed at ₹2,600/quintal

ECONOMY

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

Syllabus Linkage	MSP, procurement, MP agriculture; Prelims: Bhavantar, Sharbati wheat, soybean.
Context	MP set its wheat procurement price for Rabi 2026-27 at ₹2,600/quintal even as it remains the country's leading soybean producer.
Key Facts	● Price = Union MSP ₹2,585 + state bonus ₹15 = ₹2,600/quintal. ● NCCF to handle procurement; last season paid ≈₹16,000 crore for 77 lakh tonnes of wheat. ● Under the Bhavantar support, soybean farmers get an effective ₹5,328/quintal. ● MP is the 'Soybean State' (≈45% of India's output) and grows GI-tagged Sharbati wheat.
	The 'Soybean State' — MP's Share of India's Soybean Production ~45% of India's soybean
Way Fwd	Bonus-led price support must be balanced with crop diversification and warehousing to curb fiscal and glut risks.
Concept	MSP & CACP; price-deficiency (Bhavantar) model; GI tags; procurement via cooperatives (NCCF).

Ujjain plans world-record lamp-lighting at Mahakal on Sep 17

MADHYA PRADESH

MPPSC: Prelims + Mains GS-I (Art & Culture) + GS-II

Syllabus Linkage	MP culture & heritage; Prelims: Mahakal Lok, Simhastha, Ujjain.
Context	The state government will attempt a world record for the largest lamp-lighting at Mahakal Lok, Ujjain on September 17, launching a month-long service campaign.
Key Facts	● About 58 lakh (5.8 million) lamps to be lit simultaneously at 7 pm across gram panchayats and urban wards. ● Named 'Ashirwad Ka Diya', framed as gratitude for 25 years of public service. ● Launches the month-long Seva-Sankalp Campaign (Sep 17 – Oct 17). ● Ujjain hosts the Mahakaleshwar Jyotirlinga and the twelve-yearly Simhastha Kumbh.
Way Fwd	Heritage-led events can boost religious tourism if crowd safety and civic infrastructure keep pace.
Concept	Jyotirlingas; Kumbh/Simhastha; cultural tourism economy; MP's temple-heritage circuit.

Project Cheetah nears 4 years; Kuno→Gandhi Sagar expansion continues

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

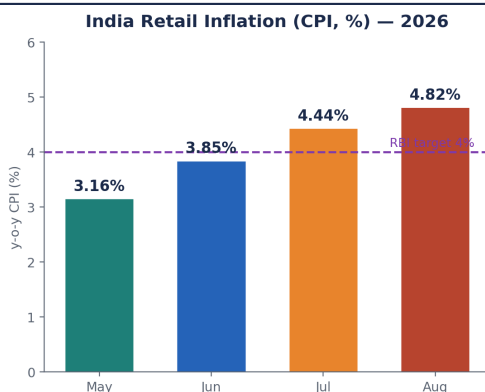
Syllabus Linkage	Wildlife reintroduction; protected areas of MP; Prelims: Kuno, Gandhi Sagar, cheetah source countries.
Context	As Project Cheetah approaches its fourth anniversary (launched 17 September 2022), MP is building a second cheetah home at the Gandhi Sagar Wildlife Sanctuary.
Key Facts	- First 8 cheetahs from Namibia (2022) and 12 from South Africa (2023) were released at Kuno NP, Sheopur district. - Cheetahs Prabhash and Pavak were the first shifted to Gandhi Sagar (Mandsaur-Neemuch) in 2025. - The programme has recorded India-born (second-generation) cubs. - A second habitat spreads ecological risk and supports a viable meta-population.
	Project Cheetah — Kuno (Sheopur) to Gandhi Sagar (Mandsaur-Neemuch) <pre> graph LR A["Sep 2022 8 Namibian cheetahs released at Kuno NP"] --> B["Feb 2023 12 South African cheetahs added"] B --> C["2024-25 Cubs born on Indian soil (2nd generation)"] C --> D["Apr 2025 Prabhash & Pavak moved to Gandhi Sagar"] D --> E["Sep 2026 Project Cheetah nears 4 years"] </pre>
Way Fwd	Prey-base build-up, corridor connectivity and community buy-in will decide long-term cheetah survival.
Concept	Species reintroduction; IUCN status; MP protected areas (Kuno, Kanha, Bandhavgarh, Pench, Panna, Satpura).

SECTION B — DATA POINT OF THE DAY

India Retail Inflation (CPI), August 2026

4.82%

Consumer Price Index inflation rose to 4.82% in August 2026 from 4.44% in July — the highest since December 2024 — with food inflation at 5.95%. It stays within the RBI's 4% (±2%) tolerance band.



SECTION C — NATIONAL & WORLD

Bankers' Books Evidence Act, 2026 to take effect from Oct 1

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

Syllabus Linkage	Laws & their modernisation; evidence law; Prelims: Act year, what it replaces.
Context	The Centre notified the Bankers' Books Evidence Act, 2026, a technology-neutral law that will replace the 1891 Act.
Key Facts	- Comes into force on October 1, 2026, replacing the 1891 Act. - Provides a technology-neutral framework for treating electronic bank records as evidence. - Aligns banking evidence rules with the new criminal-law and digital ecosystem.
Way Fwd	Clear standards for e-records can speed financial litigation while safeguarding data integrity.
Concept	Rules of evidence; digitisation of legal processes; colonial-era law reform.

Global Fintech Fest 2026: RBI names 2nd fintech SRO; SEBI's Demat 2.0

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

Syllabus Linkage	Financial regulation & fintech; Prelims: SRO, tokenised bonds, GFF.
Context	At the Global Fintech Fest 2026 in Mumbai, regulators unveiled steps to deepen India's digital-finance ecosystem.
Key Facts	● RBI recognised the Unified Fintech Forum (UFF) as a second Self-Regulatory Organisation (SRO) for fintech. ● SEBI launched a Demat 2.0 pilot for tokenised corporate bonds. ● PM Modi inaugurated the event (Sep 8-11); it is among the world's largest fintech gatherings.
Way Fwd	Self-regulation plus tokenisation can broaden markets, but consumer protection and cyber safeguards are key.
Concept	SRO model; asset tokenisation; RBI-SEBI regulatory perimeter; digital public infrastructure.

Paris Space Summit: India-France sign three space pacts

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

Syllabus Linkage	Space cooperation; India's S&T; diplomacy; Prelims: summit facts.
Context	At the International Space Summit 2026 in Paris, India and France signed three space-cooperation agreements amid record global deal-making.
Key Facts	● Summit (Paris, Sep 9-10) drew 90 countries and 51 announcements worth about €20 billion. ● India-France signed three space-cooperation agreements. ● Also this week, India held Exercise Samudra Laksamana (4th edition) with Malaysia off Lumut.
Way Fwd	Space diplomacy widens access to tech and markets; India must protect strategic autonomy in critical systems.
Concept	Space economy; India-France strategic partnership; ISRO/IN-SPACe; dual-use technology.

Rajnath Singh's Sri Lanka visit — first by a Defence Minister in ~40 years

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

Syllabus Linkage	India-neighbourhood; 'Neighbourhood First'; Prelims: MoUs, Bailey bridges.
Context	Defence Minister Rajnath Singh visited Sri Lanka — the first such visit by an Indian Defence Minister in about four decades.
Key Facts	● Visit spanned Sep 8-10, 2026; three MoUs signed on air-defence, military education and youth cooperation. ● Three Bailey Bridges were inaugurated as part of India's assistance. ● Reinforces India's 'Neighbourhood First' and maritime security in the Indian Ocean Region.
	National & World — Numbers to Remember Today ~40 yrs since last Def. Min. visit to Sri Lanka 90 nations at Paris Space Summit €20 bn space deals; India-France sign 3 pacts Oct 1 Bankers' Books Evidence Act, 2026 6 yrs of PMMSY (₹20,050 cr)
Way Fwd	Deeper defence ties can counter external influence in the IOR while respecting Sri Lanka's sovereignty.
Concept	Neighbourhood First; SAGAR doctrine; Indian Ocean Region strategy; defence diplomacy.

SECTION D — PRELIMS RAPID-FIRE

Q1. Kuno National Park is in Sheopur district; Gandhi Sagar sanctuary spans Mandsaur & Neemuch.	Q2. Madhya Pradesh has the largest forest cover of any Indian state.
Q3. Sharbati wheat (Sehore-Vidisha belt) carries a Geographical Indication (GI) tag.	Q4. India's CPI inflation for August 2026 was 4.82%; RBI's tolerance band is $4\% \pm 2\%$.
Q5. The Bankers' Books Evidence Act, 2026 replaces the 1891 Act from October 1.	Q6. Exercise Samudra Laksamana is a bilateral naval exercise of India and Malaysia.

SECTION E — PRACTICE CORNER

With reference to Project Cheetah, consider the following statements:

1. It was launched at Kuno National Park in Sheopur district, MP.
 2. The first cheetahs were brought from Namibia.
 3. Gandhi Sagar Wildlife Sanctuary is being developed as a second home.
- 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) Project Cheetah began at Kuno (Sheopur) on 17 Sep 2022 with 8 Namibian cheetahs; Gandhi Sagar (Mandsaur-Neemuch) is the second planned habitat. All three are correct.

With reference to India's retail inflation (CPI), consider the following:

1. It is compiled by the National Statistical Office (MoSPI).
 2. The RBI's inflation tolerance band is 2% to 6%.
 3. The August 2026 CPI print was 4.82%.
- Which are correct?

(A) 1 and 2 only (B) 2 and 3 only (C) 1 and 3 only (D) 1, 2 and 3

Ans: (D) CPI is released by NSO/MoSPI; the RBI's flexible inflation target is 4% with a 2%-6% band; the August 2026 reading was 4.82%. All correct.

Mains Practice: Madhya Pradesh's simultaneous pursuit of large welfare transfers (e.g., Ladli Behna) and a ₹41,000 crore asset-creating development package reflects a balance between direct benefit transfers and capital investment. Critically examine this fiscal strategy for a state economy. (250 words)

Hint: Discuss DBT's demand-side and empowerment gains vs capex's supply-side multipliers; touch fiscal deficit, debt sustainability, targeting, and execution capacity; conclude with a balanced, MP-specific view.

★ **ONE-LINE REVISION:** MP today = ₹41,000 cr Cabinet push + Ladli Behna 40th (₹1,500 x 1.25 cr) + Project Cheetah at ~4 yrs + Ujjain's Sep 17 lamp record; nationally, CPI 4.82%, Bankers' Books Act from Oct 1, and India-France space diplomacy.

Compiled & simplified by the StudyForGS.com Research Team

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