CURRENT AFFAIRS — 16-10-2026

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DAILY CURRENT AFFAIRS FOR MPPSC

TODAY AT A GLANCE — 10 THINGS TO REMEMBER

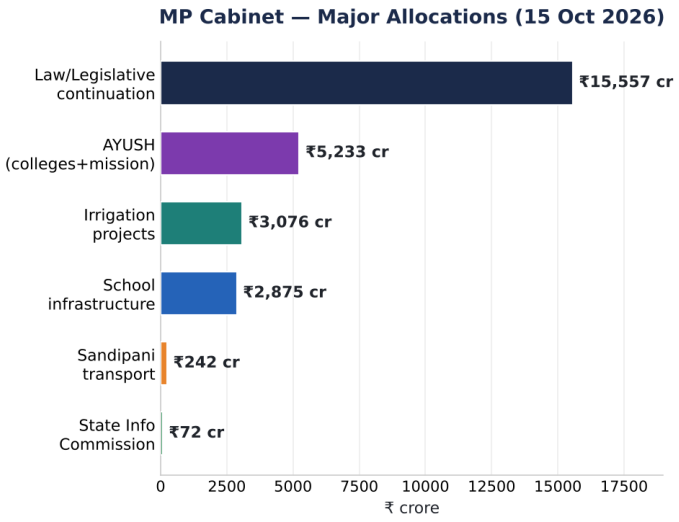
- MP Cabinet approves proposals worth about **₹27,050 crore**
- New state company for **Jabalpur-Bhopal-Indore Industrial Corridor** (₹100 cr capital)
- **Bhavantar Bhugtan Yojana** back for soybean; register on **e-Uparjan by 17 Oct**
- Project Cheetah: Kuno count rises to **60** cheetahs (**41** India-born)
- MP creates **4 fast-track courts** for exam paper-leak & cheating cases
- MP pushes an investor-friendly **Semiconductor Policy**
- **RBI** hikes repo rate to **5.50%**; stance 'calibrated tightening'
- **SC** notices Centre on lifelong immunity for Election Commissioners
- India launches **UNSC** non-permanent seat bid for **2028-29**
- India's merchandise exports jump **23%** YoY to **$44.4 bn** (Sep 2026)

SECTION A — MADHYA PRADESH SPECIAL

MP Cabinet clears ~₹27,050 crore; sets up Jabalpur-Bhopal-Indore Industrial Corridor company

MADHYA PRADESH — **MPPSC: Prelims + Mains GS-III (Economy & Infrastructure)**

Syllabus Linkage	MPPSC Mains GS-III (MP economy, industry, infrastructure); Prelims — state schemes, institutions & current affairs of MP.
Context	The Madhya Pradesh Cabinet, chaired by the **CM** in **Bhopal**, approved proposals worth about **₹27,050 crore** and cleared a wholly state-owned company to develop the **Jabalpur-Bhopal-Indore Industrial Corridor**.
Key Facts	▸ Corridor company formed via Industries Dept with **₹100 crore** initial share capital. ▸ Phase one covers about **10,000 acres**; land-management & zoning powers with the firm. ▸ Expected to draw over **₹3 lakh crore** investment and create over **6 lakh jobs** in 3 years. ▸ Big heads: Law/Legislative continuation **₹15,557 cr**, AYUSH colleges **₹3,535 cr**, irrigation **₹3,076 cr**, school infra **₹2,875 cr**.
Way Fwd	Time-bound land pooling, single-window clearances and skilling must follow so the corridor converts intent into jobs and MSME linkages.
Concept	Industrial corridors are planned manufacturing + logistics belts anchored on transport spines; MP already hosts nodes of the **Delhi-Mumbai Industrial Corridor (DMIC)**.



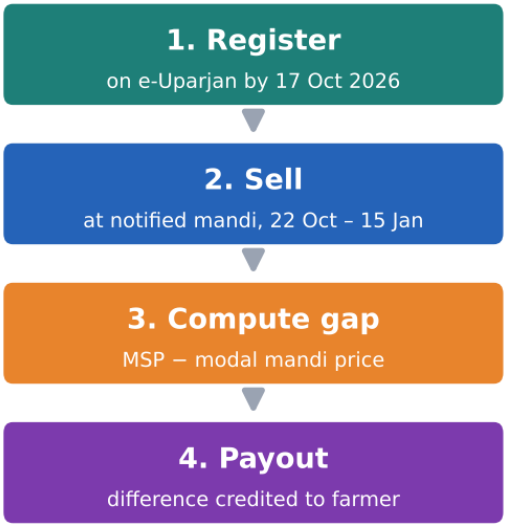
Bhavantar Bhugtan Yojana returns for soybean growers under PM-AASHA

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

Syllabus Linkage	MPPSC Mains GS-III (agriculture, MSP, farm income); Prelims — MP farmer schemes & the 'Soybean State'.
Context	The Cabinet revived the **Bhavantar Bhugtan Yojana** for the **2026 kharif** soybean crop under the Centre's **PM-AASHA** umbrella, to protect growers when mandi prices fall below MSP.
Key Facts	▸ Farmers must register on the **e-Uparjan portal by 17 October 2026**. ▸ Sales window at notified mandis: **22 October 2026 to 15 January 2027**. ▸ MP is India's largest soybean producer — the '**Soybean State**'. ▸ Bhavantar pays the gap between **MSP** and the average **modal mandi price**.
Way Fwd	Transparent price discovery and timely payouts are key; pairing with procurement avoids distress sales in a bumper year.
Concept	**PM-AASHA** (2018) bundles Price Support Scheme, Price Deficiency Payment (the Bhavantar model) and private procurement to ensure MSP to farmers.

Bhavantar Bhugtan Yojana

How it works (under PM-AASHA)



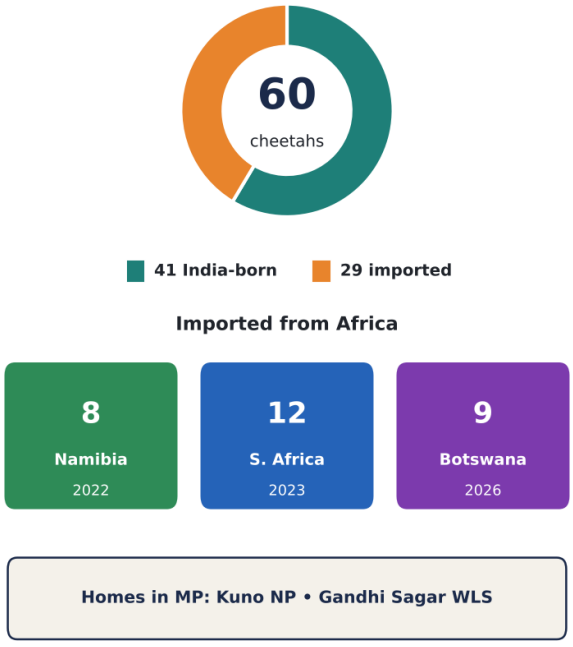
Protects soybean growers when the mandi price falls below the Minimum Support Price

Project Cheetah: Kuno population rises to 60; Botswana lineage enters India

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

Syllabus Linkage	MPPSC Mains GS-III (wildlife conservation, MP forests); Prelims — Kuno, 'Tiger State' MP, protected areas.
Context	India's cheetah count reached **60** after a litter of **5 cubs** was born on **5 October 2026** at **Kuno National Park**, Madhya Pradesh — introducing the **Botswanan genetic lineage**.
Key Facts	▸ Of **60** cheetahs, **41** are India-born; **29** were flown in from Africa. ▸ Imports: **8 from Namibia** (Sep 2022), **12 from South Africa** (Feb 2023), **9 from Botswana** (Feb 2026). ▸ **Kuno** holds the bulk; **Gandhi Sagar Wildlife Sanctuary** (MP) is the second home. ▸ MP is the **'Tiger State'** and has India's largest forest cover.
Way Fwd	Building a second viable population at Gandhi Sagar and curbing cub mortality are vital for a self-sustaining metapopulation.
Concept	Project Cheetah (2022) is the world's first **inter-continental large-carnivore translocation**; Kuno lies on the **Kuno river**, a Chambal tributary, in Sheopur district.

Project Cheetah — Kuno (MP)



MP creates 4 fast-track courts for exam paper-leak and cheating cases

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

Syllabus Linkage	MPPSC Mains GS-II (governance, judiciary, transparency); Prelims — MP institutions & current laws.
Context	Madhya Pradesh set up **four fast-track courts** to speedily try **exam paper-leak and cheating** cases, reinforcing the state's anti-malpractice law for recruitment and board exams.
Key Facts	▸ Dedicated courts aim to cut pendency and ensure **time-bound trials**. ▸ Targets organised cheating gangs behind recruitment-exam leaks. ▸ Complements the state's public-examination anti-malpractice framework. ▸ Protects the credibility of exams like those of **MPPSC** / **MP ESB**.
Way Fwd	Swift convictions plus secure question-paper logistics and tech safeguards can deter leaks more than courts alone.
Concept	**Fast-track courts** are special courts for speedy disposal of specified cases; several states have enacted laws against unfair means in public examinations.

MP pitches an investor-friendly Semiconductor Policy

SCI-TECH	**MPPSC: Prelims + Mains GS-III (Economy, Science & Technology)**
Syllabus Linkage	MPPSC Mains GS-III (industrial policy, hi-tech manufacturing); Prelims — MP investment & tech ecosystem.
Context	The **CM** urged showcasing Madhya Pradesh's **investor-friendly semiconductor policy** to attract chip-ecosystem investment, aligning the state with the national **India Semiconductor Mission**.
Key Facts	▸ Policy offers incentives for fabs, ATMP/OSAT units and design firms. ▸ Builds on MP's push via **Global Investors Summit** momentum. ▸ Targets high-value jobs and electronics supply-chain anchoring. ▸ Complements the Centre's **Semicon India** programme.
Way Fwd	Reliable power, water and skilled talent plus stable incentives will decide whether investment intent becomes operational fabs.
Concept	A **semiconductor fab** fabricates chips on silicon wafers; **ATMP/OSAT** covers assembly, testing, marking and packaging — the labour-intensive back-end.

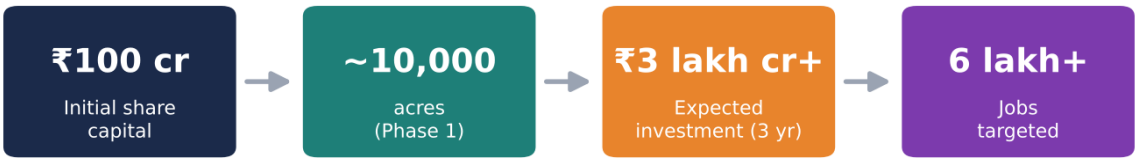
SECTION B — DATA POINT OF THE DAY

₹3 lakh crore+

MP Industrial Corridor (Jabalpur-Bhopal-Indore)

Expected investment over 3 years; Phase one ~**10,000 acres**, targeting over **6 lakh jobs**. The new state company starts with **₹100 crore** share capital.

Jabalpur–Bhopal–Indore Industrial Corridor

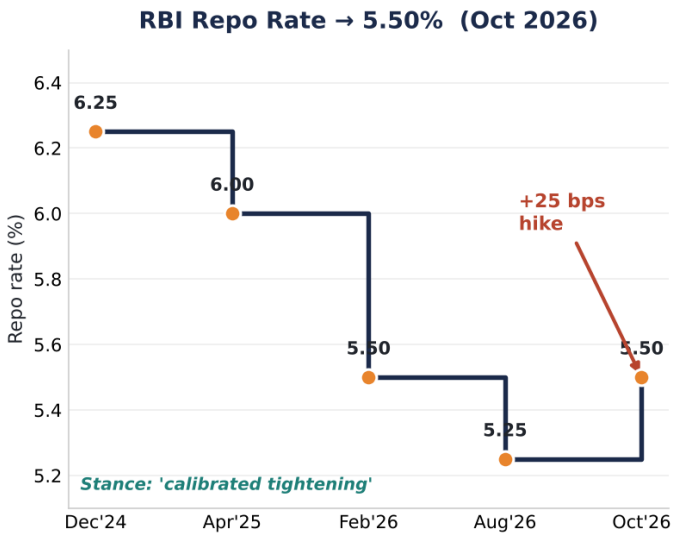


Wholly state-owned company (Industries Dept) with land-management & zoning powers

SECTION C — NATIONAL & WORLD

RBI hikes repo rate to 5.50%, shifts stance to 'calibrated tightening'

ECONOMY	**MPPSC: Prelims + Mains GS-III (Economy — Monetary Policy)**
Syllabus Linkage	MPPSC Mains GS-III (monetary policy, inflation, banking); Prelims — RBI, MPC, policy rates.
Context	The **RBI Monetary Policy Committee** raised the **repo rate by 25 bps to 5.50%** and changed its stance to **'calibrated tightening'** — the first hike in over three years, signalling inflation vigilance.
Key Facts	▸ Repo rate up from **5.25% to 5.50%** (**+25 bps**). ▸ Stance moved to **'calibrated tightening'** from neutral/accommodative. ▸ **MPC** has 6 members and meets bi-monthly; targets **4% (+/-2%)** CPI inflation. ▸ Higher repo tends to raise EMIs and lending rates.
Way Fwd	Policy must balance price stability with growth; transmission to deposit and lending rates will be watched closely.
Concept	**Repo rate** is the rate at which the RBI lends to banks against securities; raising it is a **contractionary** step to cool demand and inflation.



Supreme Court notices Centre on lifelong immunity for Election Commissioners

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

Syllabus Linkage	MPPSC Mains GS-II (constitutional bodies, judiciary); Prelims — Election Commission, judicial review.
Context	The **Supreme Court** issued notice to the Centre on a plea challenging **Section 16 of the CEC and Other Election Commissioners Act, 2023**, which grants the **CEC and ECs immunity** from civil/criminal proceedings for official acts, even after office.
Key Facts	▸ Challenge is to **Section 16** of the **2023 Act**. ▸ Immunity covers acts done in discharge of official duties. ▸ The ECI is a **constitutional body** under **Article 324**. ▸ Petition filed by an electoral-reform body; Centre to reply.
Way Fwd	Courts will weigh functional independence of the ECI against accountability; a reasoned balance preserves trust in elections.
Concept	**Article 324** vests superintendence of elections in the ECI; appointment of CEC/ECs is now governed by the **2023 Act** following an earlier SC verdict.

India launches bid for UN Security Council non-permanent seat for 2028-29

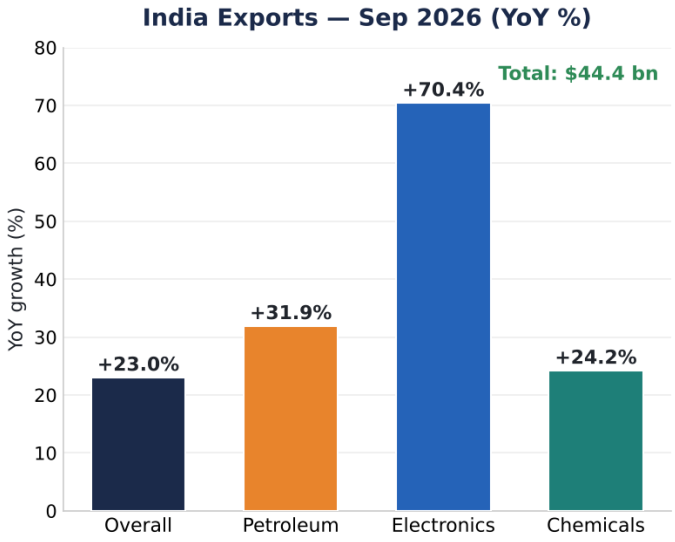
IR MPPSC: Prelims + Mains GS-II (International Relations)

Syllabus Linkage	MPPSC Mains GS-II (India & the world, UN); Prelims — UNSC, multilateral bodies.
Context	India's **EAM** launched the campaign for a **UN Security Council non-permanent seat for 2028-29**; the seat for the Asia-Pacific group is being contested by **Tajikistan**.
Key Facts	▸ The **UNGA** vote is expected in **June 2027**. ▸ A candidate needs a **two-thirds majority** (at least **129 votes**). ▸ UNSC has **5 permanent** and **10 non-permanent** members. ▸ India has served as a non-permanent member **8 times**.
Way Fwd	India must rally cross-regional support and leverage Global South goodwill while pressing the larger case for UNSC reform.
Concept	Non-permanent UNSC members serve **two-year** terms, elected by the UNGA with regional quotas; they lack the **veto** held by the P5.

India's merchandise exports jump 23% in September 2026

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

Syllabus Linkage	MPPSC Mains GS-III (trade, external sector); Prelims — balance of trade, export data.
Context	Merchandise exports rose **23.04% year-on-year** in **September 2026** to **$44.4 billion**, led by petroleum, electronics and chemicals; imports rose 8% to **$74.61 billion**.
Key Facts	▸ Exports **$44.4 bn** vs **$36.08 bn** a year earlier. ▸ Sector growth: **petroleum +31.9%**, **electronics +70.4%**, **chemicals +24.2%**. ▸ Imports **$74.61 bn**; the trade deficit widened. ▸ Reflects resilient external demand amid global uncertainty.
Way Fwd	Sustaining electronics and chemicals momentum and diversifying markets can narrow the deficit over time.
Concept	**Trade deficit** = imports minus exports of goods; it is a key component of the **current account** in the Balance of Payments.



WINDS weather-sensor network to back crop insurance (PMFBY)

ENVIRONMENT MPPSC: Prelims + Mains GS-III (Agriculture, Disaster & Tech)

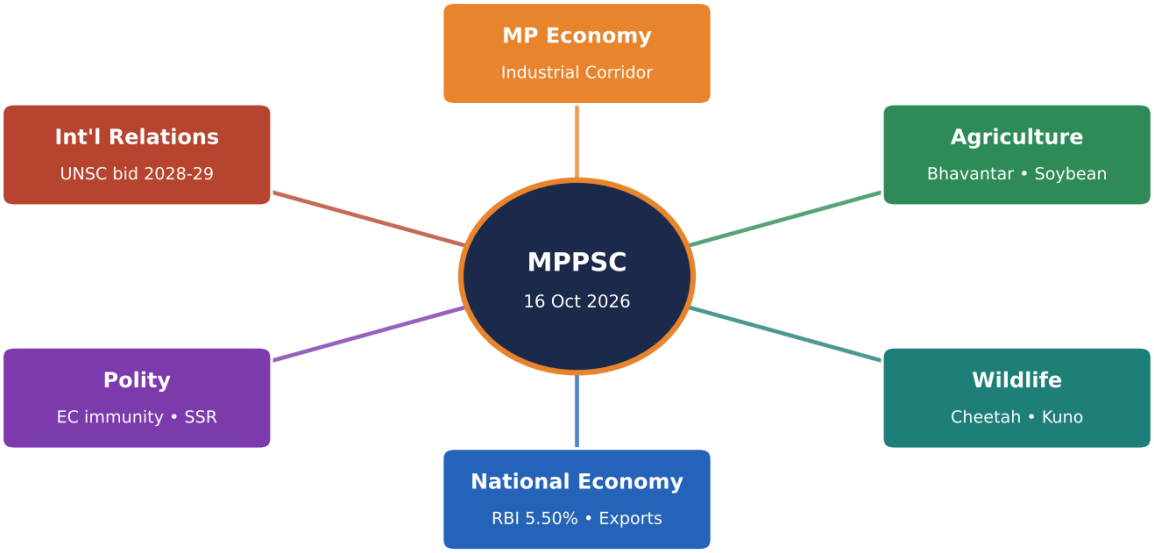
Syllabus Linkage	MPPSC Mains GS-III (agriculture, technology in governance); Prelims — PMFBY, weather data.
Context	The **WINDS** (Weather Information Network and Data System), run by the **Mahalanobis National Crop Forecast Centre**, plans a dense sensor grid to make **PMFBY** crop-insurance payouts faster and data-driven.
Key Facts	▸ Plan: about **50,500 sensors** — **1,197 automatic weather stations** + **49,313 rain gauges**. ▸ Rollout is slow: only **9.4% of AWSs** and **4% of rain gauges** installed so far. ▸ **Land shortage** is the main bottleneck to installation. ▸ Hyperlocal weather data cuts disputes in weather-indexed insurance.
Way Fwd	Faster land allotment and maintenance of sensors are essential for timely, dispute-free PMFBY settlements.
Concept	**PMFBY** (2016) is India's flagship crop-insurance scheme; WINDS feeds granular weather data to settle claims transparently.

Lancet Commission flags 17 threats to humanity by 2100

REPORT MPPSC: Prelims + Mains GS-II/III (Health, Society & Environment)

Syllabus Linkage	MPPSC Mains GS-II (health, SDGs) & GS-III (environment); Prelims — global reports & indices.
Context	Launched at the **World Health Summit (Berlin)**, a **Lancet Commission** report identifies **17 threats** to humanity up to **2100**, measured in **DALYs** (disability-adjusted life years).
Key Facts	▸ A threat is 'catastrophic' if it could cause **1 billion+ DALYs**. ▸ **Obesity** is flagged as the single largest health loss. ▸ Aid cuts could cause up to **1.5 billion DALYs**, with Sub-Saharan Africa worst-hit. ▸ **DALY** = years of healthy life lost to illness, disability or early death.
Way Fwd	Preventive health, resilient financing and climate action are needed together to blunt these long-horizon threats.
Concept	**DALYs** combine years of life lost and years lived with disability; they are a standard WHO/Global Burden of Disease metric.

Today's Themes at a Glance



SECTION D — PRELIMS RAPID-FIRE

1. MP is India's largest **soybean** producer — the **'Soybean State'**.	**4.** RBI repo rate is now **5.50%**; MPC stance is **'calibrated tightening'**.
2. MP is the **'Tiger State'** with the country's highest tiger population.	**5. PM-AASHA** is the Centre's umbrella scheme for farmers' price support (MSP).
3. Kuno National Park lies on the **Kuno river**, a tributary of the **Chambal**.	**6.** India's Sept 2026 merchandise exports touched **$44.4 billion**.

SECTION E — PRACTICE CORNER

Q1. With reference to the Bhavantar Bhugtan Yojana revived in Madhya Pradesh, consider the following:
1. It operates under the Centre's PM-AASHA umbrella.
2. It is aimed at soybean growers for the 2026 kharif season.
3. It pays farmers the difference between MSP and the market (mandi) price.
Which of the above are correct?

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

Ans: D. Bhavantar is a price-deficiency model under PM-AASHA, revived for 2026 kharif soybean, paying the gap between MSP and the modal mandi price. All three statements are correct.

Q2. With reference to Project Cheetah in India, which statement is correct?

(A) Kuno National Park is located in Rajasthan.
(B) Cheetahs were first brought from Namibia and South Africa, and later from Botswana.
(C) India's cheetahs are all wild-caught from Africa with no India-born individuals.
(D) Gandhi Sagar Wildlife Sanctuary is in Gujarat.

Ans: B. Cheetahs came from Namibia (2022), South Africa (2023) and Botswana (2026). Kuno and Gandhi Sagar are in Madhya Pradesh, and India now has 41 India-born cheetahs.

Mains Practice: **"Industrial corridors can transform a landlocked state's economy only if land, logistics and skilling move in step." Examine in the context of Madhya Pradesh's new Jabalpur-Bhopal-Indore Industrial Corridor.**

Hint: Define industrial corridors; link to DMIC nodes in MP; discuss ₹3 lakh crore investment & 6 lakh jobs potential; flag land pooling, single-window clearances, power/water and skilling as success conditions; conclude on inclusive, job-rich industrialisation.

★ REVISION LINE ★
Remember today: ₹27,050 cr MP Cabinet + Jabalpur-Bhopal-Indore Corridor (₹100 cr co.), Bhavantar soybean (e-Uparjan by 17 Oct), Kuno 60 cheetahs, RBI repo 5.50%, UNSC bid 2028-29, exports $44.4 bn.

Compiled & simplified by the StudyForGS.com Research Team

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